

The Book of Genesis

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Morning Devotions

Select a passage in God's Word. Talk with the Lord as you read the passage, then go back and find one or two verses that the Lord has impressed on your heart and meditate on them.

Morning Study

This morning we continue our study of the book of **Genesis**. You will note that our memory verse for today is from **Hebrews 11:1-3**:

“Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.”

This verse ties together both the morning study and the evening study for today. In the evening study, we are looking at the proofs for the existence of God. And in the morning study we are continuing on from where we left off – the account of creation and the rise of the nations (note **Acts 17:26-27**) – to the focus on one particular man – Abraham. In our memory verse, the writer noted that it was for their faith that the ancients were commended. This is the story of Abraham.

Read Romans 4:1-5,18-24

Read Galatians 3:6-9

Read Hebrews 11:8-12,17-19

All this is by way of preparation for this morning's study in **Genesis**. We saw in our last morning study how **Genesis** is the Book of Beginnings. It describes the beginnings of mankind and of the nations. But primarily, **Genesis** is about the beginnings of the nation of Israel. These beginnings are traced back to the three main patriarchs with whom God would establish the covenant of which you are now an heir (**Galatians 3:29**). These three patriarchs are:

- Abraham
- Isaac
- Jacob

Read Exodus 3:6

Pull up a comfortable chair and read the story of Abraham in **Genesis 12-21**.

Memory Verse

Now faith is being sure of what we hope for and certain of what we do not see. This is what the ancients were commended for. By faith we understand that the universe was formed at God's command, so that what is seen was not made out of what was visible.

Hebrews 11:1-3

Here are a few suggestions that may help you to memorize your memory verse:

- ➡ Ask the Lord to help you remember his Word (see [John 14:26](#)).
- ➡ Use the version of the Bible you are most familiar with. What you normally read in your Bible is what you need to be memorizing.
- ➡ Don't just memorize the contents of the verse; memorize its "address" (the verse reference) as well. You can do this by following this pattern: Step 1: **reference**; Step 2: **verse content**; Step 3: **reference**. Then repeat steps 1-3. Note that you are quoting the reference twice as many times as you quote the actual verse content. This gives the verse a clear "reference tag."
- ➡ After you have read your memory verse out aloud several times, try going through your memory verse *without* reading your computer screen.
- ➡ Look up your memory verse in your Bible. Look at its immediate context and read the verses that come before and after your memory verse.
- ➡ Print out your memory verse or jot it down on a piece of paper. Take this paper with you when you go to work or do other daily activities. Meditate on the meaning of the verse throughout the day.
- ➡ During your noon appointment with the Lord, take out your memory verse and go over it again. Talk to the Lord about what this verse means to you personally.
- ➡ In the evening (at either your evening study or your evening devotions), see if you can quote your memory verse from memory. Then, without looking at the memory verse itself, see if you can find it in your Bible.
- ➡ The next day, before you begin committing a new verse to memory, rehearse your previous day's memory verse and see if you can remember it (without cheating!).
- ➡ Finally, at the end of the week (possibly on the Sunday), collect all your week's memory verses, rehearse them and see if you can recall them without reading them. Spend a little extra time on any verses you have difficulty recalling.
- ➡ Remember: Don't just memorize a verse. Put it into practice ([James 1:22](#)). It is not being able to quote a verse from memory that counts. It is His Word *abiding* in your heart that counts ([John 15:7](#)). When you actually apply a verse consistently to your daily life, that is when you *truly* know that verse!