

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 begin studying the book of **Genesis**. The very first verse of **Genesis** sets the pace for the whole book: "In the beginning..."

The word *genesis* means *beginnings*, and **Genesis** is a book of beginnings:

- The beginning of the human race
- The beginning of sin
- The beginning of redemption
- The beginning of the nations
- The beginning of the nation of Israel

For this reason, in **Genesis** we find the "seed" for almost every doctrine of the Bible. For example:

- The principle of blood sacrifice
- The principle of judgment against sin
- The principle of firstborn rights
- The principle of tithing
- The principle of election (God sovereignly choosing one person over another)
- The principle of justification by faith

We also see key people in Genesis who are types of Christ and antichrist (that which is opposed to Christ). In fact, it can be said that no other book in the Old Testament contains so many people who act as types of that which is to come. Some of these types include:

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| ➤ Adam | ➤ Abel | ➤ Cain |
| ➤ Enoch | ➤ Noah | ➤ Abraham |
| ➤ Sodom | ➤ Isaac | ➤ Ishmael |
| ➤ Sarah | ➤ Hagar | ➤ Joseph |

Let's begin by reading the first 11 chapters of **Genesis**. In this section, we discover how mankind began, how sin entered the world, how God judged the world during Noah's time, and how the stage was set for the birth of the nation of Israel.

Memory Verse

For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

1 Corinthians 15:21-22

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!