

YOUNG READER'S EDITION



THE  
**WHOLE**  
BIBLE STORY

Everything That Happens in the Bible

DR. WILLIAM H. MARTY WITH TROY SCHMIDT

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**DR. WILLIAM H. MARTY**



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# 1

## From Creation to Babel

### GENESIS 1-11



#### WHO'S WHO

- » **God (the Lord)**—God creates the world and then his people go and mess it all up
- » **Adam and Eve**—the first couple ever created; they run around naked
- » **Satan**—he shows up and ruins all the fun
- » **Cain and Abel**—two brothers who brought new meaning to “sibling rivalry”
- » **Noah**—the guy who made the first cruise ship . . . for animals



#### WHERE ARE WE?

- » **Garden of Eden**—paradise and all-you-can-eat fruit trees (except for one)
- » **Mesopotamia**—some country that’s hard to spell



## INTERESTING STUFF IN THIS SECTION

- » The first wedding. No rice was thrown.
- » The first murder. God was the only eyewitness.
- » The oldest man in the Bible. Methuselah, 969 years old. That's a lot of candles on one cake.
- » The first ship is built. It was like three football fields long. Pretty good for a first-time shipbuilder.
- » The first rainbow in the sky.
- » Our calendar week is based on the seven days of creation.

## It All Begins (GENESIS 1-2)

In the beginning, God created everything out of nothing. His Spirit hovered over the creation, looking over every detail in this huge project.

God built everything through a simple word. He said “light,” and light appeared. He said “sky,” and sky appeared. He did the same for the land, the seas, the plants and trees, the sun, the moon, and the stars, then all the birds, sea creatures, and animals. He liked everything he made and called it good.

Then God said, “Let’s make people in our image and let them rule over everything we created.” So God made male and female and told them to be fruitful and multiply themselves throughout the earth. He liked them a whole lot, calling them “very good.”



God rested after all those six days of creation, calling the seventh day a day of rest, so people could take a break to remember God and all he had done.

Let's go back to day six and see specifically how the creation of people happened. God made a beautiful garden in a place called Eden. It had all the fruit trees you could ever imagine. God took some dirt, blew life into it, and made a man. God told the man to eat whatever he wanted in that garden, but God made one rule: "Do not eat from a tree called the Knowledge of Good and Evil or you will die."

Then God looked at the man who was all by himself and for the first time said something was "not good." God said, "I should make a suitable helper for him." First, he asked

**We are not God,  
but we are like him  
in qualities such as  
love, intelligence,  
reason, compassion,  
etc.**



the man to go and name all the animals. As he did, the man realized every animal had a partner, male and female, and little baby animals. The man realized he was missing something.

God then put the man to sleep and performed surgery on him, removing a piece of his side, and created a woman out of it. The man, Adam, called her Eve and said, “This woman is my bone and my flesh.” God brought them together, uniting them, like a wedding. In the future, a man and woman will leave their parents and start a new family and become one.

### **It All Falls Apart** (GENESIS 3-5)

**S**atan showed up, disguised as a snake, and convinced the woman to eat from that Knowledge of Good and Evil tree. Satan tempted Eve by calling God a liar, making her doubt what God said and whether they really

Satan’s name is not mentioned here, but later in the Bible—in Ezekiel and Revelation—he’s identified as the ancient serpent who invaded the garden.

would die if they ate the fruit. Eve bought into what Satan said and disobeyed God, tasting the delicious fruit for herself, then giving Adam a bite.

Guilt washed over them. They realized, “Uh-oh, we messed up.” They had been running around naked, but now they felt ashamed and needed to cover themselves up. Adam and Eve found fig leaves and sewed them together, and they covered up their private areas.

God showed up, wanting to see his favorite creations, and wondered where everyone was. Adam and Eve hid, afraid and embarrassed because they disobeyed God. They blamed each other and that devious ol' snake, Satan. God had to punish them for disobedience, making life hard and painful, eventually leading

to death. They were kicked out of Paradise and told life would be hard for them.



Adam and Eve had a couple sons—Cain, who worked with livestock, and Abel, who planted crops. Cain was jealous of Abel's offering to God, so Cain killed

Abel. God saw what Cain did and made him leave. So Cain left his fam-

ily and started a new home in a place called Nod. Adam and Eve later had another son named Seth, which made them very happy.

During a long period of time after this, people started having more kids, more families. People lived a long time, like Adam to 930 years old. But a guy named Methuselah lived even longer—969 years. Though people lived longer than we do today, as a consequence of sin, everyone eventually died. The world population grew and expanded, but as it did, people were getting meaner and more wicked.

## Ark-eology (GENESIS 6-9)

**N**oah was a good man. God loved him because Noah walked faithfully with God. But Noah was the last good person on earth. Things were that bad.

There were women from a godly line of people having babies with an ungodly line of big, physical giants, like pro wrestlers (The Rock). They were all about power and getting their way. God saw the trend and needed to stop it.

God told Noah he was going to punish the whole earth with a flood and wipe out everyone, for a complete and total population reboot. He asked Noah to build a huge ship (ark) to hold his family and two of every kind of species of animal.



After God gave Noah the dimensions for the building project, Noah went to work. It was three stories high and as long as three football fields. Once it was completed, God started leading animals to the ark. Noah, his wife, and their three sons—Shem, Ham, and

Japheth—and their wives all got on board. Eight people were on the ark, plus a bunch of animals.

Then a horrible rain fell from the sky and water burst out of the ground. Immediately it flooded the earth, drowning every person and animal not on the ark. Only Noah's family and those animals survived. It rained, in total, for forty days and forty nights. Noah and his family



had to wait to get off the ark until the water evaporated, exposing the land.

God made a promise to Noah, saying he'd never cause another flood to destroy the world. He put a rainbow in the sky as a reminder of that promise.

## **Nations and Towers** (GENESIS 10-11)

**L**ots of time passed as more and more people were born. From them, nations grew and great cities populated. Everyone in all these cities began to talk with each other, and many of them came up with an idea. They decided to build a huge tower to reach the heavens so they could make themselves famous. They wanted this city to bring everyone together and stay in one place instead of going out to fill the earth, like God commanded.

God saw this and became very concerned. They were becoming mean like the people before the flood. God

sighed and thought, *Since they all speak the same language, they are discussing these terrible ideas.* So God confused their languages, stopping their evil plans. Since they couldn't understand each other, they split up and moved all over the world. The languages of the world started at that time.

One family came from Noah's son Shem. They lived in an area called Mesopotamia, also known as Ur. A man named Terah had a son named Abram. Abram married a beautiful woman named Sarai, but sadly they couldn't have any children. God was about to fix all that.



## **WHAT'S THE POINT?**

- ▶ God designed the world so his favorite creation would have a wonderful place to live. Sadly, people disobeyed God over and over and over.
- ▶ God must punish sin. He can't just look the other way. Jesus will come to earth to right the wrong that Satan caused.
- ▶ God is very patient and always helping people get closer to himself.
- ▶ People naturally want to sin; God has to step in and stop us from destroying ourselves.