

**The First Book of Moses
Called
Genesis**

Being chapters 1-25
of the Book of Genesis
for the New Matthew Bible

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Notes to the Reader:

1. This document has been prepared in print-ready format. Therefore the marginal notes on all odd-numbered pages, which will be on the recto or right-hand side of the printed book, are in the right-hand margin, and notes on the verso or opposite pages are in the left-hand margin. However, gutters have not been set. For the best reading experience, print double-sided and bind on the left.

2. The book of Genesis in the 1537 Matthew Bible was the translation of William Tyndale. In places his English is difficult or impossible for modern readers to understand correctly, and occasionally, for other reasons, a rendering was problematic. The notation *e.f.* in the margin means that obsolete, obscure, or problematic renderings in the verse(s) mentioned were *emended from* one or more of the indicated sources consulted during the work, as follows:

- “e.f. COV” means the verse(s) were emended with reference to Myles Coverdale’s 1535 Bible. Not infrequently, Coverdale employed a more modern English style than Tyndale.
- “e.f. ML” means the emendments are informed by Martin Luther’s 1534 German Bible or his lectures on Genesis.
- “e.f. WYC” refers to Wycliffe’s Bible.
- “e.f. OLIV” refers to Pierre Olivetan’s 1535 French Bible.
- “e.f. WT” means the emendments are informed by William Tyndale’s own expositions of the Scripture.
- “e.f. JR” means the emendments are informed by John Rogers’ commentaries in the Matthew Bible, in particular his definitions of Hebrew idioms that are not understood today. For example, in Genesis 22, Tyndale’s literal translation “only son” referring to Isaac was emended to “most beloved son.” This accords with Rogers’ explanation of the figurative meaning of the idiom, and it dispels confusion because Abraham also had Ishmael his son.

3. Except for the notations mentioned in item 2 above, this editor’s notes are in square brackets, as was also done in the October Testament, the New Testament of the New Matthew Bible. These notes are limited to such things as clarifying the meaning of Old Testament proper names (for Edom the note reads [ie Red]) or obscure idioms. Occasionally, a note also provides exposition that has been lost since the Reformation. An example of the latter is note (a) on Genesis 1, which gives Martin Luther’s explanation of the meaning of “heaven” in the Bible. It begins [Luther>In the Scripture...]. Luther’s exposition is a much-needed key to understanding the entire Bible.

4. The parallel Scripture references (PSRs) in the margins are as given in the Matthew Bible, updated from the Latin where necessary, and made to accord with the PSRs of the October Testament. These include references to the Apocryphal books, such as Ecclesiasticus (Ec’us) and Esdras (1Esd, 2Esd).

RMD

The First Book of Moses called Genesis

Chapter 1

How heaven and earth, the light, the firmament, the sun, the moon, the stars, and all animals, birds, and fishes in the sea were made by the word of God. And how man also was created.

IN THE BEGINNING God created heaven and earth. ²The earth was without form and empty, and darkness was upon the deep water, and the Spirit of God moved* upon the water.

³Then God said, Let there be light; and there was light. ⁴And God saw the light, that it was good, and divided the light from the darkness, ⁵and called the light the day, and the darkness the night. And so of the evening and morning was made the first day.

⁶And God said, Let there be a firmament^a between the waters, and let it divide the waters apart. ⁷Then God made the firmament, and parted the waters that were under the firmament from the waters that were above the firmament; and it was so. ⁸And God called the firmament heaven. And so of the evening and morning was made the second day.

⁹And God said, Let the waters that are under heaven gather themselves in one place so that the dry land may appear; and it came so to pass. ¹⁰And God called the dry land the earth, and the gathering together of waters he called the sea. And God saw that it was good. ¹¹And God said, Let the earth bring forth plants and grasses that sow seed, and fruitful trees that bear fruit, every one in its kind, having their seed in themselves upon the earth; and it came so to pass. ¹²And the earth brought forth plants and grasses bearing seed, every one in its kind, and trees bearing fruit and having their seed in themselves, every one in its kind. And God saw that it was good. ¹³And then of the evening and morning was made the third day.

¹⁴Then said God, Let there be lights in the firmament of heaven to divide the day from the night, so that they may be for signs, seasons, days, and years; ¹⁵and let them be lights in the firmament of heaven to shine upon the earth. And so it was. ¹⁶And God made two great lights: a greater light to rule the day, and a lesser light to rule the night. And he made stars also. ¹⁷And God put them in the firmament of heaven to shine upon the earth, ¹⁸and to rule the day and the night, and to divide the light from darkness. And God saw that it was good. ¹⁹And so of the evening and morning was made the fourth day.

²⁰And God said, Let the water bring forth creatures that move and have life, and birds to fly over the earth under the firmament of heaven. ²¹And God created great whales and all manner of creatures that

2Esd 6:38-40, Ec'us 18:1, Jer 10:12-13, Heb 1:10 Ps 102:25; 136:5-9. Isa 44:24 *Breathed or stirred.

2Esd 6:41 Ps 136:5-6 Pr 8:22-31

2Esd 6:42-44

2Esd 6:45-46 Ps 136:7-9 Jer 31:35

2Esd 6:47-52

live and move, which the waters brought forth in their kinds, and all manner of feathered birds in their kinds. And God saw that it was good. ²²And God blessed them,^b saying, Grow and multiply; and fill the waters of the seas, and let the birds multiply upon the earth. ²³And so of the evening and morning was made the fifth day.

2Esd 6:53-
54.

²⁴And God said, Let the earth bring forth living creatures in their kinds: beasts of pasture, and creatures that crawl, and animals of the earth in their kinds; and it came so to pass. ²⁵And God made the animals of the earth in their kinds, and beasts of pasture in their kinds, and all manner of crawling things of the earth in their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

De 4:32
Ec'us 17:1-4

²⁶And God said, Let us make man in our similitude and after our likeness, that he may have rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air, and over the beasts of pasture, and over all the earth, and over all crawling things that go about on the earth. ²⁷And God created man after his likeness; after the likeness of God he created him;^c male and female he created them. ²⁸And God blessed them, and God said to them, Grow and multiply and fill the earth; and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air, and over all the animals that move on the earth.

²⁹And God said, See, I have given you all the plants that sow seed which are on all the earth, and all manner of trees that have fruit in them and sow seed, to be food for you ³⁰and for all the animals of the earth, and for all the birds of the air, and for everything that goes about on the earth in which there is life, so that they may have every kind of plant and grass to eat. And even so it was. ³¹And God beheld all that he had made, and lo, it was exceedingly good. And so of the evening and morning was made the sixth day.

Ec'us 39:16
1Ti 4:4

The Notes

- a) 6. Firmament: or heaven. Psalms 136:5 and 8:3. It is a Hebrew word and signifies thrusting forth or spreading abroad. [Luther>In the scriptures, *heaven* is the entire expanse of air, sky, and outer space which extends from the earth's surface upward: the horizon. In context, it may also refer to any part of this expanse: *birds of heaven* refers to the birds that live in the air we breathe, while *stars of heaven* refers to the upper spheres.]
- b) 22. Here blessing is taken for increasing and multiplying.
- c) 27. After the likeness of God: that is, in the form and appearance that was before appointed for the Son of God. Also, the chief part of man, which is the soul, is made to be like God in a certain correspondence of powers and functioning, so that in this we are made like God. Ecclesiasticus 17:5-11.

Chapter 2

The previous chapter is here repeated. The hallowing of the Sabbath day. The four rivers of Paradise. The setting of man in Paradise; the tree of knowledge is forbidden to him. How Adam named all the creatures. The creation of Eve. The institution of marriage.

Thus were heaven and earth finished, with all their apparel.^a ²And in the seventh day God ended his work which he had done, and rested in the seventh day from all his works which he had made. ³And God blessed^b the seventh day and sanctified it;^c for in it he rested from all his works which he had created and made.

⁴These are the origins of heaven and earth when they were created, in the time when the Lord God created heaven and earth, ⁵and all the shrubs of the field before they were in the earth, and all the plants of the field before they sprang up. For the Lord God had yet sent no rain upon the earth, neither was there yet anyone to till the earth; ⁶but there arose a mist out of the ground that watered all the face of the earth. ⁷Then the Lord God formed man, even from the dust of the earth, and breathed into his face the breath of life; and so man was made a living soul.

2Esd 3:5-6
Wis 10:1
Ec'us 33:10
1Co 15:45

⁸The Lord God also planted a garden in Eden,^d toward the east; and there he set man whom he had formed. ⁹And the Lord God made to spring out of the earth all manner of trees beautiful to the sight and pleasant to eat, and the tree of life in the midst of the garden; and also the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

v8 e.f. COV,
ML, OLIV.

Pr 3:18
Rev 2:7

¹⁰And there sprang a river out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divided itself and grew into four principal waters. ¹¹The name of the one is Pishon, which runs about all the land of Havilah. There is found gold ¹²(and the gold of that country is precious), and there is found bedellion, and a stone called onyx. ¹³The name of the second river is Gihon, which runs about all the land of India. ¹⁴And the name of the third river is the Tigris, which runs on the east side of the Assyrians. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵And the Lord God took Adam and put him in the garden of Eden, to cultivate it and to keep it. ¹⁶And the Lord God commanded Adam, saying, Of all the trees of the garden, see that you eat; ¹⁷but of the tree of the knowledge of good and bad, see that you eat not, for even the same day you eat of it, you will surely die.

2Esd 3:4-7
Ge 3:1-3

¹⁸And the Lord God said, It is not good that man should be alone. I will make him a helper to keep him company. ¹⁹And after the Lord God had made from the earth all the animals of the field and all the birds of the air, he brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And as Adam called all the living creatures, so are their names. ²⁰And Adam gave names to all the beasts of pasture, and to the birds of the air, and to all the animals of the field. But there was no help found for Adam, to keep him company.

²¹Then the Lord God cast a slumber on Adam, and he slept. And then he took out one of his ribs, and in its stead he filled up the place with flesh. ²²And the Lord God made of the rib that he took from Adam a woman, and brought her to Adam. ²³Then said Adam, This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this shall be called woman, because she was taken of the man.

Tob 8:6
Ec'us 17:5
1Co 11:8-9

²⁴For this cause shall a man leave father and mother and cleave un-

M't 19:4-5

Mk 10:6-8
Eph 5:31
1Co 6:16

to his wife, and they shall be one flesh.

²⁵And they were each of them naked, both Adam and his wife, and were not ashamed.

The Notes

- a) 1.The apparel of heaven is the stars and planets, etc.
- b) 3.*Bless* here is taken for magnifying and praising, as in Psalm 33:1-3.
- c) 3.*Sanctifying* in this place is as much as to say, to dedicate and ordain a thing to his own use, as in Exodus 13:2 and 20:8.
- d) 8.*Eden* signifies pleasures.

Chapter 3

The serpent deceives the woman. The serpent, the woman, and the man are cursed and driven out of Paradise. Christ our saviour is promised.

But the serpent was subtler than all the beasts of the field that the Lord God had made, and said to the woman, Yea, has God said indeed, You shall not eat from all the trees in the garden?

²And the woman said to the serpent, Of the fruit of the trees in the garden we may eat; ³but of the fruit of the tree that is in the midst of the garden, God said, See that you eat not; and see that you touch it not, lest you die.

⁴Then said the serpent to the woman, Tsk, you will not die. ⁵But God knows that whenever you eat of it, your eyes will be opened,^a and you will be as God, and know both good and evil.

⁶And the woman saw that it was a good tree to eat of, and fair to the eyes, and a tree desirable to give understanding. And she took of the fruit of it and ate, and gave to her husband also with her, and he ate. ⁷And the eyes of both of them were opened, and they understood that they were naked. Then they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.

⁸And they heard the voice of the Lord God as he walked in the garden in the cool of the day. And Adam hid himself, and his wife also, from the face of the Lord God,^b among the trees of the garden. ⁹And the Lord God called Adam and said to him, Where are you?

¹⁰And he answered, I heard your voice in the garden, but I was afraid because I was naked, and therefore hid myself.

¹¹And he said, Who has told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree from which I bade you not to eat?

¹²And Adam answered, The woman that you gave to keep me company, she gave to me from the tree, and I ate.

¹³And the Lord God said to the woman, Why did you do this?

And the woman answered, The serpent deceived me, and I ate.

¹⁴And the Lord God said to the serpent, Because you have done this, most cursed are you of all beasts of pasture and of all beasts of the field: upon your belly shall you go, and earth shall you eat all the days of your life. ¹⁵Moreover, I will put hatred between you and the

woman, and between your seed and her seed. And that seed shall tread you on the head, and you shall tread it on the heel.^c

¹⁶And to the woman he said, I will surely increase your sorrow when you are with child, and with pain shall you be delivered. And you shall submit to your husband, and he shall rule you.

v16 e.f. ML,
COV, OLIV.

¹⁷And to Adam he said, Because you heeded the voice of your wife and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, See you eat not from it – cursed is the earth on your account. In sorrow shall you eat of it all days of your life, ¹⁸and it will bear thorns and thistles for you. And you shall eat the plants of the field. ¹⁹In the sweat of your face shall you eat bread, until you return to the earth whence you were taken. For earth you are, and to earth you shall return.

Job 34:15

²⁰And Adam called his wife Eve because she was the mother of all that lives.* ²¹And the Lord God made Adam and his wife garments of skins, and put them on them. ²²And the Lord God said, Lo,^d Adam is become as it were one of us, in the knowledge of good and evil. But now, lest he stretch forth his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat and live forever –

*[Eve means
Life]

²³And the Lord God cast him out of the garden of Eden to till the earth whence he was taken. ²⁴And he cast Adam out; and at the entrance to the garden of Eden he set cherubims, with a naked sword moving in and out to guard the way to the tree of life.

The Notes

- a) 5. To have their eyes open is to know and understand.
- b) 8. From the face of the Lord: that is, from his presence.
- c) 15. The head of the serpent signifies the power and tyranny of the devil, whom Christ, the seed of the woman, overcame. The heel is Christ's manhood, which was tried with our sins.
- d) 22. Here this word *lo* is taken for mockery.

Chapter 4

Cain kills his righteous brother Abel. Cain despairs and is cursed. The birth of Enoch, Methushael, Jubal, Lamech, Seth, and Enosh.

And Adam lay with Eve his wife, who conceived and bore Cain and said, I have gotten a man from the Lord. ²And she went on to bear his brother Abel. And Abel became a shepherd, and Cain became a plowman.

³And it happened in the course of time that Cain brought from the fruit of the earth an offering to the Lord. ⁴And Abel, he brought also, from the firstlings of his sheep and from the fat of them. And the Lord looked to Abel and to his offering, ⁵but to Cain and to his offering he did not look. And Cain was exceedingly angry, and glowered. ⁶And the Lord said to Cain, Why are you angry, and why do you glower? ⁷Do you not know, if you do well, you shall receive it? But if you do evil, straightaway your sin lies open in the door. Notwithstanding, let

Heb 11:4
vv4,5 e.f. JR.

it be subdued to you, and see that you rule it.

⁸And Cain talked with Abel his brother. And as soon as they were in the fields, Cain fell upon Abel his brother and slew him.

Wis 10:3
1Jo 3:12
Heb 12:24
M't 23:35
Jude 1:11

⁹And the Lord said to Cain, Where is Abel your brother?

And Cain said, I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?

¹⁰And the Lord said, What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cried to me^a out of the earth. ¹¹And now, cursed are you as pertaining to the earth, which opened her mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand. ¹²For when you till the ground, she will henceforth not give her fruits to you. A vagabond and a wanderer you shall be upon the earth.

v12 e.f.
WYC.

¹³And Cain said to the Lord, My sin is greater than that it may be forgiven. ¹⁴Behold, you have cast me out this day from the face of the earth, and from your sight I must hide myself; and I must be wandering and a vagabond upon the earth! Moreover, whoever finds me will kill me.

Pr 28:17
Job 15:20-35

¹⁵And the Lord said to him, Not so, but whoever slays Cain will be punished sevenfold.

And the Lord put a mark upon Cain so that no one who found him would kill him. ¹⁶And Cain went out from the face of the Lord and dwelt in the land Nod, on the east side of Eden.

¹⁷And Cain lay with his wife, who conceived and bore Enoch. And he was building a city, and called the name of it after the name of his son Enoch. ¹⁸And Enoch begat Irad, and Irad begat Mehujael, and Mehujael begat Methushael, and Methushael begat Lamech.

¹⁹And Lamech took to himself two wives; the one was called Adah and the other Zillah. ²⁰And Adah bore Jabal, from whom came those who dwell in tents and possess beasts of pasture. ²¹And his brother's name was Jubal; from him came all who exercise themselves on the harp and on wind instruments. ²²And Zillah, she also bore Tubal-Cain, a worker in metal and a father of all craftsmen in bronze and iron. And Tubal-Cain's sister was called Naamah.

²³Then said Lamech to his wives Adah and Zillah, Hear my voice, ye wives of Lamech, and hearken to my words! For I have slain a man and wounded myself; and have slain a young man and got myself stripes. ²⁴For Cain shall be avenged sevenfold, but Lamech seventy times sevenfold.

²⁵Adam also lay with his wife yet again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth. For God (said she) has given me another son, for Abel whom Cain slew. ²⁶And Seth begat a son, and called his name Enosh. And in that time people began to call on the name of the Lord.^b

The Notes

- a) 10. Cries: that is, calls for vengeance, as you have at Genesis 19:13.
- b) 26. To call on the name of the Lord is to ask all things of him, and to trust in him, giving him the honour and worship that belong to him, as in Genesis 12:8.

Chapter 5

The genealogy of Adam to Noah.

This is the book of the genealogy of man, in the day when God created man and made him in the similitude of God. ²Male and female he made them, and called their names man, in the day when they were created. 1Ch 1:1-4

³When Adam was 130 years old, he begat a son after his likeness and similitude, and called his name Seth. ⁴And the days of Adam after he begat Seth were 800 years, and he begat sons and daughters. ⁵And all the days that Adam lived were 930 years, and then he died.

⁶And Seth lived 105 years, and begat Enosh. ⁷And after he had begotten Enosh, he lived 807 years and begat sons and daughters. ⁸And all the days of Seth were 912 years, and he died.

⁹And Enosh lived 90 years, and begat Cainan. ¹⁰And Enosh, after he begat Cainan, lived 815 years and begat sons and daughters. ¹¹And all the days of Enosh were 905 years, and then he died.

¹²And Cainan lived 70 years, and begat Mahalaleel. ¹³And Cainan, after he had begotten Mahalaleel, lived 840 years and begat sons and daughters. ¹⁴And all the days of Cainan were 910 years, and then he died.

¹⁵And Mahalaleel lived 65 years, and begat Jared. ¹⁶And Mahalaleel, after he had begotten Jared, lived 830 years and begat sons and daughters. ¹⁷And all the days of Mahalaleel were 895 years, and then he died.

¹⁸And Jared lived 162 years, and begat Enoch. ¹⁹And after he begat Enoch, Jared lived 800 years and begat sons and daughters. ²⁰And all the days of Jared were 962 years, and then he died.

²¹And Enoch lived 65 years, and begat Methuselah. ²²And after he had begotten Methuselah, Enoch walked with God^a for 300 years, and begat sons and daughters. ²³And all the days of Enoch were 365 years. ²⁴And Enoch lived a godly life, and then was seen no more because God took him away. Ec'us 44:16
Heb 11:5

²⁵And Methuselah lived 187 years, and begat Lamech. ²⁶And Methuselah, after he begat Lamech, lived 782 years, and begat sons and daughters. ²⁷And all the days of Methuselah were 969 years, and then he died.

²⁸And Lamech lived 182 years, and begat a son; ²⁹and he called him Noah, saying, He will comfort us in our work, and in the sorrow of our hands upon the earth, which the Lord has cursed. ³⁰And Lamech lived after he had begotten Noah 595 years and begat sons and daughters. v29 e.f. COV.

³¹And all the days of Lamech were 777 years, and then he died.

³²And when Noah was 500 years old, he had begotten Shem, Ham, and Japheth. v32 e.f. ML.

The Notes

a) 22. To walk with God is to do his will, and to lead a life according to his word.

Chapter 6

The cause of the flood. God warns Noah of the coming of the flood. The preparation of the ark.

And it came to pass, when men began to multiply upon the earth and had begotten daughters, ²the sons of God^a saw the daughters of men, that they were fair, and took as their wives those whom they best liked among them all.

³And the Lord said, My Spirit shall not always strive with man, for they are flesh. Nevertheless, I will give them 120 years more.*

1Pe 3:18-20
*[ie, 120
more years
before the
flood, being
opportunity
to amend
their ways]

⁴There were tyrants in the world in those days; for after the sons of God had gone in to the daughters of men and had begotten children, the same children were the mightiest of the world, and men of renown.

⁵And when the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was increased upon the earth, and that all the imagination and thoughts of his heart were only evil continually, ⁶he repented[†] that he had made man upon the earth, and sorrowed in his heart. ⁷And he said, I will destroy mankind that I have made from off the face of the earth; both man and beast, and crawling things, and birds of the air. For I repent that I have made them.

Ge 8:21
†[JR>The
repentance
of God is the
changing of
his action.
1Sam 15:11,
Jer 18:10.]

⁸But yet Noah found grace in the sight of the Lord.

⁹These are the generations of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, and uncorrupt in his time, and walked with God. ¹⁰And Noah begat three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth. ¹¹And the earth was corrupt in the sight of God, and was full of wrongdoing. ¹²And God looked upon the earth, and lo, it was corrupt; for all flesh^b had corrupted their way upon the earth.

¹³Then God said to Noah, The end of all flesh is come before me,^c for the earth is full of their wickedness. And lo, I will destroy them with the earth. ¹⁴Make for yourself an ark of pine wood; and make chambers in the ark, and pitch it within and without with pitch. ¹⁵And this is how you shall make it: the length of the ark shall be 300 cubits, the breadth of it 50 cubits, and the height of it 30 cubits. ¹⁶You shall make a window above in the ark, and within a cubit measure shall you finish it. And the door of the ark you shall set in the side of it. And you shall make it with three lofts, one above another. ¹⁷For behold, I will bring in a flood of water upon the earth, to destroy from under heaven all flesh wherein is the breath of life, so that all that is on the earth shall perish.

Ec'us 44:17-
18.

¹⁸But I will make my covenant with you, and you will go into the ark with your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁹And of all that lives, whatsoever flesh it be, you shall bring into the ark of everything a pair, to keep them alive with you. And male and female see that they be, ²⁰of birds in their kind, and of beasts in their kind, and of all the crawling things of the earth in their kind. A pair of everything will come to you, in order to keep them alive. ²¹And take for you some of every kind of food that may be eaten, and lay it up in store by

you so that it may be food both for you and for them.

²²And Noah did according to all that God commanded him.

The Notes

- a) 2.The sons of God are the sons of Seth, who had instructed and reared them in the fear of God. The sons of men are the sons of Cain, instructed by him to all wickedness. [Tyndale, 1530 Pentateuch>The descendants of Seth eventually fell from the right way. Then they subdued the world under them and became the tyrants and men of renown referred to in v4.]
- b) 12.All flesh: that is, all people who live after the flesh [ie, who follow the lusts and affections of the flesh], as said in the 8th chapter of Romans.
- c) 13.The end of all flesh: that is, the end of all people is come before me.

Chapter 7

The entrance of Noah and those who were with him into the ark. The rising of the flood, by which all things did perish.

And the Lord said to Noah, Go into the ark, both you and all your household; for I have seen you righteous^a before me in this generation. ²Of all clean beasts take to you seven of every kind, the male and his female; and of unclean beasts a pair, the male and his female.^b ³Like-wise, of the birds of the air seven of every kind, male and female, to save seed upon all the earth. ⁴For seven days from now I will send rain upon the earth for forty days and forty nights, and will destroy all the things that I have made from off the face of the land.

⁵And Noah did according to all that the Lord commanded him. ⁶And Noah was 600 years old when the flood of water came upon the earth. ⁷And Noah went, and his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives with him, into the ark, away from the waters of the flood. ⁸And of clean beasts and of beasts that were unclean – of birds and of all that moves upon the ground – ⁹came pairs of every kind to Noah into the ark, a male and a female as God had appointed to Noah. ¹⁰And the seventh day, the waters of the flood came upon the earth.

¹¹In the 600th year of Noah's life, in the second month on the 17th day of the month, that same day all the fountains of the great deep were broken up,^c and the windows of heaven were opened.^d ¹²And there fell a rain upon the earth forty days and forty nights.

¹³And that same day, Noah, with Shem, Ham, and Japheth, Noah's sons, and Noah's wife and the three wives of his sons with them, went into the ark – ¹⁴both they and all manner of wild animals in their kind, and all manner of beasts of pasture in their kind, and all manner of creatures that crawl upon the earth in their kind, and all manner of birds in their kind – all manner of fowls, whatever had feathers. ¹⁵And they came to Noah into the ark by pairs, of all flesh that had the breath of life in it. ¹⁶And those that came, came male and female of every flesh, as God had appointed to him. And the Lord shut the door upon him.

M't 24:37-39
Lu 17:26-27
1Pe 3:18-20

Wis 10:4
Ec'us 40:8-
10.

¹⁷And the flood came forty days and forty nights upon the earth; and the water increased and bore up the ark, and it was lifted up from off the earth. ¹⁸And the water prevailed and increased exceedingly upon the earth, and the ark went upon the top of the waters. ¹⁹And the waters prevailed exceedingly above measure on the earth, so that all the high mountains that are under all the parts of heaven were covered; ²⁰even fifteen cubits above did the waters prevail, so that the mountains were covered.

²¹And all flesh that moved on the ground – birds, beasts of pasture, and wild animals – perished, with all that crawled on the land and all mankind, ²²so that everything that had the breath of life in its nostrils throughout all the dry land died. ²³Thus was destroyed all that was upon the land, man, beast, and crawling things, with birds of the air, so that they were destroyed from the earth – save Noah only was preserved, and those that were with him in the ark.

²⁴And the waters prevailed upon the earth for 150 days.

The Notes

- a) 1. They are righteous before God who love their neighbours for God's sake unfeignedly, having the Spirit of God who makes them the children of God, and who are therefore accepted by God as just and righteous, as it is in Genesis 18:19.
- b) 2,8. Clean beasts are such as they could lawfully eat, and the unclean are those that they could not eat, as it appears in Lev 11 and De 14.
- c) 11. The fountains of the great deep etc.: that is, all the waters that were on the earth sprang up, increased, and multiplied.
- d) 11. The windows of heaven opened, etc.: that is, all the waters above the earth descended and increased the flood.

Chapter 8

After the sending forth of the raven and the dove, Noah went out of the ark. He offers sacrifice. The evil of man's heart.

And God remembered Noah, and all the living things and all the animals that were with him in the ark. Then God made a wind to blow upon the earth, and the waters ceased; ²and the fountains of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain of heaven was forbidden. ³And the waters receded from off the earth and abated after the end of 150 days. ⁴And the ark rested upon the mountains of Ararat on the 17th day of the seventh month. ⁵And the waters kept decreasing until the tenth month, and on the first day of the tenth month the tops of the mountains appeared.

⁶And after the end of forty days, Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made ⁷and sent forth a raven, which went out, ever going and coming again, until the waters were dried up upon the earth.

⁸Then he sent forth a dove from him, to see whether the waters had gone away from off the earth. ⁹But when the dove could find no rest-

Ge 1:2; also
Ge 7:11
above and
note c.

ing place for her foot, she returned to him again to the ark, for the waters were yet upon the face of all the earth. And he put out his hand and took her, and pulled her to him into the ark.

¹⁰And he waited yet seven days more and sent out the dove again from the ark. ¹¹And the dove came back to him about eventide, and behold: there was in her mouth a leaf of an olive tree which she had plucked, by which Noah perceived that the waters were abated upon the earth. ¹²And he waited yet seven more days and sent forth the dove, which from that time came no more to him again.

¹³And it came to pass, the 601st year and the first day of the first month, that the waters were dried up upon the earth. And Noah took off the hatches of the ark and looked, and behold: the face of the earth was dry. ¹⁴So by the 27th day of the second month, the earth was dry.

¹⁵And God spoke to Noah, saying, ¹⁶Come out of the ark, both you and your wife, and your sons and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁷And all the living things that are with you, whatever flesh it be – both bird and beast, and all the creatures that crawl on the earth – bring out with you; and let them move, grow, and multiply upon the earth.

Ge 1:22,28;
9:1,7.

¹⁸And Noah came out, and his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives with him. ¹⁹And all the beasts and all the crawling things, and all the birds, and everything that moved upon the earth, came also out of the ark; all of their kind together.

²⁰And Noah made an altar to the Lord, and he took of every clean beast and of every clean bird, and offered sacrifice upon the altar.

Lev c11

²¹And the Lord smelled a sweet savour^a and said in his heart, I will henceforth no more curse the earth on account of man; for the imagination of man's heart is evil even from his very youth. Moreover, from henceforth I will not destroy everything that lives, as I have done. ²²Neither shall sowing time and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, nor day and night cease, as long as the earth endures.

The Notes

a) 21. The Lord's smelling of savour is the approval and receiving of the works of the faithful, as in Exodus 29:18, Leviticus 1:9 & cc 2-4, etc.

Chapter 9

God blesses Noah and his sons. He forbids to eat the blood of beasts and forbids the shedding of man's blood. The law of the sword. He makes a covenant that he will destroy the world no more by water, and gives the rainbow as a sign and confirmation of the covenant. Noah is drunken, and Ham uncovers him and gets his curse.

And God blessed Noah and his sons, and said to them, Increase and multiply, and fill the earth. ²The fear also and dread of you will be upon all beasts of the earth, and upon all birds of the air, and upon all that crawls on the earth, and upon all fishes of the sea, which are given

Ge 1:22,28

into your hands. ³And all that moves upon the earth, having life, will be your food; even as the green plants, so I give you all things. ⁴Only the flesh with its life, which is its blood, see that you eat not. ⁵For indeed, your blood, in which your lives are, I will avenge; even from the hand of all beasts will I require it, and from the hand of man.^a From the hand of every man's brother will I require the life of man, ⁶so that he who sheds man's blood will have his blood shed by man; for God made man after his own likeness. ⁷See that you increase and grow; and occupy the earth, and multiply in it.

⁸Furthermore, God spoke to Noah and to his sons with him, saying, ⁹See, I make my covenant with you and your seed after you, ¹⁰and with all the living things that are with you, both bird and beast – all the creatures of the earth that are with you, of all that comes out of the ark, whatever creature of the earth it be. ¹¹I make my bond with you, that henceforth all flesh shall not be destroyed with the waters of any flood, and that henceforth there shall not be a flood to destroy the earth.

¹²And God said, This is the sign of my bond, which I make between me and you, and between all living things that are with you forever: ¹³I will set my rainbow in the clouds, and it will be a sign of the covenant made between me and the earth. ¹⁴So it will be that, when I bring in clouds upon the earth, the rainbow will appear in the clouds. ¹⁵And then I will think upon my covenant which I have made between me and you and everything that lives – whatsoever flesh it be – so that henceforth there shall be no more waters to make a flood to destroy all flesh. ¹⁶The rainbow shall be in the clouds, and I will look upon it to remember the everlasting covenant between God and everything that lives upon the earth, whatsoever flesh it be. ¹⁷And God said to Noah, This is the sign of the covenant that I have made between me and all flesh that is on the earth.

¹⁸The sons of Noah who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (And Ham, he was the father of Canaan.) ¹⁹These were the three sons of Noah, and from them was all the world overspread.

²⁰And Noah, being a husbandman, went forth and planted a vineyard. ²¹And he drank of the wine and was drunk, and lay uncovered in his tent. ²²And Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father's nakedness and told his two brothers who were without. ²³And Shem and Japheth took a mantle, put it on both their shoulders, and walked backward and covered their father's private parts; but their faces were backward so that they saw not their father's nakedness.

²⁴As soon as Noah awoke from his wine and knew what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵he said, Cursed be Canaan, and a servant of all servants to his brethren! ²⁶And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of Shem, and may Canaan be his servant. ²⁷May God increase Japheth,^b that he may dwell in the tents of Shem. And may Canaan be their servant.

²⁸And Noah lived after the flood 450 years, ²⁹so that all the days of

Noah were 950 years; and then he died.

The Notes

- a) 5. Here is all cruelty forbidden to man, so that God will not let it be unavenged in beasts, much less in our neighbour.
b) 27. To increase; that is, to rejoice, or to be in peace and of good comfort, as in Genesis 26:22 and note a, and in Psalm 4:1.

Chapter 10

The genealogy of Japheth, Shem, and Ham.

These are the generations of the sons of Noah – of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, who begat children after the flood. ²The sons of Japheth were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras. ³And the sons of Gomer were Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. ⁴And the sons of Javan were Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. ⁵From these came the isles of the Gentiles in their countries, every person in his speech, kindred, and nation.

1Ch 1:1-23

⁶The sons of Ham were Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. ⁷The sons of Cush were Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabtechah. And the sons of Raamah were Sheba and Dedan. ⁸Cush also begat Nimrod, who began to be mighty in the earth. ⁹He was a mighty hunter in the sight of the Lord, from whence came the proverb, He is as Nimrod, that mighty hunter in the sight of the Lord. ¹⁰And the beginning of his kingdom was Babel, Erech, Accad, and Calneh in the land of Shinar. ¹¹Out of that land came Ashur, who built Nineveh, Rehoboth Ir, and Calah; ¹²and Resen between Nineveh and Calah, which is a great city.

1Ch 1:10

Ge 11:9

Jon 1:2

¹³And Mizraim begat Ludim, Anamim, Lehabim, Naphtuhim, ¹⁴Pathrusim, and Casluhim, from whence came the Philistines and the Caphtorim.

¹⁵Canaan also begat Sidon, his eldest son, and Heth, ¹⁶Jebusi, Amori, Girgosi, ¹⁷Hivi, Arki, Sim, ¹⁸Arvadi, Zemari, and Harmati. And afterward the kindreds of the Canaanites spread abroad, ¹⁹and the borderlands of the Canaanites were from Sidon till you come to Gerar and to Gaza, and till you come to Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, Zeboim – even to Lasha. ²⁰These were the children* of Ham in their kindreds, tongues, lands, and nations.

*[Children: descendants, tribe, people]

²¹And Shem, the father[†] of all the children of Eber and brother of Japheth the elder, begat children also. ²²And his sons were Elam, Ashur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram. ²³And the children of Aram were Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash. ²⁴Arphaxad begat Shelah, and Shelah begat Eber.^o ²⁵And Eber begat two sons; the name of the one was Peleg, for in his time the earth was divided, and the name of his brother was Joktan. ²⁶Joktan begat Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, ²⁷Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, ²⁸Obal, Abimael, Sheba, ²⁹Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab; all these were the sons of Joktan. ³⁰And they dwelt from Mesha until

1Ch 1:17-25
†[Father: patriarch, progenitor, or forefather]
^oFrom Eber comes the designation *Hebrew*.

you come to Sephar, a mountain of the east land. ³¹These are the descendants of Shem in their kindreds, languages, countries, and nations.

³²These are the kindreds of the sons of Noah in their generations and nations. And from these came the people who were in the world after the flood.

Chapter 11

The building of the tower of Babel. The confusion of tongues. The genealogy of Shem, the son of Noah, until Abram, who goes with Lot to Haran.

And all the world was of one tongue and one language. ²And as people came from the east, they found a plain in the land of Shinar, and there they dwelt. ³And they said to one another, Come on, let us make brick and bake it with fire. So brick was their stone, and slime was their mortar. ⁴And they said, Come on, let us build ourselves a city and a tower, so that the top may reach to heaven! And let us make a name for ourselves, for perhaps we will be scattered abroad over all the earth.

⁵And the Lord came down^a to see^b the city and the tower that the children of Adam were building. ⁶And the Lord said, See, the people is one, and have one tongue among them all. And they have begun to do this, and will not leave off from all that they have purposed to do. ⁷Come, let us descend and mix up their speech right there, so that one will not understand what another says.

Ac 2:4-12

⁸Thus the Lord scattered them from there upon all the earth, and they left off building the city. ⁹Therefore the name of it is called Babel, because there the Lord confused the speech of all the world, and because from there the Lord scattered them abroad upon all the earth.

1Ch 1:17-27

¹⁰These are the generations of Shem: Shem was 100 years old, and begat Arphaxad two years after the flood. ¹¹And Shem lived after he had begotten Arphaxad 500 years, and begat sons and daughters. ¹²And Arphaxad lived 35 years, and begat Shelah,^c ¹³and he lived after he had begotten Shelah 403 years, and begat sons and daughters. ¹⁴And Shelah was 30 years old and begat Eber, ¹⁵and lived after he had begotten Eber 403 years, and begat sons and daughters. ¹⁶When Eber was 34 years old he begat Peleg, ¹⁷and lived after he had begotten Peleg 430 years, and begat sons and daughters.

¹⁸And Peleg, when he was 30 years old, begat Reu, ¹⁹and lived after he had begotten Reu 209 years, and begat sons and daughters. ²⁰And Reu, when he had lived 32 years, begat Serug, ²¹and lived after he had begotten Serug 207 years, and begat sons and daughters.

²²And when Serug was 30 years old he begat Nahor, ²³and lived after he had begotten Nahor 200 years, and begat sons and daughters.

Jos 24:2

²⁴And Nahor when he was 29 years old begat Terah, ²⁵and lived after he had begotten Terah 119 years, and begat sons and daughters.

²⁶And when Terah was 70 years old he begat Abram, Nahor, and

Haran. ²⁷And these are the generations of Terah: Terah begat Abram, Nahor, and Haran. And Haran begat Lot. ²⁸And Haran died before Terah his father in the land where he was born, at Ur in Chaldea.

²⁹And Abram and Nahor took wives for themselves. Abram's wife was called Sarai. And Nahor's wife was Milcah, the daughter of Haran, who was father of Milcah and of Iscah. ³⁰But Sarai was barren, and had no child.

Heb 11:11
2Esd 9:43-45

³¹Then Terah took Abram his son, Lot his grandson (Haran's son), and Sarai his daughter-in-law (his son Abram's wife), and they went with him from Ur in Chaldea to go into the land of Canaan. And they came to Haran and dwelt there. ³²And when Terah was 205 years old, he died in Haran.

Jos 24:3

The Notes

a) 5. God is counted to come down when he does anything among people on the earth that is not accustomed to be done, in some way showing himself present among people by his wonderful work, as it is in Psalms 18:6-19 and 144:5-7.

b) 5. To see the city: not that God does not see at all times, but only that he makes himself both to be seen and known in his wonderful works among people.

c) 12. Here the Seventy translators [i.e. of the Greek Pentateuch or Septuagint] leave out the generation of Cainan, who by the reckoning of the Hebrews begat Shelah when he was 30 years of age. Luke 3:35-36.

Chapter 12

Abram is blessed by God, and goes with Lot into a strange land that was shown to him in Canaan. God promises to give the same land to him and to his seed. Afterward, Abram goes into Egypt, and causes his wife Sarai to say that she is his sister. And she was ravished by Pharaoh, for which the Lord plagues him.

Then the Lord said to Abram, Go out of your country, away from your kindred and out of your father's house, into a land that I will show you. ²And I will make of you a mighty people, and will bless you and make your name great,^a so that you may be a blessing. ³And I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. And in you shall be blessed all the generations of the earth.

Jos 24:2-3
Ac 7:2-4
Heb 11:8-10

⁴And Abram went as the Lord bade him, and Lot went with him. Abram was 75 years old when he went out of Haran. ⁵And Abram took Sarai his wife and Lot his brother's son, with all their goods that they had gathered and souls^b that they had gotten in Haran, and they departed to go into the land of Canaan. And when they were come to the land of Canaan, ⁶Abram went forth into the land till he came to a place called Shechem, and to the oak of Moreh. And the Canaanites dwelt then in the land.

Ge 14:13

⁷Then the Lord appeared to Abram and said, To your seed will I

Ge 15:18-21
Ge 17:8
De 34:4
Ge 13:15

give this land. And Abram built an altar there to the Lord who had appeared to him. ⁸Then he went from there to a mountain that lies on the east side of Bethel and pitched his tent, Bethel being on the west side and Ai on the east. And he built there an altar to the Lord, and called on the name of the Lord. ⁹And then Abram departed and took his journey southward.

Ge 20:1-7

¹⁰After this there came a dearth in the land, and Abram went down into Egypt to sojourn there; for the dearth was sore in the land. ¹¹And when he was near to entering into Egypt, he said to Sarai his wife, Behold, I know that you are a fair woman to look upon. ¹²It will come to pass therefore, when the Egyptians see you, that they will say, She is his wife – and so they will slay me and keep you alive. ¹³Say, I pray you therefore, that you are my sister, so that I may fare the better by reason of you, and so that my soul may live for your sake.

¹⁴As soon as he came into Egypt, the Egyptians saw the woman, that she was very fair. ¹⁵And Pharaoh's lords saw her also, and praised her to Pharaoh. So it came about that she was taken into Pharaoh's house, ¹⁶who treated Abram well for her sake, so that he had sheep, oxen, and he-donkeys, and menservants and maidservants, and she-donkeys and camels. ¹⁷But God plagued Pharaoh and his house with great plagues because of Sarai, Abram's wife. ¹⁸Then Pharaoh called Abram and said, Why have you dealt thus with me? Why did you not tell me that she was your wife? ¹⁹Why did you say that she was your sister, and cause me to take her as my wife? But now, lo, here is your wife. Take her, and be walking.

²⁰Pharaoh also gave a charge to his men over Abram, to lead him out with his wife and everything that he had.

The Notes

- a) 2. To bless means here to be made happy and fortunate. And to make great his name is to advance and extol him above other people.
- b) 5. Here *souls* are taken for his servants and maids, who were very many, as you may see in Genesis 14:14.

Chapter 13

Abram and Lot depart out of Egypt. And Abram divided his land and herds with his brother Lot. Here again is promised to Abram the land of Canaan.

vv2-4,7 e.f.
COV, WYC.

Ge 12:8

Then Abram departed out of Egypt, both he and his wife with everything that he had, and Lot with him, toward the south. ²Abram was very rich in livestock, silver, and gold. ³Then he turned in his journey from the south toward Bethel, to the place where his tent was at the first between Bethel and Ai, ⁴the place of the altar that he had made before. And there Abram called upon the name of the Lord.

Ge 36:7

⁵Lot also who went with him had flocks, herds, and tents, ⁶so it was that the land was not able to receive them, that they could dwell together. For their possessions were so great that they could not dwell

together. ⁷And there fell a strife between the herdsmen of Abram's livestock and the herdsmen of Lot's livestock. Moreover, the Canaanites and the Perizzites also dwelt at that time in the land. Ge 12:6

⁸Then Abram said to Lot, Let there be no strife, I pray you, between you and me, and between my herdsmen and yours; for we are brethren.^a ⁹Is not all the whole land before you? Depart, I pray you, from me. If you will take the left hand, I will take the right; or if you take the right hand, I will take the left.

¹⁰And Lot lifted up his eyes and beheld all the country round about the Jordan, which was a land abundant in water everywhere (before the Lord destroyed Sodom and Gomorrah) – even like the garden of the Lord, and like the land of Egypt till you come to Zoar. ¹¹Then Lot chose all the plain of the Jordan, and took his journey toward the east; and so departed the one brother^a from the other. ¹²Abram dwelt in the land of Canaan, but Lot in the cities of the plain, and he tented till he came to Sodom. ¹³But the people of Sodom were wicked, and sinned exceedingly against the Lord. v11 e.f. COV.

¹⁴And the Lord said to Abram after Lot departed from him, Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are northward, southward, eastward, and westward. ¹⁵For all the land that you see, I will give to you and to your seed forever.^b ¹⁶And I will make your seed as the dust of the earth, so that if a man could number the dust of the earth, then could your seed also be numbered. ¹⁷Arise, and walk about the land in the length of it and in the breadth, for I will give it to you. Ge 12:7;
17:8; 26:3-4.
Ac 7:5

¹⁸Then Abram took down his tent and went and dwelt in the oak grove of Mamre, which is in Hebron;^c and he built there an altar to the Lord.

The Notes

- a) 8,11. The Hebrews often understand by this word *brother* [plural, *brethren*] all descendants, relations, and neighbours, and all who are of one stock. Romans 9:3, John 7:3.
- b) 15. *Forever* [Heb. *o-lawm*] is not here taken for a time without end, but for a long season that does not have its end appointed. Exodus 12:14, 17, etc. [Ed: John Rogers often emphasized this idiomatic use of *forever* in the Hebrew scriptures. See especially note b on Exodus 15:18.]
- c) 18. Hebron is the name of a city where Adam, Abraham and his wife with Isaac, etc., were buried, as in Genesis 23:17-20.

Chapter 14

Lot is taken prisoner. The victory of Abram over the Sodomites. Abram rescues Lot. Melchisedek offers gifts to Abram. Abram pays tithes to Melchisedek. Abram keeps nothing of the king of Sodom's goods.

And it happened within a while that Amraphel king of Shinar, Arioch king of Ellasar, Chedorlaomer king of Elam, and Tidal king of the nations, ²made war with Bera king of Sodom, with Birsha king of Gomorrah, with Shinab king of Admah, with Shemeber king of Zeboim,

and with the king of Bela^a (which Bela is called Zoar). ³The latter kings all came together to the vale of Siddim, which is now the Salt Sea. ⁴For twelve years they had been subject to king Chedorlaomer, and in the thirteenth year they rebelled.

⁵Therefore, in the fourteenth year Chedorlaomer and the kings that were with him came and smote the Rephaims^b in Ashteroth Karnaim, the Zuzim in Ham, the Emim in Shaveh Kiriathaim, ⁶and the Horites from their own Mount Seir as far as the plain of El Paran, which borders upon the wilderness. ⁷And then they turned and went to the Well of Judgment (that is, Kadesh), and smote all the country of the Amalekites, and also the Amorites who dwelt in Hazezon Tamar.

⁸Then went out the king of Sodom, the king of Gomorrah, the king of Admah, the king of Zeboim, and the king of Bela (now called Zoar). And they arrayed their men in order to fight with them in the vale of Siddim; ⁹that is to say, with Chedorlaomer the king of Elam, with Tidal king of the nations, with Amraphel king of Shinar, and with Arioch king of Ellasar: four kings against five. ¹⁰And that vale of Siddim was full of slime pits. And the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah fled, and fell there. And the men who remained escaped to the mountains. ¹¹And the four kings took all the goods of Sodom and Gomorrah and all their victuals, and went their way. ¹²And they also took Lot, Abram's brother's son, with his goods (for he dwelt at Sodom), and departed.

v13 e.f. cov.
Ge 13:18

¹³Then one who had escaped went and told Abram the Hebrew, who was dwelling in the oak grove of Mamre the Amorite, who was the brother of Eshcol and Aner (for these were allied with Abram).

¹⁴When Abram heard that his nephew was taken, he armed his servants born in his own house – three hundred and eighteen men – and went in pursuit till they came to Dan. ¹⁵And he set himself and his servants in array and fell upon them by night, and smote them and chased them away to Hobah, which lies on the left hand of Damascus. ¹⁶And he brought back all the goods, and also his nephew Lot and his goods, with the women also and the people.

Heb c7

¹⁷And as he returned from the slaughter of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went to meet him in the vale of Shaveh, which now is called King's Dale. ¹⁸Then Melchisedec king of Salem^c brought out bread and wine. And he, being the priest of the most high God, ¹⁹blessed him, saying, Blessed be Abram^d unto the most high God, possessor of heaven and earth; ²⁰and blessed be God the Most High, who has delivered your enemies into your hands. And Abram gave him tithes of everything.

²¹Then the king of Sodom said to Abram, Give me the souls,^e and keep the goods for yourself. ²²And Abram answered the king of Sodom, I lifted up my hand to the Lord God, most high possessor of heaven and earth, ²³that I will not take of anything that is yours so much as a thread or a shoe latchet, lest you should say, I have made Abram rich! – ²⁴save only that which the young men have eaten, and the

shares of the men who went with me, Aner, Eshcol, and Mamre; let them take their shares.

The Notes

- a) 2. Bela (or Zoar) is that town which Lot desired for his refuge when he came out of Sodom. Genesis 19:19-22.
- b) 5. Rephaims are accounted in the scripture for giants (as in 2 Samuel 5:18 and Isaiah 17:5), who lived by theft and robbery.
- c) 18. The Jews supposed Melchisedec to be Shem the son of Noah, because after the flood he lived 500 years, and after the death of Abraham he was (by God's providence) the king of Salem.
- d) 19. Blessed be Abram: that is, praised be Abram. And (v20) praised be the most high God, as it is in Genesis 47:10.
- e) 21. Souls are men and women, as in Genesis 46:15 and Deuteronomy 10:22.

Chapter 15

The land of Canaan is yet again promised to Abram. God promises him seed. He believes and is justified. The prophecy of the bondage in which the children of Israel would be under Pharaoh, and of their deliverance.

After these events, the word of God came to Abram in a vision,^a saying, Fear not, Abram; I am your shield, and your reward will be exceedingly great.

²And Abram answered, Lord Jehovah, what will you give me? I go childless, but the steward of my house, this Eliezer of Damascus, has a son. ³And Abram said, See, to me you have given no seed; lo, a servant born in my house will be my heir.

⁴And behold, the word of the Lord spoke to Abram, saying, He shall not be your heir, but one that will come out of your own body shall be your heir. ⁵And he brought him outside and said, Look up to heaven and count the stars, if you are able to number them. And he said to him, Even so shall your seed be.

De 10:15
Ro 4:18

⁶And Abram believed the Lord,^b and it was counted to him for righteousness. ⁷And he said to him, I am the Lord that brought you out of Ur in Chaldea to give you this land, to possess it.

Ro 4:3,22
Ga 3:6

⁸And Abram said, Lord God, how can I know that I will possess it? ⁹And he said to him, Take a heifer of three years old, a she-goat of three years old, a three-year-old ram, a turtle dove, and a young pigeon.

¹⁰And Abram took all these, and divided them in the middle and laid each half opposite the other; but the birds he did not divide. ¹¹And birds of prey fell on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away. ¹²And when the sun was down, there fell a slumber upon Abram; and lo, fear and great darkness came upon him. ¹³And the Lord said to Abram, Know this for certain: that your seed will be strangers in a land that does not belong to them. And they will make bondmen of them, and ill-treat them for 400 years. ¹⁴But the nation whom they serve, I will

Ac 7:6-7
J'th 5:11
Ex 12:40-44

Ex 12:31-36 judge,^c and afterward they shall come out with great substance. ¹⁵Nevertheless, you will go to your fathers in peace, and will be buried when you are of a good age. ¹⁶And in the fourth generation,^d they will return here again; for the wickedness of the Amorites is not yet full.

¹⁷When the sun was down and it was dark, behold, there was a smoking furnace, and a firebrand that went between^e the said pieces.

Gal 3:16 ¹⁸And that same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying,
Ge 24:7 To your seed I will give this land, from the river of Egypt even to the great river Euphrates: ¹⁹the Kenites, the Kenezites, the Kadmonites, ²⁰the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaims, ²¹the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites.

The Notes

- a) 1. The word of the Lord comes when he shows anything to us by revelation, as it is used in various places of the scripture, and especially in the Prophets. It is a manner of speech of the Hebrews.
- b) 6. To believe is to have a sure trust and confidence to obtain the thing promised, and not to have any doubt in him who promises. Romans 4:3, Galatians 2:16; 3:6-9.
- c) 14. To judge is here to take vengeance. Psalm 35:1-8.
- d) 16. A generation or an age is here taken for 100 years, as in Ge 6:9.
- e) 17. This word *went between* is taken for burning or consuming.

Chapter 16

Sarai gives Abram leave to take her maid Hagar as a wife. Hagar despises her mistress, for which she was ill-treated by Sarai and therefore runs away. The angel meeting her commands her to turn back and promises her seed. And he names her first child Ishmael.

Sarai, Abram's wife, bore him no children. But she had a handmaid, an Egyptian whose name was Hagar. ²And so she said to Abram, Behold, the Lord has closed me so that I cannot bear. I pray you, go in to my maid;^a perhaps I can be multiplied by means of her.

And Abram heeded the voice of Sarai. ³Then Sarai Abram's wife took Hagar her maid, the Egyptian, (after Abram had dwelt ten years in the land of Canaan) and gave her to her husband Abram, to be his wife. ⁴And he went in to Hagar, and she conceived.

But when Hagar saw that she had conceived, her mistress was contemptible in her sight. ⁵Then said Sarai to Abram, You do me injustice, for I have given my maid into your bosom,^b and now, because she sees that she has conceived, I am contemptible in her sight. May the Lord judge between you and me!

⁶Then Abram said to Sarai, Behold, your maid is in your hand. Do with her as it pleases you.

And because Sarai dealt severely with her, Hagar fled from her. ⁷And the angel of the Lord found her beside a fountain of water in the wilderness, by a well in the way to Shur. ⁸And he said, Hagar, Sarai's

maid, from whence do you come, and where will you go?

And she answered, I flee from my mistress Sarai.

⁹And the angel of the Lord said to her, Return to your mistress again, and submit yourself under her hands. ¹⁰And the angel of the Lord said to her, I will so increase your seed, that it may not be numbered for multitude. ¹¹And the Lord's angel said further to her, See, you are with child and shall bear a son; and you shall call his name Ishmael, because the Lord has heard your tribulation. ¹²He will be a wild man, and his hand will be against every man, and every man's hand against him. And yet, he will dwell close by all his brethren.

Ge 17:16
J'g 13:3
M't 1:20-21
Lu 1:13

¹³And Hagar called the name of the Lord who spoke to her, You-are-the-God-that-looks-on-me. For (she said), I have assuredly seen here the back parts of him who sees me.^c ¹⁴Therefore she called the well, The-well-of-the-Living-who-sees-me; which well is between Kadesh and Bered.

Ge 24:62

¹⁵And Hagar bore Abram a son. And Abram called the name of his son whom Hagar bore, Ishmael. ¹⁶And Abram was 86 years old when Hagar bore him Ishmael.

The Notes

- a) 2. To go in to her maid is to have carnal copulation with her, as the words *know* and *sleep* do also signify.
- b) 5. *Bosom*, after the manner of the Hebrews, is taken for consorting with a woman. And it is also taken for faith, as in Luke 16:22 of Lazarus.
- c) 13. They who see the back parts of God are those who, by revelation or otherwise, have perception or knowledge of God.

Chapter 17

Abram is called Abraham, and Sarai is named Sarah. The land of Canaan is here the fourth time promised. Circumcision is here instituted. Isaac is promised. Abraham prays for Ishmael.

When Abram was 99 years old the Lord appeared to him, saying, I am the almighty God; walk before me, and be uncorrupt. ²And I will make my bond between you and me, and will multiply you exceedingly.

Ge 5:24;
6:18.

³And Abram fell on his face. And God talked further with him, saying, ⁴I am; behold, my covenant is with you, that you shall be a father of many nations. ⁵Therefore, you shall no more be called Abram, but your name shall be Abraham. For I have made you a father of many nations, ⁶and I will multiply you exceedingly, and will make nations of you; yea, and kings shall come out of you. ⁷Moreover, I will make my bond between me and you, and your seed after you in their times, to be an everlasting covenant, so that I will be God to you and to your seed after you. ⁸And I will give to you and to your seed after you the land wherein you are a stranger, even all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession, and will be their God.

Ec'us 44:19

Ac 7:5

⁹And God said to Abraham, See that you keep my covenant, both

you and your seed after you in their times. ¹⁰This is my covenant, which you shall keep between me and you and your seed after you: that you circumcise all your menchildren. ¹¹You shall circumcise the foreskin of your flesh, and it will be a sign of the bond between me and you. ¹²Every manchild, when it is eight days old, shall be circumcised among you in your generations; and all servants also, born at home or bought with money, even though they be strangers and not of your seed. ¹³The servant born in your house and he also who is bought with money must be circumcised, so that my covenant may be in your flesh for an everlasting bond. ¹⁴If there is any uncircumcised manchild, who has not the foreskin of his flesh cut off, his soul shall perish from his people because he has broken my covenant.

Ro 4:9-11
Ge 21:4
Lu 2:21
Lev 12:1-3

¹⁵And God said to Abraham, Sarai your wife shall no more be called Sarai, but her name will be Sarah. ¹⁶For I will bless her and give you a son by her, and will bless her so that people – yea, and kings of people – shall come of her.

¹⁷And Abraham fell upon his face and laughed, and said in his heart, Can a child be born to him who is 100 years old? And can Sarah, who is 90 years old, bear? ¹⁸And Abraham said to God, O that Ishmael might live in your sight!

Ge 18:9-15;
21:2.

¹⁹Then said God, Sarah your wife will bear you a son indeed, and you shall call his name Isaac. And I will make my bond with him, so that it will be an everlasting bond unto his seed after him. ²⁰And as concerning Ishmael also, I have heard your request; lo, I will bless him and increase him, and multiply him exceedingly. Twelve princes shall he beget, and I will make a great nation of him. ²¹But my bond I will make with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this time in twelve months.

Ge 25:12-16

²²And God left off talking with him and departed up from Abraham. ²³And Abraham took Ishmael his son, all the servants born in his house, and all who were bought with money – as many as were menchildren among the people of Abraham's house – and circumcised the foreskin of their flesh that very same day, as God had said to him.

²⁴Abraham was 99 years old when he cut off the foreskin of his flesh.

²⁵And Ishmael his son was 13 years old when the foreskin of his flesh

vv26,27 e.f.
COV.

was circumcised. ²⁶Upon one day they were all circumcised – Abraham, Ishmael his son, ²⁷and all the males in his house. Whether they were born at home, bought, or any other stranger, they were all circumcised with him.

Chapter 18

There appeared three men to Abraham. Isaac is promised to him again, at which Sarah laughed. The destruction of the Sodomites is declared to Abraham. Abraham prays for them.

And the Lord appeared to Abraham in the oak grove of Mamre as he sat in his tent door in the heat of the day.^a ²And he lifted up his eyes

and looked, and lo, three men stood not far from him. And when he saw them, he ran to meet them from the tent door, and fell to the ground ³and said, Lord, if I have found favour in your sight, go not by your servant! ⁴Let a little water be fetched, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree; ⁵and I will fetch a morsel of bread^b to refresh your hearts. And then go your ways, for even for this have you come to your servant.

Heb 13:2
J'g 19:5

And they answered, Do even so, as you have said.

⁶And Abraham hastened into his tent to Sarah and said, Make ready at once three pecks of fine meal, knead it, and make cakes.

⁷And Abraham ran to his cattle and fetched a calf that was tender and good, and gave it to a young man who made it ready at once. ⁸And he took butter and milk with the calf that he had prepared and set it before them, and stood himself by them under the tree. And they ate.

Tob 12:19
J'g 13:15-16

⁹And they said to him, Where is Sarah your wife?

And he said, In the tent.

¹⁰And the Lord said, I will come again to you as soon as the fruit can live; and lo, Sarah your wife shall have a son.

Now Sarah heard this from the tent door that was behind his back. ¹¹But Abraham and Sarah were both old and well stricken in age, and it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of wives. ¹²And Sarah laughed in herself, saying, Now I am grown old; shall I give myself to pleasure, and my old lord also?

Ec'us 25:3-6

¹³Then said the Lord to Abraham, Why does Sarah laugh, saying, Will I really bear a child now, when I am old? ¹⁴Is the thing too hard for the Lord to do? In the time appointed I will return to you, as soon as the fruit can have life, and Sarah shall have a son.

2Ki 4:16-17
Ro 9:9

¹⁵Then Sarah denied it, saying, I did not laugh! For she was afraid.

But he said, Yes, you laughed.

¹⁶Then the men stood up from there and looked toward Sodom. And Abraham went with them, to bring them on the way. ¹⁷And the Lord said, Can I hide from Abraham that thing which I am about to do, ¹⁸seeing that Abraham shall be a great and a mighty people, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the Lord, to do according to right and conscience, so that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he has promised him.

Ec'us 44:19-21.
Ge 17:9

²⁰And the Lord said, The outcry against Sodom and Gomorrah is great, and their sin is exceedingly grievous. ²¹I will go down and see whether the people have done all together according to the cry that has come to me or not, so that I may know.

Eze 16:49-50.
Jon 1:2

²²And the men departed from there and went toward Sodom. But Abraham stood yet before the Lord, ²³and he drew near and said, Will you destroy the righteous with the wicked? ²⁴If there are fifty righteous within the city, will you destroy it, and not spare the place for the sake of fifty righteous who are in it? ²⁵Far be it from you to do after this manner and slay the righteous with the wicked, so that the

righteous are as the wicked! Far be that from you. Should not the judge of all the world do according to right?

²⁶And the Lord said, If I find in Sodom fifty righteous within the city, I will spare all the place for their sakes.

Ge 2:7 ²⁷And Abraham answered and said, Behold, I have taken upon me to speak to the Lord, and yet am but dust and ashes. ²⁸What if there lack five of fifty righteous: will you destroy all the city for the lack of five?

And he said, If I find there forty-five, I will not destroy them.

²⁹And Abraham spoke to him yet again and said, What if there be forty found there?

And he said, I will not do it for the forty's sake.

³⁰And he said, O, let not my Lord be angry that I speak: what if there be found thirty there?

And he said, I will not do it if I find thirty there.

³¹And Abraham said, O see, I have begun to speak to my Lord: what if there be twenty found there?

And he said, I will not destroy them for twenty's sake.

³²And Abraham said, O let not my Lord be angry that I speak yet, but even once more only: what if ten be found there?

And he said, I will not destroy them for ten's sake.

³³And the Lord went his way as soon as he had left communing with Abraham, and Abraham returned to his place.

The Notes

- a) 1. The heat of the day is taken for noon.
- b) 5. By *bread* in the scripture is understood every kind of food that is fit for man's eating, as in 1 Samuel 28:22.

Chapter 19

Lot received two angels into his house. The unclean lusts of the Sodomites. Lot is delivered and asks to dwell in the town of Zoar.

Ge 33:3,6,7
Heb 13:2
And there came two angels to Sodom in the evening, and Lot was sitting at the gate of the city. And Lot saw them and rose up to meet them, and he bowed himself to the ground with his face. ²And he said, See, lords, turn in I pray you, into your servant's house. And stay all night, and wash your feet, and rise up early and go on your ways.

And they said, Nay, but we will stay in the streets all night.

Lu 24:29
Tob 12:19
³Then he compelled them exceedingly. And they turned in to him and entered into his house, and he made them a feast and baked sweet cakes, and they ate. ⁴But before they went to rest, the people of the city of Sodom compassed the house round about, both old and young – all the people from all quarters. ⁵And they called to Lot and said to him, Where are the men who went into your house tonight?^a Bring them out to us so that we can do our lust with them.

⁶And Lot went out at the door to them and shut the door after him,

⁷and said, No, for God's sake brethren, do not so wickedly! ⁸Look, I have two daughters who have known no man; them I will bring out to you. Do with them as it seems good to you. Only to these men, do nothing; for that is why they came under the shelter of my roof.

J'g 19:23-24

⁹And they said, Come here! And they said, Did you not come in to sojourn here, and will you now be a judge? We will surely deal worse with you than with them!

Ex 2:14
M't 21:23
Ac 7:27

And as they pressed in hard upon Lot and would have broken down the door, ¹⁰the men put forth their hands, pulled Lot into the house to them, and shut to the door. ¹¹And the people who were at the door of the house they struck with blindness, both small and great, so that they could not find the door. ¹²And the men said moreover to Lot, If you have yet here any son-in-law, or sons or daughters, or whomever you have in the city, bring them out of this place. ¹³For we must destroy this place, because the outcry against the people is great before the Lord. Therefore, he has sent us to destroy it.

Wis 19:17
2Ki 6:18

Ge 18:20

¹⁴And Lot went out and spoke to his sons-in-law, who were to have married his daughters, and said, Stand up and get out of this place, for the Lord will destroy the city! But he seemed as one joking to his sons-in-law. ¹⁵And as the morning arose, the angels hurried Lot, saying, Stand up! Take your wife and your two daughters, and that which is at hand, lest you perish in the sin of the city. ¹⁶And as he delayed, the men caught him, his wife, and his two daughters by the hands, because the Lord was merciful to him. And they brought him forth and set him outside the city. ¹⁷When they had brought them out, they said, Save your life! And look not behind you, neither stop in any place of the plain, but save yourself in the mountain, lest you perish.

¹⁸Then said Lot to them, O nay, my lord; ¹⁹behold, inasmuch as your servant has found grace in your sight, now make your mercy great, which you show to me in saving my life. For I cannot save myself in the mountains, lest some misfortune fall upon me and I die. ²⁰See, here is a town nearby to flee to, and it is a little one. Let me save myself there. Is it not a little one? Then my soul may live.

Ge 14, note a

²¹And the angel said to him, See, I have received your request concerning this thing, and I will not overthrow this town for which you have spoken. ²²Hasten and save yourself there, for I can do nothing till you are gone in there.

And therefore the name of that town is called Zoar.* ²³And the sun was upon the earth when Lot entered into Zoar. ²⁴Then the Lord rained upon Sodom and Gomorrah brimstone and fire, from the Lord out of heaven, ²⁵and overthrew those cities and all the region, and all who dwelt in the cities, and that which grew upon the ground. ²⁶But Lot's wife looked behind her, and was turned into a pillar of salt.

*[ie Little]
Ge 14:2
Isa 13:19-22
Jer 50:40
Eze 16:48

²⁷Abraham rose up early and went to the place where he had stood before the Lord, ²⁸and he looked toward Sodom and Gomorrah, and toward all the land of the plain. And as he looked, behold, the smoke of the land rose as if it were the smoke of a furnace. ²⁹But

2Pe 2:6-9
Wis 10:6
Am 4:11
Lu 17:28-30
Jude 1:6-7

yet, when God destroyed the cities of the region he thought upon Abraham and sent Lot out from the danger of the overthrowing, when he overthrew the cities where Lot dwelt.

³⁰Then Lot departed out of Zoar and dwelt in the mountains, and his two daughters with him, because he feared to remain in Zoar. He dwelt therefore in a cave, both he and his two daughters also. ³¹Then said the elder to the younger, Our father is old, and there are no more men in the earth to come in to us after the manner of all the world. ³²Come, therefore; let us give our father wine to drink, and let us lie with him so that we may preserve seed by our father.

³³And they gave their father wine to drink that same night. And the elder daughter went and lay with her father. And he perceived it not, neither when she lay down nor when she rose up.

³⁴And on the morrow the elder said to the younger, See, last night I lay with my father. Let us give him wine to drink this night also, and you go and lie with him, and let us preserve seed by our father. ³⁵And they gave their father wine to drink that night also, and the younger arose and lay with him. And he perceived it not, neither when she lay down nor when she rose up.

³⁶Thus were both the daughters of Lot with child by their father. ³⁷And the elder bore a son and called him Moab, who is the father of the Moabites to this day. ³⁸And the younger bore a son and called him Ben-Ammi, who is the father of the children of Ammon to this day.

The Notes

a) 5. The night is here taken for the evening, which is the beginning of the night, as in Proverb 7:9.

Chapter 20

Abraham went as a stranger into the land of Gerar.
The king of Gerar takes away his wife.

Ge 12:13;
26:7.

And Abraham departed from there toward the south country. And he dwelt between Kadesh and Shur, and sojourned in Gerar. ²And Abraham said of Sarah his wife that she was his sister. Then Abimelech, the king of Gerar, sent and fetched Sarah away.

³And God came to Abimelech by night in a dream and said to him, See, you are but a dead man because of the woman that you have taken away, for she is a man's wife.

⁴But Abimelech had not yet come near her, and therefore said, Lord, would you slay righteous people? ⁵Did he not say to me that she was his sister? Yea, and did she not say herself that he was her brother? With a pure heart and innocent hands I have done this.

⁶And God said to him in a dream, I knew well that you did it in the pureness of your heart, and therefore I kept you so that you would not sin against me; neither did I suffer you to come near her. ⁷Now therefore, deliver to the man his wife again, for he is a prophet. And let him

pray for you so that you may live. But if you do not deliver her back, be sure that you shall die, with all that you have.

⁸Then Abimelech rose up early in the morning, and he called all his servants and told all these things in their ears. And the men were sore afraid. ⁹And Abimelech called Abraham and said to him, What have you done to us? And how have I offended against you, that you should bring on me and on my kingdom so great a sin? You have done things to me that ought not to be done. ¹⁰And Abimelech said moreover to Abraham, What did you see, that moved you to do this thing?

¹¹And Abraham answered, I thought that perhaps the fear of God^a was not in this place, and that men would kill me for my wife. ¹²Yet indeed she is my sister – the daughter of my father, but not of my mother – and became my wife. ¹³And after God caused me to wander out of my father's house, I said to her, This kindness shall you show to me in all the places where we go: to say of me that I am your brother.

¹⁴Then Abimelech took sheep and oxen, menservants and women-servants, and gave them to Abraham, and delivered Sarah his wife to him again. ¹⁵And Abimelech said, Behold, the land lies before you; dwell where it pleases you best. ¹⁶And to Sarah he said, See, I have given your brother a thousand pieces of silver; behold, this will be to you a recompense, and to all who are with you, and to all people, a vindication of your honour.

v16 e.f. JR.

¹⁷And so Abraham prayed to God, and God healed Abimelech and his wife and his maidservants, so that they bore children. ¹⁸For the Lord had closed all the wombs of the house of Abimelech because of Sarah, Abraham's wife.

The Notes

a) 11. Among the Hebrews, the fear of God is principally taken for the honour and faith that we owe to God, and that with such a love as the child has for the father.

Chapter 21

Isaac is born. Hagar is cast out with her young son Ishmael. The angel helps and comforts Hagar. The covenant between Abimelech and Abraham.

The Lord visited Sarah as he had said, and did unto her as he had promised. ²And Sarah was with child and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the same time that the Lord had appointed. ³And Abraham called his son who was born to him, whom Sarah bore him, Isaac. ⁴And Abraham circumcised Isaac his son when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him.

⁵And Abraham was 100 years old when his son Isaac was born to him. ⁶And Sarah said, God has prepared joy for me, and whoever hears will rejoice with me. ⁷She said also, Who would have said to Abraham that Sarah should have given children suck, or that I should have borne him a son in his old age?

Ge 17:6;
18:10,14.
Ga 4:21-31
Heb 11:11
M't 1:2
Jos 24:3
Ge 17:10
vv 6,9 e.f.
COV.

⁸And the child grew and was weaned, and Abraham made a great feast the same day that Isaac was weaned.

Ga 4:21-31 ⁹And Sarah saw the son of Hagar the Egyptian (whom Hagar had borne to Abraham), that he was a mocker. ¹⁰Then she said to Abraham, Put away this bondmaid and her son, for the son of this bondwoman will not be heir with my son Isaac!

Ro 9:7 ¹¹But these words seemed very grievous in Abraham's sight, because of his son. ¹²Then the Lord said to Abraham, Let it not be grievous to you because of the lad and your bondmaid, but in all that Sarah has said to you, hear her voice. For in Isaac shall your seed be called.
Ga 4:27
Heb 11:18 ¹³Moreover, of the son of the bondwoman I will make a nation, because he is your seed.
Ge 17:20

v16 e.f. COV. ¹⁴And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and took bread and a bottle with water and, putting it on her shoulders, gave it to Hagar with the lad also, and sent her away. And she departed, and wandered up and down in the wilderness of Beersheba. ¹⁵When the water that was in the bottle was gone, she cast the lad under a bush, ¹⁶and went and sat out of sight a great way, as it were a bowshot off. For she said, I cannot see the lad die! And she sat down out of sight and lifted up her voice and wept. ¹⁷And God heard the voice of the child. And the angel of God called Hagar out of heaven and said to her, What ails you, Hagar? Fear not, for God has heard the voice of the child where he lies. ¹⁸Arise, lift up the lad, and take him in your hand; for I will make of him a great people.

Isa 40:11 ¹⁹And God opened her eyes, and she saw a well of water. And she went and filled the bottle with water and gave the boy a drink. ²⁰And God was with the lad, and he grew and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer. ²¹And he dwelt in the wilderness of Pharan. And his mother got him a wife out of the land of Egypt.

Ge 26:26 ²²And it chanced the same season that Abimelech, with Phichol his chief captain, spoke to Abraham, saying, God is with you in everything that you do. ²³Now therefore swear to me, right here by God, that you will not hurt me or my children, nor my children's children, but that you will deal with me and the country where you are a stranger according to the kindness that I have shown you.

²⁴Then Abraham said, I will swear. ²⁵But Abraham rebuked Abimelech for a well of water that Abimelech's servants had taken away. ²⁶And Abimelech answered, I do not know who did it. Also, you did not tell me, nor did I hear about it until this day.

²⁷And Abraham took sheep and oxen and gave them to Abimelech, and they made both of them a bond together. ²⁸Then Abraham set seven lambs by themselves, ²⁹and Abimelech said to Abraham, What is the meaning of these seven lambs that you have set by themselves? ³⁰And he answered, Seven lambs must you take from my hand so that it may be a witness for me, that I dug this well.

*[ie Well of the Seven, or Well of the Oath]

³¹And so the place is called Beersheba,* because they swore, both of them. ³²Thus they made a bond together at Beersheba.

Then Abimelech with Phichol, his chief captain, rose up and turned again to the land of the Philistines. ³³And Abraham planted a wood in Beersheba and called there on the name of the Lord, the everlasting God. ³⁴And he dwelt in the Philistine land a long season.

Chapter 22

The faith of Abraham is proved in offering his son Isaac. Christ our saviour is promised. The children of Abraham's brother Nahor.

After these things God did prove Abraham, and said to him, Abraham!
And he answered, Here am I.

²And he said, Take your most beloved son Isaac,^a whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and sacrifice him there for a sacrifice upon one of the mountains that I will show you.

³Then Abraham rose up early in the morning and saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him and Isaac his son; and he split wood for the sacrifice, rose up, and set off for the place that God had appointed to him.

⁴On the third day, Abraham lifted up his eyes and saw the place afar off, ⁵and said to his young men, Wait here with the donkey. I and the lad will go yonder and worship,^{*} and will come again to you.

⁶And Abraham took the wood for the sacrifice and laid it upon Isaac his son, and took fire in his hand, and a knife. And they went both of them together.

⁷Then Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, My father? And he answered, Here am I, my son. And he said, See, here is fire and wood, but where is the sheep for sacrifice? ⁸And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a sheep for sacrifice.

So they went both together. ⁹And when they came to the place that God showed him, Abraham made an altar there and set the wood in order; and he bound Isaac his son and laid him on the altar, above upon the wood. ¹⁰And Abraham stretched forth his hand and took the knife, to have killed his son.

¹¹Then the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, saying, Abraham, Abraham!

And he answered, Here am I.

¹²And he said, Lay not your hands upon the child, neither do anything at all to him. For now I know^b that you fear God, in that you have not kept your most beloved son from me.

¹³And Abraham lifted up his eyes and looked about, and behold, there was a ram caught by the horns in a thicket. And he went and took the ram, and offered him up for a sacrifice in the stead of his son.

¹⁴And Abraham called the name of the place The-Lord-will-see. Therefore it is a common saying this day: In the mount will the Lord be seen.

¹⁵And the angel of the Lord called to Abraham from heaven the second time, ¹⁶saying, I swear by myself (says the Lord), because you

J'th 8:24-26
Ec'us 44:
19-20.
Heb 11:17
v2 e.f. JR.
See note a.

*To worship
is here to do
sacrifice.

Jas 2:21
1Macc 2:52

Heb 6:13-15
Ps 105:6-9
Lu 1:73
Ec'us 44:
20-21.
Ge 24:60;
12:2-3.
Ac 3:25
Ga 3:8

have done this thing, and have not spared your most beloved son, ¹⁷I will bless you and multiply your seed as the stars of heaven and as the sand upon the sea side. And your seed shall possess the gates of his enemies. ¹⁸And in your seed shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice.

¹⁹So Abraham turned back to the young men, and they rose up and went together to Beersheba. And Abraham dwelt at Beersheba.

²⁰And it chanced after these things that someone told Abraham, saying, Behold Milcah! She has also borne children to your brother Nahor: ²¹Huz his eldest son, and Buz his brother, and Kemuel the father of the Syrians; ²²and Chesed, Hazo, Pildash, Jidlaph, and Bethuel. ²³And Bethuel begat Rebecca. These eight did Milcah bear to Nahor, Abraham's brother. ²⁴And his concubine called Reumah, she bore also Tebah, Gaham, Thahash, and Maachah.

The Notes

- a) 2. *Only son* [original translation] means only beloved or most chiefly beloved above others, after the Hebrew idiom, as in Pr 4:3. [For clarity, the idiom was emended to *most beloved son* in verses 2, 12, and 16. Ed.]
b) 12. I know: that is, I have experience that you fear God, as in Philip-
pians 4:10.

Chapter 23

Sarah dies, and is buried in the field that Abraham bought from Ephron the Hittite.

Sarah was 127 years old (for so long she lived), ²and then died in a head city called Hebron in the land of Canaan. Then Abraham came to mourn Sarah and to weep for her. ³And Abraham stood up from the dead body and talked with the sons of Heth, saying, ⁴I am a stranger and a foreigner among you; give me a burial ground with you, so that I may bury my dead out of my sight.

⁵And the children of Heth answered Abraham, saying to him, ⁶Hear us, lord. You are a mighty man of God among us; in the finest of our sepulchres bury your dead. None of us will forbid you his sepulchre, that you should not bury your dead therein.

⁷Abraham stood up and bowed himself before the people of the land, the children of Heth. ⁸And he talked with them, saying, If it be your will that I may bury my dead out of my sight, hear me, and speak for me to Ephron the son of Zoar. ⁹And let him give me the double cave that he has in the end of his field, for as much money as it is worth. Let him sell it to me in the presence of you all, for a possession to bury in. ¹⁰(For Ephron dwelt among the children of Heth.)

Then Ephron the Hittite answered Abraham in the hearing of the children of Heth and of everyone who went in at the gates of his city, saying, ¹¹Not so, my lord, but hear me: I give you the field, and I give you the cave that is in it also. And in the presence of the sons of my people I give it to you, to bury your dead in.

¹²Then Abraham bowed himself before the people of the land, ¹³and spoke to Ephron in the hearing of the people of the country, saying, I pray you, hear me. I will give silver for the field; receive it from me, and so will I bury my dead there.

¹⁴Ephron answered Abraham, saying to him, ¹⁵My lord, hearken to me. The land is worth 400 sickles of silver. But what is that between you and me? Bury your dead.

¹⁶And Abraham hearkened to Ephron, and weighed out to him the silver as he had said in the hearing of the sons of Heth, namely 400 silver sickles of money, currency among the merchants. ¹⁷Thus was the field of Ephron before Mamre where the double cave is – including the field, the cave that is in it, and all the trees of the field that grow in all the borders round about – made sure ¹⁸to Abraham for a possession, in the sight of the children of Heth and of everyone who went in at the gates of the city. ¹⁹And then Abraham buried Sarah his wife in the double cave of the field that lies before Mamre, otherwise called Hebron, in the land of Canaan. ²⁰And so both the field and the cave that is in it were made to Abraham a sure possession to bury in by the sons of Heth.

v17,20 e.f.
WYC.

Chapter 24

Abraham makes his servant swear an oath, and sends him to seek a wife for his son Isaac. The servant was faithful and brought Rebecca, whom Isaac took as his wife.

Abraham was old and stricken in days, and the Lord had blessed him in all things. ²And he said to the senior servant of his house, who had the rule over all that he had, Put your hand under my thigh,^a ³so that I may make you swear by the Lord who is God of heaven and God of the earth, that you will not take a wife for my son from the daughters of the Canaanites among whom I dwell. ⁴But you must go to my country and to my kindred, and there take a wife for my son Isaac.

⁵Then said the servant to him, What if the woman will not agree to come with me to this land? Shall I bring your son back into the land that you came out of?

⁶And Abraham said to him, Beware of that, that you do not bring my son there. ⁷The Lord God of heaven who took me from my father's house and from the land where I was born, and who spoke to me and swore to me, saying, To your seed will I give this land – he will send his angel before you so that you may take a wife for my son from there. ⁸Nevertheless, if the woman will not agree to come with you, then you are discharged from this oath. But above all things, do not bring my son back there.

⁹And the servant put his hand under Abraham's thigh and swore to him concerning that matter.

¹⁰And the servant took ten camels from the camels of his master and departed, and had all manner of goods from his master with him;

Ge 12:7;
15:17-21.

and he stood up and went to Mesopotamia, to the town of Nahor.
¹¹And he made his camels lie down outside the town by the side of a well of water, in the evening about the time that the women come out to draw water. ¹²And he said, O Lord God of my master Abraham, send me good speed this day, and show mercy to my master Abraham.
¹³Lo, I stand here by the well of water, and the daughters of the men of this town will come out to draw water. ¹⁴Now, the young woman to whom I say, Lower your pitcher and let me drink – if she says, Drink, and I will give your camels to drink also, the same is she whom you have ordained for your servant Isaac. Yea, and by this I will know that you have shown mercy on my master.

*[ie here, a
virgin]

¹⁵And it came to pass, before he had left speaking, that Rebecca the daughter of Bethuel, son of Milcah the wife of Nahor, Abraham's brother, came out with her pitcher upon her shoulder. ¹⁶The girl was very fair to look upon, and yet a maiden* and unknown by a man. And she went down to the well, filled her pitcher, and came up again. ¹⁷Then the servant ran to her and said, Let me sip a little water from your pitcher. ¹⁸And she said, Drink, my lord. And she quickly let down her pitcher upon her arm and gave him a drink. ¹⁹And when she had given him a drink, she said, I will draw water for your camels also, until they have drunk enough. ²⁰And she poured out her pitcher into the trough hastily, and ran again to the well to fetch water, and drew for all his camels.

²¹And the fellow wondered at her. But held his peace, to be certain whether the Lord had made his journey successful or not. ²²And as the camels had left drinking, he took a golden earring of half a sickle weight, and two golden bracelets for her hands of ten sickles weight of gold,^b ²³and said to her, Whose daughter are you? Tell me, is there room in your father's house for us to lodge in?

²⁴And she said to him, I am the daughter of Bethuel the son of Milcah, whom she bore to Nahor. ²⁵And she said moreover to him, We have straw and provender enough, and also room to lodge in.

²⁶And the man bowed himself and worshipped the Lord.^c ²⁷And he said, Blessed be the Lord God of my master Abraham, who ceases not to deal mercifully and truly with my master, and has brought me by the way to my master's brother's house! ²⁸And the girl ran and told the people at her mother's house these things.

²⁹And Rebecca had a brother called Laban. And Laban ran out to the man, to the well. ³⁰For as soon as he had seen the earring and the bracelets upon his sister's hands, and heard the words of Rebecca his sister, saying, Thus said the man to me – then he went out to the man. And lo, he stood yet with the camels by the well side. ³¹And Laban said, Come in, O blessed of the Lord. Why do you stand without? I have prepared the house and made room for the camels.

³²And then the man went into the house. And Laban unbridled the camels, and brought straw and provender for the camels, and water to wash the man's feet and the feet of those who were with him. ³³And

there was food set before him to eat, but he said, I do not wish to eat until I have said my errand.

And Laban said, Say on.

³⁴And he said, I am Abraham's servant. ³⁵And the Lord has blessed^d my master out of measure, so that he has become great, and has given him sheep, oxen, silver and gold, menservants, maidservants, camels, and donkeys. ³⁶And Sarah, my master's wife, bore him a son when she was old, and to him he has given all that he has.

³⁷And my master made me swear, saying, You must not take a wife for my son from among the daughters of the Canaanites in whose land I dwell; ³⁸but you shall go to my father's house and to my kindred and there take a wife for my son. ³⁹And I said to my master, What if the wife will not follow me? ⁴⁰And he said to me, The Lord before whom I walk will send his angel with you and prosper your journey, so that you may take a wife for my son from my kindred and from my father's house. ⁴¹But if (when you come to my kindred) they will not give you one, then you will be discharged from this oath.

⁴²And I came this day to the well and said, O Lord, the God of my master Abraham, if it be so that you have made this my journey successful, ⁴³behold: I stand by this well of water. And when a virgin comes forth to draw water and I say to her, Give me a little water from your pitcher to drink, ⁴⁴and she answers me, Drink, and I will also draw water for your camels – that same is the wife whom the Lord has prepared for my master's son.

⁴⁵And before I had made an end of speaking in my heart, behold, Rebecca came forth with her pitcher on her shoulder; and she went down to the well and drew. And I said to her, Give me a drink. ⁴⁶And she made haste, and took down her pitcher from off her and said, Drink, and I will give your camels to drink also. And I drank, and she gave the camels drink also. ⁴⁷And I asked her, saying, Whose daughter are you? And she answered, The daughter of Bethuel, Nahor's son, whom Milcah bore to him. And I put the earring upon her face and the bracelets upon her hands. ⁴⁸And I bowed myself and worshipped^e the Lord, and blessed the Lord God of my master Abraham, who had brought me the right way, to take my master's brother's daughter for his son. ⁴⁹Now, therefore, if you will deal mercifully and truly^e with my master, tell me; and if not, tell me also, so that I may turn to the right hand or to the left.^f

⁵⁰Then Laban and Bethuel answered, saying, This has come of the Lord; therefore, we cannot speak to you either good or bad. ⁵¹Behold, Rebecca is before your face. Take her and go, and let her be your master's son's wife, just as the Lord has said.

⁵²And when Abraham's servant heard their words, he bowed himself to the Lord flat upon the earth. ⁵³And the servant took out jewelry of silver, jewelry of gold, and clothing, and gave them to Rebecca. But to her brother and to her mother he gave spices. ⁵⁴And then they ate and drank, both he and the men who were with him, and stayed there

Ge 22:23;
24:24.

all night, and rose up.

And he said, Let me depart to my master. ⁵⁵But Rebecca's brother and mother said, Let the girl abide with us a while, even but ten days, and then go your ways. ⁵⁶And he said to them, Hinder me not, for the Lord has prospered my journey; send me away so that I may go to my master. ⁵⁷And they said, Let us call the girl and see what she says to the matter. ⁵⁸And they called Rebecca and asked her, Do you want to go with this man? And she said, Yes.

⁵⁹So they let Rebecca their sister go, with her nurse and Abraham's servant and the men who were with him. ⁶⁰And they blessed^e Rebecca and said to her, You are our sister; grow into a thousand thousands, and may your seed possess the gates of their enemies.

⁶¹And Rebecca arose with her maidservants, and they seated themselves up upon the camels and went their way after the man. And so the servant took Rebecca and went his way.

Ge 16:14

⁶²And Isaac was coming from the Well of the Living and Seeing. For he dwelt in the south country, ⁶³and had gone out to walk during his meditations^h before eventide. And he lifted up his eyes and looked, and behold, the camels were coming. ⁶⁴And Rebecca lifted up her eyes; and when she saw Isaac she alighted from the camel ⁶⁵and said to the servant, What man is this, who comes toward us in the field?

And the servant said, It is my master.

And then she took her mantle and put it about her. ⁶⁶And the servant told Isaac all that he had done.

⁶⁷Then Isaac brought her into his mother Sarah's tent, and took Rebecca, and she became his wife, and he loved her. And so was Isaac comforted over his mother.

The Notes

- a) 2. To put the hand under the thigh was an oath that the Hebrews used in such things as pertained to the testament and promise of God, as in Genesis 47:29.
- b) 22. Earrings are decorative items for the face and forehead of the woman, or for the ears. And bracelets are to adorn the arms or hands.
- c) 26,48. To bow and worship is here to give thanks, as in Genesis 23:7.
- d) 35. God blesses us when he gives us his benefits. He curses us when he takes them away, as in 2Kings 20:17.
- e) 49. Mercifully and truly is as much as to say, in this place, to show favour, gentleness, or kindness.
- f) 49. The right hand or the left is no more but to say, tell me one thing or another so that I may know my next step, and is a Hebrew idiom.
- g) 60. To bless one's neighbour is to pray for him and to wish him good, and not to wag two fingers at him.
- h) 63. Meditations are the exercise of the spirit and lifting up of the mind to God.

Chapter 25

Abraham takes Keturah as his wife and begets many children. Abraham dies and gives all his goods to

Isaac. The family of Ishmael. The birth of Jacob and Esau. Esau sells his birthright for a dish of pottage.

Abraham took another wife, called Keturah, ²who bore him Zimran, Jokshan, Medan, Midian, Ishbak, and Shuah. ³And Jokshan begat Sheba and Dedan. And the sons of Dedan were Ashurim, Letushim, and Leummim. ⁴And the sons of Midian were Ephah, Ephher, Hanoch, Abidah, and Eldaah. All these were the descendants of Keturah. ⁵But Abraham gave all that he had to Isaac. ⁶And to the sons of his concubines^a he gave gifts; and while he was still living he sent them eastward, away from Isaac his son, to the east country.

⁷These are the days of the life of Abraham that he lived, 175 years; ⁸and then he fell sick and died at a good age (when he had lived enough), and was put unto his people.^b ⁹And his sons Isaac and Ishmael buried him in the double cave in the field of Ephron the son of Zohar the Hittite, before Mamre, ¹⁰which field Abraham had bought from the sons of Heth. There was Abraham buried, with Sarah his wife. ¹¹And after the death of Abraham, God blessed Isaac his son, who dwelt by the Well of the Living and Seeing.

¹²These are the children of Abraham's son Ishmael, whom Hagar the Egyptian, Sarah's handmaid, bore to Abraham. ¹³The names of the sons of Ishmael, with their names in their kindreds: the eldest son of Ishmael, Nebajoth; then Kedar, Adbeel, Mibsam, ¹⁴Mishma, Dumah, Massa, ¹⁵Hadar, Tema, Jetur, Naphish, and Kedemah. ¹⁶These are the sons of Ishmael, and these are their names in their towns and castles – twelve princes of nations.

¹⁷And these are the years of the life of Ishmael, 137 years. And then he fell sick and died, and was laid unto his people. ¹⁸And he dwelt from Havilah to Shur, which is before Egypt as you go toward the Assyrians. And he died in the presence of all his brethren.

¹⁹And these are the children of Isaac, Abraham's son. Abraham begat Isaac, ²⁰and Isaac was forty years old when he took to wife Rebecca, the daughter of Bethuel the Syrian of Mesopotamia, and sister to Laban the Syrian. ²¹And Isaac made intercession to the Lord for his wife because she was barren; and the Lord was entreated, and Rebecca his wife conceived. ²²But the children strove together within her. Then she said, If it should come so to pass, what help is it that I am with child? And she went and asked the Lord.

²³And the Lord said to her, There are two manner of people in your womb, and two nations shall spring out of your bowels.^c And the one nation will be mightier than the other, and the eldest will be servant to the younger.

²⁴And when her time came to be delivered, behold, there were twins in her womb. ²⁵And he who came out first was red and hairy all over, as it were a hide; and they called his name Esau.* ²⁶And afterward his brother came out; and his hand was holding Esau by the heel, for which his name was called Jacob.† And Isaac was sixty years old when Rebecca bore them.

Ge 15:15

1Ch 1:28-31

Ge 17:20

*[ie Covered with Hair]
Ho 12:3
‡[ie Who Supplants or Trips Up]

²⁷And the boys grew. And Esau became a skillful hunter and a tillman, but Jacob was a simple man,^d and dwelt in the tents. ²⁸Isaac loved Esau because he ate of his venison, but Rebecca loved Jacob.
 vv29,30 e.f. ²⁹Now Jacob prepared a pottage. Then Esau came in from the field
 COV. and was weary, ³⁰and he said to Jacob, Let me eat some of the red pot-
 Ob 1:1-4 tage, for I am faint. And therefore his name was called Edom.*
 *[ie Red] ³¹And Jacob said, Sell me this day your birthright.
³²And Esau answered, Lo, I am at the point of death, and what
 profit will this birthright be to me?
 Ge 47:31 ³³And Jacob said, Swear to me then this day.
 And he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob.
 Heb 12:16 ³⁴Then Jacob gave Esau bread and pottage of red lentils. And he
 ate and drank, and rose up and went his way. And so Esau regarded
 not his birthright.

The Notes

- a) 6. Concubines in the scripture are not harlots, but wives. However, they bore no rule in the house but were subject as servants, as Hagar was to Sarah, Ge 16:3. Also Bilhah, as in Ge 30:4. See also 2Sam 15, note b.
- b) 8,17. To be put among his people is not only to be put in a goodly place of burial, but to be put with the company of the ancient fathers who died in the same faith that he did.
- c) 23. By these two peoples is signified to us the law and the gospel, as you may read likewise in Galatians 4:24.
- d) 27. Simple: he is simple who is without craftiness and deceit, and who continues in believing and in doing God's will.

The end of chapters 1-25 of Genesis, the first book of Moses, being the May 2023 draft of the New Matthew Bible Project.

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Ruth M. Davis is a retired lawyer and conservative Christian. In 2009 she founded the New Matthew Bible (NMB) Project, dedicated to gently updating the 1537 Matthew Bible for today. The NMB New Testament has now been published as *The October Testament*. Ruth also published *The Story of the Matthew Bible* in two parts. Part 1 is about the making of the MB. Part 2 looks at revisions to the Scriptures until modern times, especially considering the influence of the 1560 Geneva Bible and of the 1894 Revised Version.