

Jesus in the Bible

1. Jesus in Genesis

July 23, 2015

When the Lord prompted me to do this study – going through the entire Bible, studying one Book or more of the Bible in each service, I thought that either I am out of my mind or we are in for some serious fun studies.

Of course, we are not going to go into in-depth study of each verse of the Books like before. But we will study from rather a different angle – how Jesus is involved in the entire Bible. You see, the Bible is about Jesus. He is pictured or prophesied about in each of the 66 Bible Books as well as in countless types in the lives of different characters in the Bible. Jesus even gave a brief summary to a couple of His disciples after His resurrection:

Luke 24:25-27 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Ought not the Christ to have suffered these things and to enter into His glory?" 27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

With that said, let's jump right into the Book of Genesis.

No believer of Jesus Christ can deny that Genesis is important. But they might dispute that it may not be THE most important Book in the whole Bible. They may say that the Gospels of Jesus Christ in the NT are the most important one, or Romans, Ephesians, Hebrews, etc.

But when they realize that Genesis is the foundation of the whole Scripture, they would agree with me. Again, out of the entire Bible, Genesis chapter 1 verse 1 is the most important verse. Because the rest of the Scriptures are literally hinged on that verse. If a person can prove that what the Lord said through the author of this Book, Moses, is not true, the whole Bible would crumble like a domino effect. That's why there are so many attacks against the authenticity and validity of that particular verse. Genesis still stands, because it is where it all began with the exception of God Himself.

This Book can be divided into two sections: From ch. 1 to ch. 11 – They cover a period of thousands of years. It traces the human race from the first couple – Adam and Eve to Abram. The second section, from ch. 12 to ch. 50, we have about 300 years of history recorded, tracing the people of God from Abraham through Joseph – the history of the Jewish Patriarchs.

A. JESUS THE CREATOR – Chapters 1-2

Colossians 1:16 For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.

Don't you ever wonder why so many intelligent and brilliant people would embrace the evolution theory and the Big Bang theory which require more faith to believe than Christianity? Maybe the Creation fact is too simple for their sophisticated minds.

No, in reality, whether they'd like to accept their real reason or not, they do not want

to acknowledge God the Creator because they don't want to be accountable to Him for their sins. So they defy the impossibility of all mathematical calculations of chance of the Evolution and the Big Bang. In other words, they are the ones who have blind faith for what they want to believe.

B. JESUS THE REDEEMER – Chapter 3

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

There are two most important verses in the Book of Genesis – 1:1 and this. Here is the first presentation of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

In here, God prophesies the doom of satan, showing that the real battle is between satan and the Seed of the Woman. There is no doubt this is a prophecy of the ultimate defeat of satan. God announced that satan would injure the Messiah, but the Messiah would crush satan with a mortal wound. Jesus did that through His own death and resurrection.

God's plan wasn't "set back" when Adam and Eve sinned as Kenneth Copeland used to teach his congregation. His heresy tried to denounce the Omniscience of God – the Lord knew that satan would tempt them and the humans would sin – and the Omnipotence of God – no matter what satan does, he is no match for the Lord. It was the God's plan to bring forth something greater than man in the innocence of Eden. God wanted more than innocent man. His plan is to bring forth redeemed men through Jesus the Redeemer.

C. JESUS THE SAVIOR – Chapters 6-9

Genesis 6:5 Then the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intent of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

Genesis 7:1 Then the Lord said to Noah, "Come into the ark, you and all your household, because I have seen that you are righteous before Me in this generation.

Genesis 7:4 For after seven more days I will cause it to rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and I will destroy from the face of the earth all living things that I have made."

Sexual perversion, constant evil in the heart of men, widespread corruption and violence filled the earth then, and now. Nothing has changed. What we would read in chapter 6 of Genesis is as identical as what is happening now.

Did you notice how the Lord said to Noah in v1 of ch. 7? He said, "Come into the ark," not "Go into the ark." In other words, His presence was in the ark. This verse reminds me of what Jesus said in Matthew 11:

Matthew 11:28-30 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

We can only wonder how Noah felt when he heard this remarkable announcement from God. God called Noah to an essential role in the greatest judgment – and greatest salvation – the ancient world had ever seen. Noah was a type of Jesus to save his family who believed in God.

For seven days the world could have walked right into the ark and God would have saved them. All they had to do was to believe God. Guess how many people came through that door? None. I am sure that there were a plenty of people who mocked at the obedience of Noah and his family to God while they were being rained out.

D. JESUS THE COVENANT MAKER – Chapters 12

Genesis 12:2-3 I will make you a great nation; I will bless you And make your name great; And you shall be a blessing. 3 I will bless those who bless you, And I will curse him who curses you; And in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

This is an unconditional promise of God for the nation of Israel so that He could bring for the Messiah born as a Jew.

This promise remains true today and is a root reason for the decline and death of many empires:

- When the Greeks overran Palestine area and desecrated the altar in the Jewish temple, they were soon conquered by Rome.
- When Rome killed Paul and many others, and destroyed Jerusalem under Titus, Rome soon fell.
- Spain was reduced to a fifth-rate nation after the Inquisition against the Jews.
- Poland fell after the pogroms.
- Hitler's Third Reich went down after its holocaust of anti-Semitism.
- Great Britain lost her great empire when she broke her relationship with Israel during 1950-1980.

This is also one of the reasons why the United States has been so blessed until president Bush, Sr. The United States was one of the first modern nations to grant full citizenship and protection to Jewish people. But the day U.S.A. completely betrays Israel, God will pull the plug and America will go down.

E. JESUS THE PRIEST IN ORDER OF MELCHIZEDEK – Chapters 14

Genesis 14:18-20 Then Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; he was the priest of God Most High. 19 And he blessed him and said: "Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; 20 And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand." And he gave him a tithe of all.

We studied about Melchizedek not very long ago in Hebrews ch. 7, so you guys know about Him rather well. For the various reasons, we know that this very Melchizedek was the human form of Jesus which is as known as 'Christophany.'

Besides, His name means, "King of Righteousness." Do you know any human who can be qualified for that title? None.

Jeremiah 23:6 In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

Here the Messiah was referred to by the name "Yahweh-Tsidkenu", in Hebrew, which means "Yahweh our Righteousness." I believe that seeking the identity of Melchizedek pretty much settles here. Jesus intercedes on our behalf as our Chief Priest forever. He is the only One who is qualified to do it, because He is Righteous.

F. JESUS THE LAMB OF GOD – Chapters 22

Genesis 22:6-8 So Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife, and the two of

them went together. 7 But Isaac spoke to Abraham his father and said, "My father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." Then he said, "Look, the fire and the wood, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" 8 And Abraham said, "My son, God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." So the two of them went together.

Again, we studied this portion from the Book of Hebrews ch. 11 recently. I want y'all to notice three things here:

1) Wood on the son's shoulders

Note that 'wood' was laid on Isaac his son's shoulder to carry. Yes, it was the wood that would burn him as a sacrifice as Jesus would carry His cross on His shoulder to be hung on it.

2) Fire and knife in the father's hand

In the meanwhile, Abraham was carrying 'fire and knife' that would slay Isaac's life in his hand. They are the instruments of judgement and execution. We can see this as God the Father is carrying out His wrath as a judgement on Jesus for the sins of the mankind.

3) God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering

I love what it says in this verse. "God will provide for Himself the lamb for a burnt offering." No man could come up with the right sacrifice to cleanse the offense of mankind, because we all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God. The only one who could was the God Man, the Mediator Jesus Christ.

This phrase is very important to see that Abraham was speaking prophetically.

So where was the lamb? That question had been asked by all the faithful, from Isaac to Moses to David to Isaiah, all the way to the time of John the Baptist when he declares:

John 1:29 Behold! The Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

G. JESUS THE REJECTED BROTHER – Chapters 37

Genesis 37:23-28 So it came to pass, when Joseph had come to his brothers, that they stripped Joseph of his tunic, the tunic of many colors that was on him. 24 Then they took him and cast him into a pit. And the pit was empty; there was no water in it. 25 And they sat down to eat a meal. Then they lifted their eyes and looked, and there was a company of Ishmaelites, coming from Gilead with their camels, bearing spices, balm, and myrrh, on their way to carry them down to Egypt. 26 So Judah said to his brothers, "What profit is there if we kill our brother and conceal his blood? 27 Come and let us sell him to the Ishmaelites, and let not our hand be upon him, for he is our brother and our flesh." And his brothers listened. 28 Then Midianite traders passed by; so the brothers pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty shekels of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.

Jesus was born in Israel as a Jew in the lineage of David. During His earthly ministry, He taught them who He was and why He came. But the religious leaders had nothing to do with Him because they were so wrapped up themselves in their own religion that they didn't have room for God, and the common people wanted Him to be their king, so that their tummies could be full and set them free from the iron fists of the Roman occupation. Thus they rejected Him. Actually, He was rejected from His birth from His own. There was no room at the inn.

H. JESUS THE KING – Chapters 49

Genesis 49:10 The scepter shall not depart from Judah, Nor a lawgiver from between his feet, Until Shiloh comes; And to Him shall be the obedience of the people.

Jesus is referred to as Shiloh, the name meaning, "He whose it is" and it is a title for Messiah.

From David until the Herods, a prince of Judah was the head over Israel even Daniel in captivity. Even under their foreign masters during this period, Israel had a limited right to self-rule, until 7 A.D. Then, under Herod and the Romans, their right to capital punishment was taken away.

At the time, the rabbis considered it a disaster of unfulfilled Scripture. Seemingly, the last trace of the scepter had passed from Judah, and they did not see the Messiah. Rabbis walked the streets of Jerusalem and said, "Woe unto us, for the scepter has been taken away from Judah, and Shiloh has not come." Yet God's Word had not been broken because, Jesus was alive as a teenager at that time.

I. APPLICATIONS

- 1) No matter what scientists claim, Jesus is the Creator of the universe.
- 2) Jesus keeps His promises regardless of the situations.