

LESSON 1

# Where Did the Bible Come From?



# What a Book!

- *Bible* comes from the Greek *biblios*, which means book
- Scripture, which means writings
- Contains the words that God spoke, so is also called God's Word

# God's Words

- **2 Timothy 3:16–17**
  - All Scripture is inspired, which means “God-breathed”
- **2 Peter 1:16–21**
  - God inspired men through the Holy Spirit

# **Inspiration**

- **God empowered men through the Holy Spirit to speak and write His truth**

# God Guided the Bible's Human Authors

- Several dozen people
- Some unknown
  - Author of Job—around 1400 B.C.
  - Author of Hebrews—around A.D. 100

# One Story from God

- **Exodus 34:27**
  - God told Moses what to write
- **1 Corinthians 2:10–13**
  - God's Spirit taught people

# God Communicated His Word to People

- Two ways people communicate
  - Words
  - Actions

# God Communicated His Word to People (cont.)

- Two ways God communicated
  - God's words are summarized in the Bible
  - God's actions are summarized in Jesus Christ

# Old Testament Divisions in English Bibles

- **Law**
  - Beginning of time
  - Creation
  - Nation of Israel

# Old Testament Divisions (cont.)

- **History**
  - 1,000 years of Israel's history
  - Conquest of the Promised Land
  - Judges
  - Kingdoms
  - Prophets

# **Old Testament Divisions (cont.)**

- **Poetry—Wisdom Literature**
  - Poems
  - Songs
  - Proverbs, wise sayings

# **Old Testament Divisions (cont.)**

- **Major Prophets—Isaiah to Daniel**
  - Four prophets during time of Israel's kings
- **Minor Prophets—Hosea to Malachi**
  - Twelve prophets during time of Israel's kings

# **Prophet**

- **God's spokesman; one who speaks to others for God**

# **Prophecy**

- **Words spoken by God through people; may include prediction of future events**

# **Old Testament Books and Divisions**

# Law

- Genesis
- Exodus
- Leviticus
- Numbers
- Deuteronomy

# History

- Joshua
- Judges
- Ruth
- 1 Samuel
- 2 Samuel
- 1 Kings

# History (cont.)

- 2 Kings
- 1 Chronicles
- 2 Chronicles
- Ezra
- Nehemiah
- Esther

# Poetry

- Job
- Psalms
- Proverbs
- Ecclesiastes
- Song of Solomon

# Major Prophets

- Isaiah
- Jeremiah
- Lamentations
- Ezekiel
- Daniel

# Minor Prophets

- Hosea
- Joel
- Amos
- Obadiah
- Jonah
- Micah

# Minor Prophets (cont.)

- Nahum
- Habakkuk
- Zephaniah
- Haggai
- Zechariah
- Malachi

# **New Testament Divisions**

- **Gospels**
  - Jesus' life death and resurrection

# **Gospel**

- **Good news!**

# **New Testament Divisions (cont.)**

- **History—Acts**
  - History of the early church
- **Paul's Letters**
  - Epistles from Paul to churches and friends

# **New Testament Divisions (cont.)**

- **General Letters**
  - Epistles from Peter and other church leaders
- **Prophecy—Revelation**
  - Past, present, and future truth
  - Revelation of God

# **New Testament Books and Divisions**

# Gospels

- Matthew
- Mark
- Luke
- John

# History

- Acts

# Paul's Letters

- Romans
- 1 Corinthians
- 2 Corinthians
- Galatians
- Ephesians
- Philippians
- Colossians

# Paul's Letters (cont.)

- 1 Thessalonians
- 2 Thessalonians
- 1 Timothy
- 2 Timothy
- Titus
- Philemon

# General Letters

- Hebrews
- James
- 1 Peter
- 2 Peter

# General Letters (cont.)

- 1 John
- 2 John
- 3 John
- Jude

# Prophecy

- Revelation



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LESSON 2

# In the Beginning



# Genesis: Beginnings

- Beginning of Earth
- Beginning of man and woman
- Beginning of sin in the world
- Beginning of redemption and salvation

# **Genesis: Beginnings (cont.)**

- Beginning of family life
- Beginning of civilization, cities, and skills
- Beginning of nations
- Beginning of the Hebrew race

# The Author

- **God prepared Moses**
  - Trained in the palace of Pharaoh of Egypt
  - Spoke to him at Mount Horeb

# **God Reveals Himself (Gen. 1:1)**

- **When: In the beginning**
- **Who: God**
- **How: Created**
- **What: The heavens and the earth**

# **God Reveals Himself (Ps. 19:1)**

- Why: To declare His glory

# **Creation: The Beginning of Our World**

# Day 1

- Light

# Day 2

- Sky / atmosphere

# Day 3

- Seas
- Trees
- Plants

# Day 4

- Sun
- Moon
- Stars

# Day 5

- Fish
- Birds

# Day 6

- Cattle
- Wild animals
- Mankind

# **Think About It**

- **What wouldn't we know about God if we didn't have Genesis?**



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LESSON 3

# How It Fell Apart



# God's Commands to Adam and Eve

1. Multiply and fill the earth
2. Subdue the earth; rule over the animals and plants
3. Do not eat from the tree of knowledge of good and evil

# Consequences of the Fall

- Knowledge of good and evil
- Fear of God; separation
- Antagonism; they blamed others
- Enmity with the serpent and his offspring

# Consequences of the Fall (cont.)

- Increased pain in childbirth
- Disruption within marriage
- Difficulty in caring for the earth
- Death

# God's Plan of Redemption (Gen. 3:15)

- The serpent represents Satan
- The person who will crush Satan—Christ
- Satan bruises Christ's heel by condemning Him to death

# God's Plan of Redemption (cont.)

- Christ bruises Satan's head by . . .
  - Saving sinners through His death and resurrection
  - His defeating and judging Satan in the future

# The Flood (Gen. 6:1–9)

- Noah's sons
  - Ham, Shem, and Japheth
- God decided to destroy earth for mankind's evil
- God felt grieved for creating mankind, because the earth was full of violence

# The Flood (cont.)

- Noah was righteous/just
- Noah walked with God

# God's Covenant with Noah

## God's Promises

6:17 to send a flood

## Noah's Responsibilities

6:14-16 to build an ark according to God's plan

# God's Covenant with Noah (cont.)

## God's Promises

## Noah's Responsibilities

6:18 to spare Noah's family

6:19–21 to gather animals  
on the ark

# God's Covenant with Noah (cont.)

## God's Promises

## Noah's Responsibilities

**8:21–22 Never to curse  
the earth or destroy all  
creatures again**

**8:20 to honor God with  
sacrifices**

# God's Covenant with Noah (cont.)

## God's Promises

## Noah's Responsibilities

9:2-3 to make man  
caretaker of the earth

9:1, 7 to multiply and fill  
the earth

# God's Covenant with Noah (cont.)

## God's Promises

## Noah's Responsibilities

**9:9–11 never to send  
another world-wide  
flood**

**9:4 not to eat bloody  
meat**

# God's Covenant with Noah (cont.)

## God's Promises

## Noah's Responsibilities

9:12-17 to set a rainbow  
in the sky to remind men  
of His promise

9:5-6 not to kill people

# Think About It

- **What did God reveal through His plans of redemption and salvation?**
  - He is a gracious God who saves His people
- **Why was God displeased with the intentions of the tower builders?**
  - They sought their own glory before God's



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