

God created you in need of His redemption—for a perfect place to come back to Him.

1. Creation—Generation—God’s Perfect Creation.

Gen. 1-2

- a. Focus on God Elohim, God Yahweh and God in three Persons.
- b. Ex nihilo “from nothing came something.”
- c. The Tree of Life and the Cross (2:9, Rev. 22:2)

“Then Jesus said to his disciples, ‘If anyone would come after me, he must deny himself and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever wants to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for me will find it.’ / ‘He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed,’ Matt. 16:24-25 / 1 Pet. 2:24

2. Sin—Degeneration—God’s Fallen Creation.

Gen. 3-11

- a. Focus on man, to know ourselves and our need for God (2-3, Rom. 3)
- b. The commands and laws of God.
- c. The “Apple of Selfish Desire—Sin” (2-3)

“The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to work it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, ‘You may surely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.’” / “Now we know that whatever the law says it speaks to those who are under the law, so that every mouth may be stopped, and the whole world may be held accountable to God. For by works of the law no human being will be justified in his sight, since through the law comes knowledge of sin,” Gen. 2.15-17 / Rom. 3.19-20

3. Salvation by Faith—Regeneration—God’s Redemption.

Gen. 6-7, Rev.

- a. Focus on redemption. God shows us the way (7).
- b. Noah demonstrated true faith (7, Heb. 11:6-7).
- c. The Tree of Life in Christ—Christ’s Forgiveness (1 Pet. 2.24).

“The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.” / “Then the Lord said to Noah, ‘Go into the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you are righteous before me in this generation.’ But Noah found favor in the eyes of the Lord.” / “Noah did this; he did all that God commanded him.” Gen. 6:5 / 7.1 / 5

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God will redeem you—and bless you to be a blessing to Him.

1. God Promised and Instituted of the Covenant.

Gen. 12-20

- a. Abram (Abraham) and Sarai (Sarah) were chosen. Promises were made (12, 15, 17).
- b. Faith was tested and failed; Ishmael was born to Abraham but not Sarah (18).
- c. Lot was separated (Gen. 13) and Sodom destroyed (19).

“Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father's house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’ So Abram went, as the Lord had told him...” Gen. 12:1-4a

2. God Blessed and Multiplied the Lineage.

Gen. 21-36

- a. Isaac was born. Faith was tested and confirmed (21-22).
- b. Jacob was born second; but gained Esau’s firstborn blessing (27).
- c. Jacob became Israel—fathering the 12 tribes (30, 35).

“But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven and said, ‘Abraham, Abraham!’ And he said, ‘Here I am.’ He said, ‘Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him, for now I know that you fear God, seeing you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me.’” Gen. 22:11-12

“I am God Almighty: be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you,” Gen. 35:11

3. Fall, Famine and Bondage of the Lineage.

Gen. 37-50

- a. Joseph’s family sinned against both him and God (37).
- b. Joseph was tested and exalted in Egypt (39-41).
- c. The broken family reconciled in forgiveness, safety and protection (43-50).

“And Joseph said to his brothers, ‘I am Joseph! Is my father still alive?’ But his brothers could not answer him, for they were dismayed at his presence. So Joseph said to his brothers, ‘Come near to me, please.’ And they came near. And he said, ‘I am your brother, Joseph, whom you sold into Egypt. And now do not be distressed or angry with yourselves because you sold me here, for God sent me before you to preserve life.’” Gen. 45:3-5

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God will rescue you from sin—and deliver and sanctify you to Himself.

1. Under Oppression God will Strengthen You.

Ex. 1-2

- a. God blessed Israel’s family as they grew from 70 to 4 million (1).
- b. God placed Moses, a Levite baby, in Pharaoh’s house to rescue Israel (2).
- c. Israel cried out to God, He heard their tearful prayers (2:23-25, 6:1-10).

“All the descendants of Jacob were seventy persons; Joseph was already in Egypt. Then Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation. But the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them,”
Ex. 1:5-7

2. God Used Moses to Lead His People from Bondage to Freedom.

Ex. 3-12

- a. After appearing at the burning bush, God shared His plan with Moses (3:18-20).
- b. Moses and Aaron go to Pharaoh saying “Let my people go!” (5).
- c. God afflicts Egypt with nine plagues (7-9) and the “Pass Over” (12).

“And the Lord said to Moses, ‘See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh to let the people of Israel go out of his land. But I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, Pharaoh will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and bring my hosts, my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great acts of judgment. The Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring out the people of Israel from among them.’ Moses and Aaron did so; they did just as the Lord commanded them,” Ex. 7:1-6

3. God Provides Laws, Justice and Holy Worship for His People.

Ex. 13-40

- a. God redeemed and preserved His people (15-18).
- b. God revealed the Old Covenant with laws and regulations to be holy (9-31).
- c. Israel willfully disobeyed (32) and Moses and God renewed the Covenant (34-40).

“Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.” Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin.” The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was,” Ex 20:18-21

God will rescue you from sin—and deliver and sanctify you to Himself.

God will show you your sin—and make you holy and righteous before Himself.

1. God Teaches His People through Sacrifice.

Lev. 1-15

- a. Approaching God with offerings (1-7).
- b. Approaching God through priests (8-10).
- c. Approaching God through regulations (11-15).

“And the priest shall burn them on the altar as a food offering with a pleasing aroma. All fat is the Lord's. It shall be a statute forever throughout your generations, in all your dwelling places, that you eat neither fat nor blood,” Lev. 3:16-17

2. God Atones His People by a Substitution Scapegoat.

Lev. 16-17

- a. God proclaimed national Day of Atonement for all Israel (16).
- b. Moses and Aaron prepared the high priests, sacrifices and tabernacle (16:1-19).
- c. Aaron confessed sins over the live goat and sends it into the freedom (16:20-17:16).

“For on this day shall atonement be made for you to cleanse you. You shall be clean before the Lord from all your sins,” Lev. 16:30 / “For the life of the flesh is in the blood, and I have given it for you on the altar to make atonement for your souls, for it is the blood that makes atonement by the life,” Lev. 17:11

3. God Sanctifies His People to be holy.

Lev. 18-27

- a. God sanctified through social laws and regulations (18-20).
- b. God sanctified with priests and worship (21-24).
- c. God sanctified through jubilees, obedience and vows (25-27).

“Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am the Lord your God. Keep my statutes and do them; I am the Lord who sanctifies you,” Lev. 20:7-8

God will show you your sin—and make you holy and righteous before Himself.

God will make you strong, holy and righteous to be a blessing.

1. God Organized His People. Num. 1-10

- a. First census numbering counted members of each tribe (1).
- b. Camp planning and arrangements honored God at the center (2).
- c. Levites ministered to God’s people with care, sacrifice, offerings and vows (3-10).

“Then the tent of meeting shall set out, with the camp of the Levites in the midst of the camps; as they camp, so shall they set out, each in position, standard by standard.,” Num. 2: 17

2. God Strengthened and Tested His People through Trials. Num. 11-25

- a. All Israel and Moses complained about provisions (11-12) God provided their needs.
- b. Israel failed with spies at Kadesh (13-14), and sinned following Levite Korah (16).
- c. Israel failed and sinned en route to Moab, worshipped Baal (20-25).

“Then the Lord said, “I have pardoned, according to your word. But truly, as I live, and as all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord, none of the men who have seen my glory and my signs that I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and yet have put me to the test these ten times and have not obeyed my voice, shall see the land that I swore to give to their fathers. And none of those who despised me shall see it. But my servant Caleb, because he has a different spirit and has followed me fully, I will bring into the land into which he went, and his descendants shall possess it,” Num. 14:20-24 / “While Israel lived in Shittim, the people began to whore with the daughters of Moab. These invited the people to the sacrifices of their gods, and the people ate and bowed down to their gods. So Israel yoked himself to Baal of Peor. And the anger of the Lord was kindled against Israel,” Num. 25:1-3

3. God Protected and Pointed His People toward His Holy Land. Num. 26-36

- a. God asked for a second census of the new generation by tribe and person in (26).
- b. Joshua replaced Moses as Israel’s leader, and offerings and vows were given (27-30).
- c. Israel avenged the Midianites, and the Canaan conquest was planned (31-36).

“And the Lord spoke to Moses in the plains of Moab by the Jordan at Jericho, saying, ‘Speak to the people of Israel and say to them, When you pass over the Jordan into the land of Canaan, then you shall drive out all the inhabitants of the land from before you and destroy all their figured stones and destroy all their metal images and demolish all their high places. ... But if you do not drive out the inhabitants of the land from before you, then those of them whom you let remain shall be as barbs in your eyes and thorns in your sides, and they shall trouble you in the land where you dwell. And I will do to you as I thought to do to them,’” Num. 33:50-52, ... 55-56

God will make you strong, holy and righteous to be a blessing.

God has called you, blessed you, and won’t give up on you.

1. Moses’ First Sermon: God Had Called Israel and Delivered Them from Bondage. Deut. 1-4

- a. God commanded Israel to leave Moab and go to Cannon to possess the land (1:1-5).
- b. Through the wilderness, God had led them to defeat Kings of Sihon and Og (1:6-3:20).
- c. Moses himself was forbidden to enter (3) and commanded obedience to God alone (4).

“And now, O Israel, listen to the statutes and the rules that I am teaching you, and do them, that you may live, and go in and take possession of the land that the Lord, the God of your fathers, is giving you.” ... “Keep them and do them, for that will be your wisdom and your understanding in the sight of the peoples, who, when they hear all these statutes, will say, ‘Surely this great nation is a wise and understanding people.’ For what great nation is there that has a god so near to it as the Lord our God is to us, whenever we call upon him? And what great nation is there, that has statutes and rules so righteous as all this law that I set before you today?” Deut. 4:1, ... 6-8

2. Moses’ Second Sermon: God Expected Israel to be Moral and Holy to Him. Deut. 4-26

- a. Moses repeated the Law in relation to their Covenant with God (4-5).
- b. Moses urged their fear of the Lord in keeping and teaching the laws and statutes (6-11).
- c. Moses taught additional ceremonial, civil and social laws (12-26).

“And now, Israel, what does the Lord your God require of you, but to fear the Lord your God, to walk in all his ways, to love him, to serve the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, and to keep the commandments and statutes of the Lord, which I am commanding you today for your good,” Deut. 10:12-13

3. Moses’ Third Sermon: God Will Bring Israel Into His Holy Land. Deut. 27-34

- a. Israel commanded to ratify their Covenant with God once in Canaan (27-28).
- b. People were told and warned that their Covenant is with God (29-30).
- c. Moses charged Joshua to lead Israel, and died on Mt. Nebo (31-34).

“I call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them,” Deut. 30:19-20

God has called you, blessed you, and won’t give up on you.

When and where you follow God, He will lead you there.

1. Preparing for Conquests—and to Follow God.

Josh. 1-5

- a. God commissioned Joshua leader, and he commanded tribes East and West of Jordan (1).
- b. Joshua sent spies to Jericho who met Rahab (2), and led Israel across the Jordan (3-4).
- c. Joshua led Israel spiritually under God with circumcision and Passover (5).

“This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you will have good success. Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be frightened, and do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go,” Josh. 1:8-9

2. Conquering Canaan—and Sin and Evil.

Josh. 6-13:7

- a. God led Israel’s Jericho victory and saved Rahab (6), but Achan’s sin led defeat at Ai (7).
- b. God purified Israel and led victory at Ai. Israel worshiped God in response (8).
- c. Israel conquered Southern Canaan (9-10), and Northern Canaan (11) and kings (12-13).

“So Joshua took the whole land, according to all that the Lord had spoken to Moses. And Joshua gave it for an inheritance to Israel according to their tribal allotments. And the land had rest from war,” Josh. 11:23

3. Settling in Canaan—a Promised Land.

Josh. 13:8-24

- a. Israel’s settled lands East of the Jordan (13).
- b. Israel’s settled lands West of the Jordan (14-19).
- c. Religious settlements and conditions were laid out; Joshua and Eleazar died (20-24).

“And the people said to Joshua, ‘The Lord our God we will serve, and his voice we will obey.’ So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day, and put in place statutes and rules for them at Shechem,” Josh. 24:24-25

When and where you follow God, He will lead you there.

When you fall and cry out to God, He will send you a Deliverer.

1. Israel Failed to Complete the Conquest of Canaan.

Jud. 1-3

- a. Seven tribes failed to finish their missions to extricate sin and evil from Canaan (1).
- b. God judged Israel and Canaan’s moral cancer as Joshua’s generation died (2).
- c. The sinful enemies remained as threats to their faithfulness and righteousness (2:20-3:4).

“And the people of Israel did what was evil in the sight of the Lord and served the Baals. And they abandoned the Lord, the God of their fathers, who had brought them out of the land of Egypt. They went after other gods, from among the gods of the peoples who were around them, and bowed down to them. And they provoked the Lord to anger,”... “They were for the testing of Israel, to know whether Israel would obey the commandments of the Lord, which he commanded their fathers by the hand of Moses. So the people of Israel lived among the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. And their daughters they took to themselves for wives, and their own daughters they gave to their sons, and they served their gods,” Jud. 2:11-12...3:4-6

2. God Delivered Israel from Seven Cycles of Sin.

Jud. 3-16

- a. God raised up Othniel, Ehud and Shamgar defeating Mesopotamians, Moabites and Philistines, respectively, in the South (3).
- b. God raised up Deborah and Barak as a team in the North, defeating Canaanites (4-5).
- c. Gideon defeated the Mideanites (6-8); Tola and Jair took Abimelech (8-10), Jephthah, Ibzan, Elon and Abdon took the Ammonites (10-12), and Samson the Philistines (13-16).

“That the leaders took the lead in Israel, that the people offered themselves willingly, bless the Lord!,”... “So may all your enemies perish, O Lord! But your friends be like the sun as he rises in his might.’ And the land had rest for forty years.” Jud. 5:2, ... 31

3. Israel Sinned like the Canaanites. But Ruth and Boaz Displayed Faith.

Jud. 17-21, Ruth

- a. Idolatry flourished among individuals (17) and entire tribes (18).
- b. Immorality flourished (19), and entire tribes began to fight each other (20-21).

“In those days there was no king in Israel. Everyone did what was right in his own eyes,” Jud. 21:25

- c. Ruth’s faith was demonstrated with Naomi’s family (1-2), and love with Boaz (3-4).

“For where you go I will go, and where you lodge I will lodge. Your people shall be my people, and your God my God,” Ruth 1:16b...“The Lord be with you!” And they answered, “The Lord bless you,” Boaz, Ruth and Naomi, Ruth 2:4b

When you fall and cry to God, He will send you a Deliverer.

When you cry for an earthly king, God has a different one in mind...

1. Eli and Samuel—Israel’s Last Judges Debate the Peoples’ Call for a King. 1 Sam. 1-8

- a. Judge Eli’s sons were evil (2), so God blessed Hannah to birth Samuel to judge (1-3).
- b. The Philistines captured the Ark (4), but returned it after God plagued their towns (6).
- c. Israel demanded a king, but Samuel prayed and pleaded with God not to allow it (8).

“And Samuel grew, and the Lord was with him and let none of his words fall to the ground. And all Israel from Dan to Beersheba knew that Samuel was established as a prophet of the Lord. And the Lord appeared again at Shiloh, for the Lord revealed himself to Samuel at Shiloh by the word of the Lord,” 1 Sam. 3:19-21 / But the people refused to obey the voice of Samuel. And they said, ‘No! But there shall be a king over us, that we also may be like all the nations, and that our king may judge us and go out before us and fight our battles.’ And when Samuel had heard all the words of the people, he repeated them in the ears of the Lord. And the Lord said to Samuel, ‘Obey their voice and make them a king.’ Samuel then said to the men of Israel, ‘Go every man to his city,” 1 Sam. 8:19-22

2. Saul—God Allowed Saul to Demonstrate Might, but With a Lack of Faith. 1 Sam. 9-31

- a. Saul became king (11) but sinned in sacrifice (13), and ignored God’s command (15).
- b. Saul lost God’s spirit (16), and God picked David for king, letting him take Goliath (17).
- c. Saul was jealous and tried to kill David (18-20), and Samuel and Saul died (25, 31).

“The word of the Lord came to Samuel: ‘I regret that I have made Saul king, for he has turned back from following me and has not performed my commandments.’ And Samuel was angry, and he cried to the Lord all night. And Samuel rose early to meet Saul in the morning. And it was told Samuel, ‘Saul came to Carmel, and behold, he set up a monument for himself and turned and passed on and went down to Gilgal,” 1 Sam. 15:10-12

3. David—Israel Prospered Spiritually and Politically Under King David. 2 Sam., 1 Chron.

- a. David united Israel politically and spiritually, Jerusalem was worship center (2 Sam. 1-7).
- b. David had military triumphs over Philistia, Moab, Zoba, Syria, and Ammon (8-10).
- c. David’s sins of adultery and murder brought troubles to David and Israel’s unity (11-24).

“When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your fathers, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come from your body, and I will establish his kingdom. He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever,” 2 Sam. 7:12-13 and 1 Chron. 17:14

When you cry for an earthly king, God has a different one in mind...

Upon whom you follow, you depend ...

1. Solomon—United Israel and Built the Temple, but Failed God. 1 Kings 1-11, 2 Chron. 1-9

- a. Solomon became king, rose to glory, (1 Kings 1-4), and constructed the Temple (5-6).
- b. The Ark returned and Covenant retold (8-9), Solomon disobeyed, Israel declined (11).
- c. The Temple finished (2 Chron. 1-7), Solomon knew God's plan but failed and died (7-9).

"And as for you, if you will walk before me, as David your father walked, with integrity of heart and uprightness, doing according to all that I have commanded you, and keeping my statutes and my rules, then I will establish your royal throne over Israel forever, as I promised David your father, saying, 'You shall not lack a man on the throne of Israel,'"... "Therefore the Lord said to Solomon, 'Since this has been your practice and you have not kept my covenant and my statutes that I have commanded you, I will surely tear the kingdom from you and will give it to your servant,'" 1 Kings 9:4-5 ... 11:11 / "if my people who are called by my name humble themselves, and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and heal their land," 2 Chron. 7:14

2. Divided Kingdom—North Israel Declined, Exiled by 722 B.C. 1 Kings 12-2 Kings 17

- a. Solomon's son Rehoboam threatened his "yoke on Israel," and the North revolted.
- b. King Jeroboam, and 18 successors, all "did evil in God's sight," and idolatry followed.
- c. God sent Prophet Elijah and others to warn His people, but Israel sinned and fell to exile.

"The people of Israel walked in all the sins that Jeroboam did. They did not depart from them, until the Lord removed Israel out of his sight, as he had spoken by all his servants the prophets. So Israel was exiled from their own land to Assyria until this day," 2 Kings 17:22-23

3. Southern Kingdom of Judah—Declined, Exiled in 586 B.C. 2 Kings 18-25, 2 Chron. 10-36

- a. Eight of Judah's 20 kings followed God like David, but 16 "did evil in God's sight."
- b. God sent Obadiah, Joel, Isaiah, Micah, Jeremiah, etc., with warnings to Judah.
- c. After Israel was exiled Hezekiah and 7 others reigned over Judah until exile to Babylon.

"The Lord, the God of their fathers, sent persistently to them by his messengers, because he had compassion on his people and on his dwelling place. But they kept mocking the messengers of God, despising his words and scoffing at his prophets, until the wrath of the Lord rose against his people, until there was no remedy," 2 Chron. 36:15-16 / "And the Lord said, "I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and I will cast off this city that I have chosen, Jerusalem, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there," 2 Kings 23:27

Upon whom you follow, you depend ...