

The Book of Genesis
Genesis 5:1-32: From Adam to Noah
11/13/2019 Wednesday PM

Introduction

- Last week we studied **Genesis 4:17-26: The Children of Adam and Eve – Part 2** as we looked at what Cain was doing in Nod, his wife, and the subsequent family he had. We also were introduced to Seth, Adam and Eve's third son.
- Tonight, we will be discussing **Genesis 5:1-32: From Adam to Noah** as we look at the first recorded genealogy in the Bible
- Many Bible readers might skip over this chapter, however, in most cultures throughout history, ancestry was very important.
- In **Luke 3** these names are cited in order to present a genealogy of Christ which proves their historical reliability and links Jesus to Adam and Eve through Seth which shows he is the "seed" that will crush Satan's head.

Genesis 5:1-2

¹This is the written account of Adam's line. God created man, he made him in the likeness of God. ²He created them male and female and blessed them. And when they were created, he called them "man."

- We are entering into another *toledot*, which again is how Genesis is broken up into different generational accounts.
- **V.1** - Here we see that this "is the written account of Adam's line."
- Other translations say, "This is the book of the generations of Adam." We see this same pattern repeated in Matthew's genealogy in **Matthew 1:1**, "The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ..."
- This is just further evidence that Moses compiled these *toledots* as source material for Genesis.
- **V.2** – We see here that God called the humans "man". The Hebrew word for man is '*adam*' which is used in context for all mankind here, but it also Adam's proper name as well.

Genesis 5:3-32

³When Adam had lived 130 years, he had a son in his own likeness, in his own image; and he named him Seth. ⁴After Seth was born, Adam lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ⁵Altogether, Adam lived 930 years, and then he died. ⁶When Seth had lived 105 years, he became the father of Enosh. ⁷And after he became the father of Enosh, Seth lived 807 years and had other sons and daughters. ⁸Altogether, Seth lived 912 years, and then he died. ⁹When Enosh had lived 90 years, he became the father of Kenan. ¹⁰And after he became the father of Kenan, Enosh lived 815 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹¹Altogether, Enosh lived 905 years, and then he died. ¹²When Kenan had lived 70 years, he became the father of Mahalalel. ¹³And after he became the father of Mahalalel, Kenan lived 840 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴Altogether, Kenan lived 910 years, and then he died. ¹⁵When Mahalalel had lived 65 years, he became the father of Jared. ¹⁶And after he became the father of Jared, Mahalalel lived 830 years and had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷Altogether, Mahalalel lived 895 years, and then he died. ¹⁸When Jared had lived 162 years, he became the father of Enoch. ¹⁹And after he became the father of Enoch, Jared lived 800 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁰Altogether, Jared lived 962 years, and then he died. ²¹When Enoch had lived 65 years, he became the father of Methuselah. ²²And after he became the father of Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 years and had other sons and daughters. ²³Altogether, Enoch lived 365 years. ²⁴Enoch walked with God; then he was no more, because God took him away. ²⁵When Methuselah had lived 187 years, he became the father of Lamech. ²⁶And after he became the father of Lamech, Methuselah lived 782 years and had other sons and daughters. ²⁷Altogether, Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died. ²⁸When Lamech had lived 182 years, he had a son. ²⁹He named him Noah and said, "He will comfort us in the labor and painful toil of our hands caused by the ground the LORD has cursed." ³⁰After Noah was born, Lamech lived 595 years and had other sons and daughters. ³¹Altogether, Lamech lived 777 years, and then he died. ³²After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham and Japheth.

- We see that the rest of the chapter shows how the Seed line progressed.
- It has a basic structure of: When **A** had lived **x** years, he fathered **B**. **A** lived after he fathered **B**, **y** years and had other sons and daughters. Thus, all the days of **A** were [**x+y**] years, then he died.
- The lifespans shown are about 10 times longer than those of modern people. Years mean years.
- **Illustration: Genesis Timeline from Adam to Noah**
- As you can see, there was considerable overlap between the generations because of their long lifespans.
- Almost all of Adam's descendants from him to Noah could have known him, because he didn't die until Lamech's 56th year
- Only Noah could have never known Adam. However, he knew all of Adam's other descendants except for Enoch.
- Noah's son Shem could have known Abraham. So, there could have been very few intermediaries in transmission of the historical accounts between Adam and Abraham, e.g. just Lamech and Shem.

Textual Variants

There are three main ancient texts of the Old Testament:

1. The Masoretic Text used by modern Hebrew Bibles and which is the basis behind most English Old Testaments. It is named after specialists copiers of the Bible called the Masoretes ('transmitters'), who standardized the text and added vowel points to aid pronunciation of the text, which previously had only consonants. The Masoretes did not standardize the vowel points until the 7th or 8th century AD.
2. The Septuagint (LXX) was a Greek translation of the OT. The name comes from the Latin Septuaginta, meaning 70. The LXX was in widespread use by Jews outside Israel in the NT times. This explains why it was commonly cited in the New Testament. Jesus clearly cites the OT 64 times in the Gospels and of these:
 - a. More than half (32+) agree with both the LXX and the MT.
 - b. One-fifth of the 64 (12+) differ from both the LXX and the MT.
 - c. One-fifth of the 64 (12+) agree with the MT against the LXX.
 - d. The rest agree with the LXX against the MT.
3. The Samaritan Pentateuch (SP) is a Hebrew version dating from the 1st century BC. After the Assyrians deported many of the inhabitants of the Northern Kingdom of Israel, they imported colonists to the area centered around Samaria. The Samaritans were mixed descendants of these colonists and Jews. They had their own system of worship centered at Mount Gerizim (**John 4:20-21**), and based only on the Law of Moses, or Pentateuch, which was slightly different from the one used by mainstream Jews. The SP differs from the Masoretic text in about 6000 places. In about 2000 of these cases, it agrees with the LXX against the MT.

- The Masoretic Text is more likely to be the original and strong supporting evidence for this comes from the extreme care that Hebrew copyists showed compared with copyists of Greek manuscripts.

- This was confirmed by the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls (DSS) in Qumran in 1947. Analysis showed that the DSS are about 1000 years older than the Masoretic manuscripts. It turns out that the MT is 95% word-for-word identical to the DSS with the other 5% being spelling differences and slips of the pen in a few places.

- One of the scrolls contained the whole book of Isaiah, and in Isaiah 53 there are 166 words and only 17 letters are different! Ten are spelling variants, and four more are stylistic changes. The remaining three letters spell the additional word "light" in Isaiah 53:11. Basically, we have extreme confidence in the Masoretic Text.

Table 1. Chronogenealogies of the Patriarchs according to different textual traditions.						
Name	Age at begetting next in line			Remaining years of life		
	LXX	Masoretic Text	Samaritan Pentateuch	LXX	Masoretic Text	Samaritan Pentateuch
Adam	230	130	130	700	800	800
Seth	205	105	105	707	807	807
Enosh	190	90	90	715	815	815
Cainan	170	70	70	740	840	840
Mahalaleel	165	65	65	730	830	830
Jared	162	162	62	800	800	785
Enoch	165	65	65	200	300	300
Methuselah	167	187	67	802	782	653
Lamech	188	182	53	565	595	600
Noah	500	500	500	450	450	450
Total Adam to Flood	2242	1656	1307			

Do the Genealogies Have Gaps?

- No. If they did, where you would put them?
- Seth is definitely a direct son of Adam and Eve, and seen as a replacement for Abel, killed by Cain (Genesis 4:25).
- Enosh must be a son of Seth, because Seth named him (Gen. 4:25).
- Jude 14 says Enoch was 7th from Adam, which shows straightforward father-son relationships from Adam to Enoch.
- Lamech named Noah, so Lamech must be his father, not just an ancestor (Gen. 5:29).
- Shem, Ham and Japheth were definitely ordinary sons of Noah, since they accompanied him on the Ark.
- Methuselah: Enoch, a pre-Flood prophet (Jude 14), gave his son a name meaning 'when he dies it shall be sent', and the Masoretic chronology without any gaps would place his death in the year of the Flood.
- A straightforward reading of the biblical genealogies from the reliable Masoretic Text shows that Adam was created about 4000 BC and that the Flood occurred around 2500 BC. Contextual, linguistic and historical analyses of the book of Genesis confirm that the chronogenealogies are a complete record with no gaps.
- The genealogies are highly important proof texts for the authority of God's Word and should be read and studied.

Next Week's Study: Genesis 6:1-8