



- EPOCH ONE - ORIGINS

ENDLESS ETERNITY PAST

THE AGE OF TIME

1. Origins
2. Deliverance
3. Kings & Kingdoms
4. Prophets & Captivity
5. Return (400 silent years)
6. The Shining Light
7. To the Ends of the Earth
8. The End of the Age

ENDLESS ETERNITY FUTURE

DAY THREE 3

WATCH VIDEO ONE
"ORIGINS"
as you work through
this section.



It is important to realize that [GENESIS 1-11](#) as well as the book of Job are not Hebrew. They are Human. Through the Hebrew scriptures the Living God has preserved the Story of our origins.

SOME GOOD BIG PICTURE QUESTIONS

If you were God, and You wished to speak to the human race over many centuries, what approach would you have taken?

What are your current beliefs about your origins?

What is the relationship between scientific hypotheses and biblical statements about our origins? Remember, all scientific inquiry begins with hypothesis, moves to theory, and potentially is proven as a law or "truth."

What do you feel you know for sure? Do you believe there is a God?

What do you feel you know about Him?

THIS PASSAGE IS KEY TO UNDERSTANDING THE KINGDOM!

So Paul stood in the midst of the Areopagus and said, “Men of Athens, I observe that you are very religious in all respects. “For while I was passing through and examining the objects of your worship, I also found an altar with this inscription, ‘TO AN UNKNOWN GOD.’ Therefore what you worship in ignorance, this I proclaim to you.

“The God who made the world and all things in it, since He is Lord of heaven and earth, does not dwell in temples made with hands; nor is He served by human hands, as though He needed anything, since He Himself gives to all people life and breath and all things; and He made from one man every nation of mankind to live on all the face of the earth, having determined their appointed times and the boundaries of their habitation, that they would seek God, if perhaps they might grope for Him and find Him, though He is not far from each one of us; for in Him we live and move and exist, as even some of your own poets have said, ‘For we also are His children.’

“Being then the children of God, we ought not to think that the Divine Nature is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and thought of man. “Therefore having overlooked the times of ignorance, God is now declaring to men that all people everywhere should repent, because He has fixed a day in which He will judge the world in righteousness through a Man whom He has appointed, having furnished proof to all men by raising Him from the dead.”

Now when they heard of the resurrection of the dead, some began to sneer, but others said, “We shall hear you again concerning this.” So Paul went out of their midst. But some men joined him and believed, among whom also were Dionysius the Areopagite and a woman named Damaris and others with them.

Paul had been a devoted Jew. He had encountered the Hebrew Messiah, the Son of God, the One Who is the Savior of the world.

What was Paul’s approach to explaining the God Story to these unbelievers?

What were the particulars of his explanation? What things are unexpected?

DAY FOUR 4

17 HISTORICAL	5 POETIC	17 PROPHETIC
Genesis	Job	Isaiah
Exodus	Psalms	Jeremiah
Leviticus	Proverbs	Lamentations
Numbers	Ecclesiastes	Ezekiel
Deuteronomy	Song of Solomon	Daniel
Joshua		Hosea
Judges		Joel
Ruth		Amos
1 Samuel		Obadiah
2 Samuel		Jonah
1 Kings		Micah
2 Kings		Nahum
1 Chronicles		Habakkuk
2 Chronicles		Zephaniah
Ezra		Haggai
Nehemiah		Zechariah
Esther		Malachi

**"In you all the
nations of the
earth will be
blessed."**

**Genesis 12:3
17:5-7
Romans 9:1-8**

THE HEBREW CONNECTION TO OUR LIVES

As we begin to nail down the Eight Epochs of the God Story it is important to properly interpret the role of the Jewish (Hebrew) people. Not understanding this connection is like moving through life with no ties to our family history. The Hebrew story is our "roots." Our human story in [GENESIS 1-11](#) provides the root for the Hebrew story.

Read [GENESIS 12](#) and observe God's interaction with Abraham. What do you see?

Read [GENESIS 17](#). What do you see?

Read [ROMANS 9:1-8](#). This is saying something astonishing! What do you think it is?

8 EPOCHS

#1. ORIGINS of matter, the cosmos, life

Genesis

Human Race

Job = relational narrative

Chosen Race

DAY FOUR 4

If not for His chosen people, we would have no authentic record of man's beginnings - or our future!

WHY DO OUR ORIGINS MATTER?

The sheer volume of knowledge that has been garnered in the last generation is astounding. Daniel prophesied that in the last days “knowledge will increase” ([Daniel 12:4](#)). Think about what has been learned since the launching of the Hubble satellite with its’ amazing telescope (and now Webb)! In science and physics, let alone quantum physics, we have made mind-blowing progress in understanding the complexities and beauties of design, right to the molecular level. It is no wonder God said at the Tower of Babel “nothing which they purpose to do will be impossible for them” ([GENESIS 11:6](#)).

Genesis provides THE authoritative theological and scientific explanation of our roots. Our connection to our Creator and everything that is made is carefully and succinctly set forth for anyone who wishes to plumb the depths of the real meaning of our existence.

MY WORLDVIEW

Where do I come down on harmony between science and theology?

Do I believe there is an ultimate harmony?

If there is a supernatural God, what is it about my origins that would be personal and at the same time infinite?

DAY FIVE 5

Straightforward.
Truthful.
Supernatural.
Scientific.
Mind-blowing.

WHY THE GENESIS ACCOUNT OF OUR ORIGINS IS BELIEVABLE

Honest-minded scientists are open to intelligent design. Randomness is simply not scientifically satisfying. The Bible's science is impeccable and super-intelligent. Natural laws do not preclude supernatural intervention.

Other religious and "modern" accounts of our origins seek to paint mankind in a flattering or self-serving manner. The Bible does not pander to the human ego. It is brutally truthful when it makes scientific, theological, or anthropomorphic claims. While other belief systems bring Creator down to created's level, the Scriptures do just the opposite. God comes near to return mankind to a restored relationship with our Creator.

MY WORLDVIEW

How much effort have I given to understanding what God has said about my origins?

What about the Bible seems small or limiting to me?

What about the Bible seems hard to understand to me?

GENESIS

Origins

DAY FIVE 5

HUMAN RACE

Creation...1:1,2

Fall...3:6-8

Flood...6:8;9:16

Tower...11:6,9

1-11

CHOSEN RACE

Abraham...12:1,8

Isaac...22:7,8

Jacob...25:23

Joseph...46:3,4

11-20 21-26 27-36 37-50

JOB

"In you all the families of the earth shall be blessed." 12:3

I AM YOUR CREATOR - I AM THE FATHER OF ALL LIVING THINGS

For the purposes of this study it is important to recognize the connection of Job to the book of Genesis. It is also helpful to understand the unfolding story of the chosen race, and this is best done by becoming familiar with the life, faith, and foibles of the four patriarchs: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.

Why are the first 11 chapters of Genesis non-Hebrew?

Why did the Living God choose a people (the Jews) to display His power?

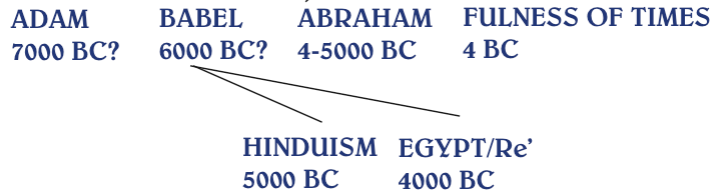
Take a few minutes and look up the references listed in the overview chart above. What do you observe?

MY WORLDVIEW

If you take the time to highlight each of these references in your bible, you will cover a huge amount of ground in the scriptures. Each of the passages considered in the Eight Epochs in the Fabric of Time series are "markers" that help us to understand the Story!

DAY SIX 6

TIMELINE ANCIENTS



DO ALL ROADS LEAD TO THE SAME PLACE?

The subject of other religions is an interesting one. According to scripture there are basically two religious systems. They are as old as the Garden of Eden.

There is the existence of the Living God. All things created flow from Him, the Son proceeds eternally through Him. He is simply the Father of everything.

From His created beings another “god” emerges. He is one of three archangels. He is a usurper of the glory of the Living God. His name is Lucifer, son of the morning. He is extremely powerful, though all of his authority is derived from his Creator.

From these two sources come all other “gods” and religions of the earth. Just as Lucifer tempted Adam and Eve to usurp the Father’s authority over their lives, so other religions hold promise of “liberation” from accountability to our King.

I recommend taking the time to personally investigate Judaism, Islam, Hinduism, and other eastern syncretism - as well as historic Christianity. Compare them to the ancient faith of Abraham, father of the True Jews. Hold each one next to the unfolded God Story from the Hebrew Messianic Scriptures (both “old and new” testaments) - and make your own determination concerning authenticity.

You owe the process to yourself - and the Honor to your Living Father!

MY WORLDVIEW

Am I familiar with other religious belief systems and the claims they make about spirituality? Am I firm in my choices for what I believe?



DAY SIX 6

ABRAHAM IS OUR FAITH LINK TO BELIEVING GOD

According to Paul, Jew among Jews, apostle to the Gentiles: Abraham is our Father. True Jews are those who are Jews inwardly, who have had our hearts circumcised.

Read [ROMANS 9:8](#).

What is a “child of the promise?”

Read [GALATIANS 3](#).

What is the relationship between the Law and faith? The purpose of the Law?

Who is the “Seed?”

Why was the Son born “under the Law?”

[HEBREWS 11](#) is a really cool chapter to read when looking for the faith link between ourselves as believing Gentiles and our Jewish roots.

DAY SEVEN 7

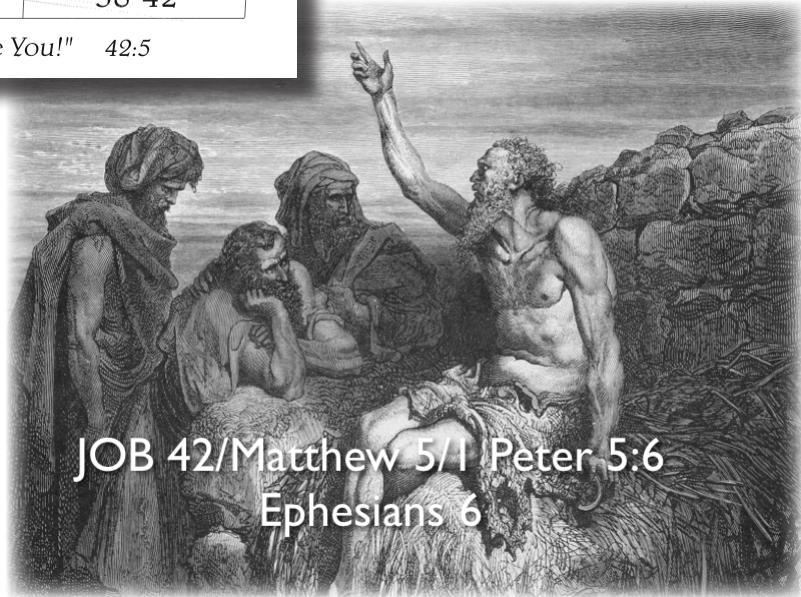
JOB Sovereign Suffering

Job's Test	Friend's Solution	God's Solution
1:6-12	42:7	40:2-5
1-2	3-37	38-42

"I had heard of You...but now I see You!" 42:5

Job is a wonderful story which expresses the fundamental truths about God and man. Read [JOB 42](#) and answer the following questions.

This is the conclusion of a long and gut-wrenching experience for Job. What do you learn from the first two chapters about God? About Satan and angels? About the relationship with mankind?



JOB 42/Matthew 5/1 Peter 5:6
Ephesians 6

Read [MATTHEW 5](#). What does humility have to do with spirituality?

Read [1 PETER 5:6](#) and [EPHESIANS 6](#). What do we learn about the spiritual dimension of life?

MY WORLDVIEW

Do I believe in the active presence of evil in my daily affairs? Am I open to the process of humility that produces growth in the deep parts of my soul?