

# AGAIN FOR THE FIRST TIME

## Introduction & Genesis 1-11

### 5 Key Premises About the Bible (adapted from Rubel Shelly)

1. The Bible is Inspired “God breathed” (II Timothy 3:16)
  2. Scripture is the complete and final revelation of God’s Will for human beings
  3. The Bible is the final authority on every spiritual issue.
  4. The Scripture is God’s instrument to bring mankind to salvation
  5. The Word of God can be understood by ordinary folks

### Fast Facts About the Bible

- 66 books written by approx. 40 people over a 1,500-1,600-year period in three languages by peasants, poets, fisherman, and kings, etc.
- Yet its parts constitute one book with a single message to humanity.
- This remarkable unity is an evidence of its divine origin.

The THEME of the Bible is the redemption of sinful humanity by means of divine grace.

### “Redemption”

- Required by the race’s rebellion against God (Genesis)
- Prepared for by the covenant with Abraham (Historical books of the OT)
- Foretold through the prophets
- Became reality through the life and death of Christ (Gospels)
- Proclaimed and shared through the early church (Acts)
- Explained and its implications traced (NT letters)
- Ultimately realized in the triumph of God’s people (Revelation)

Athanasius (Bishop of Alexandria) provided the complete list of 66 in 367 A.D. –[learnreligions.com](http://learnreligions.com)

Notes:

- A-Apostolicity- was the author respected and viewed as one chosen by God (authorship)
- C- Content- was the content in agreement with the other works included
- U-Universal- Was the book widely accepted by the people of the time as inspired

- Bibliographical test
- Internal evidence test
- External evidence test

The origin/beginning of...

- The universe (1)
- Man and woman (1-2)
- Sin and death (3)
- The redemptive promise (3)
- Sacrifice (4)
- Civilization (4-9)
- The diverse languages and nations (10-11)
- The Hebrew nation as a specially chosen people (12-50)

- The Formation (Genesis 1-2)
- The Fall of Man (Genesis 3-5)
- The Flood (Genesis 6-9)
- The Fallout from Rebellion (Genesis 10-11)

- “In the beginning, God...”
- “God said...and there was.”
- “...and it was (very) good.”

1. 24-hour solar day view
2. Punctuated activity view
3. The Gap view
4. The Day-age view
5. The Framework View
6. The analogical Day view

This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue or grey ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.

“Certainly, it is not meant to be an exhaustive account of creation. It is only one page long! It must not be treated as a photograph of creation but rather as a broad-stroked painting of what happened when God created the heavens and the earth.” – *Kent Hughes*

### “Naked”

- They were *spiritually* naked before God
- “God came *first* in their love and in their thoughts, and that without painful effort.” – *C.S. Lewis*
- There was no need for disciplined devotion
- Loving God was as natural as breathing, and as effortless!
- There was nothing to hide or protect

### The Fall of Man (Genesis 3-5)

- The bookends
- And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed. Genesis 2:25
- Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked. And they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves loincloths. Genesis 3:7

### The Breakdown (Harold Wilmington)

- Adam’s Disobedience (3:1-6)
- Adam’s Deceit (vv. 7-8)
- Adam’s Despair (vv. 9-11)
- Adam’s Defense (vv. 12-13)
- Adam’s Discipline (vv. 14-19)
  - Serpent (vv. 14-15)
  - Woman (v. 16)
  - Man (vv. 17-19)
  - Nature (v. 18)
- Adam’s Discipline (vv. 14-19)
- Adam’s Deliverance (v. 15. vv. 20-21)
- Adam’s Dismissal (vv. 22-24)

### The Flood (Genesis 6-9)

### Parallels to the Fall

- “So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, and that it was a delight to the eyes, and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband who was with her, and he ate.” Genesis 3:6
- Object of lust: fruit

Notes:

- “The sons of God saw that the daughters of man were attractive. And they took as their wives any they chose.” -Genesis 6:2
- Object of lust: beautiful women

### Who were the “sons of God?” “Nephilim”?

- Fallen angels commandeering the souls of men
- Offspring of demonized marriages Number 13:33
- Other thoughts?

### Noah & the Ark- not just a children’s story

- God’s anger against our sin
  - “Regrets” making man (5)
  - “Grieves” Him to His heart (6)
  - “Sorry” He made them (7)
- But He is also a redeeming God
- A challenge to step out in faith

### Noah

- Noah was *blameless* in his day
- “Righteous, blameless, walked with God” (9)

“By faith Noah, being warned by God concerning events as yet unseen, in *reverent fear* constructed an ark for the saving of his household. By this he condemned the world and *became an heir of the righteousness that comes by faith.*” -Hebrews 11:7

“It is not my good moral behavior that shapes my righteousness, but my faith—my willingness to trust God and take Him at His Word.”  
-Henry Blackaby

- Noah was obedient
  - Immediately
  - Belief in the midst of unbelief
  - Personal
  - Influential
  - Detailed (“did all the Lord commanded Him”) (6:22; 7:5, 16)
- Noah was not delivered *from* the trouble, but *through* it

Notes:

God's deliverance for Noah didn't mean that he had no troubles, but that he had God's faithful provision in all his troubles.

- *Even the righteous stumble*
- It is the man who allows his past victories to fool him into thinking he stands who is most vulnerable to falling.
- Noah's latter years stand as a warning to each of us not to try to live on past successes of faithfulness. There are many more who start strong in the Christian life than there are who finish strong.
- Think: Abraham, Moses, Solomon, David, Peter, Demas, parable of the soils, etc.

### **The Fallout from Rebellion (Genesis 10-11)**

- Unity 101?- Genesis 11
- They were united (John 17:20-21)
- They had a plan
- They got busy

The problem? Selfishness (wasn't for the glory of God, but for the glory of self)

People stopped building when they stopped speaking the same language

### **Points To Ponder As We Prepare To Part**

- There is hope in the midst of judgment.
- Redemption is necessary- and possible through the finished work of the cross!

Notes: