

Having A Basic Understanding of Some Old Testament Truths

Part 334 – A Brief Recap Of Some Events From Genesis Through Numbers

*Note: In the book of Genesis it should be noted that the Law of Moses was not given and thus was not in effect. This is important for a reason (Romans 3:19-20, Romans 4:15, Romans 5:12-13, and I John 3:4). While they had some sense of right and wrong (cf. Romans 2:14-15), the Law did not come until the days of Moses (John 1:17). The Law was added for a reason (Galatians 3:19 and I Timothy 1:8-9).

1. In the beginning, how many days did God use to create the heavens and the earth?
He used six days, and rested on the seventh (**Genesis 1:1-2:3**).

- **Exodus 20:11**
- The earth was spoken into existence (**Psalms 33:6** and **Hebrews 11:3**).

2. Did the first family on earth function properly?

No. The helpmeet [Eve] (**Genesis 2:18-25**) caused her husband to err and brought death into this world while being tossed from the garden (**Genesis 3:1-24** and **I Timothy 2:11-15**). Then, their son Cain killed his brother Abel (**Genesis 4:1-8**). When Cain was called into question he made the famous statement: "Am I my brother's keeper?" (**Genesis 4:9**). God punished Cain by making him a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, yet made sure no one killed him. Thus, he lived out his punishment (**Genesis 4:10-16**).

- **I John 3:12-15**

3. Did people in the earlier days of the world live longer than today?

Yes, such as 969 years (**Genesis 5:27**), 962 years (**Genesis 5:20**), 950 years (**Genesis 9:29**), or 777 years (**Genesis 5:31**). Shem lived long too later on (**Genesis 11:10-11**).

- Enoch never died (**Genesis 5:23-24** and **Hebrews 11:5**).
- When we get later in the OT we see that the average length of life began to be likened to now (**Psalms 90:10**).

4. What caused God to bring the flood upon the earth and destroy all but eight people?

The wickedness of man on the earth and the thoughts were only evil continually with the exception of Noah who did what God commanded him (**Genesis 6:1-22**).

- **Hebrews 11:7**

5. Were all of the creatures taken onto the ark in numbers of two?

No, (**Genesis 7:1-9**).

6. Did God literally drown people and beasts by the flood?
Yes, (**Genesis 7:20-23**).
- **II Peter 2:5**; cf. **Psalms 9:5**, **Psalms 37:38**, **Nahum 1:2**, **Romans 1:18**, **Ephesians 5:3-6**, and **II Peter 3:9-14**
7. Why do rainbows exist?
For God's remembrance and a sign of His covenant with man not to destroy the earth by water again (**Genesis 9:11-17**).
8. How did Babel come into existence?
Man was one with one language and a desire to build a city and tower to reach unto Heaven. So, God divided man, languages, and spread them upon the earth (**Genesis 11:1-9**).
- We cannot create our own way to God (**John 14:6**).
9. How significant is Abram [Abraham] regarding the salvation of all humanity?
It was through the promise made to him, through his seed, that salvation came to all of humanity (**Genesis 12:1-22:18**).
- **Matthew 1:1**, **Acts 3:25**, and **Galatians 3:8-29**
 - While reading through the record of Abraham, you also come upon the name Melchizedek [Melchisedec] (**Genesis 14:18-20**). This is the priesthood of predating Aaron and of which our Lord Jesus Christ is our high priest (**Hebrews 6:20-7:10**).
10. How did Jacob get Esau's birthright?
He got his brother to sell it to him for food (**Genesis 25:19-34**), then conspired with his mother and tricked his father in giving him his blessing (**Genesis 27:1-40**).
- **Hebrews 12:16-17**
11. Who was named Israel and how did the "tribes of Israel" get their names?
Jacob was called Israel (**Genesis 32:28**). His children were the formation of the tribes of Israel (**Genesis 49:1-28**). Joseph's sons [Manasseh and Ephraim] were given his namesake, with some debate over favoritism again (**Genesis 48:1-22**).
- **I Kings 18:31** and **Hebrews 11:21**
 - Consider Judah from here forward (**Genesis 49:8-12**; cf. **Hebrews 7:14**).
12. Who was given a coat of many colors and what did that cause?
Joseph was given the coat of many colors because he was favored by his father (**Genesis 37:1-3**). Joseph being favored and the visions he had caused his brothers

to envy him, desire to kill him, sell him, and then be delivered from famine by him through God's miraculous assistance (**Genesis 37:4-47:31**).

- **Psalms 105:13-17** and **Acts 7:9-16**
- We can see from how Esau was favored by his father, Jacob by his mother, Joseph by his father that favoritism is divisive. We should not show favoritism (**James 2:1-9**).
- Learn from these things (**Romans 15:4** and **I Corinthians 10:1-12**).

13. What caused Israel to be put into Egyptian bondage?

After the death of Joseph, there arose a Pharaoh that did not know him. The children of Israel had multiplied and became a threat in the eyes of this Egyptian king. So, the commands of bondage and throwing every son into the river while keeping alive the daughters was given (**Exodus 1:1-22**).

- Their hard bondage (**Deuteronomy 26:6**) was foretold (**Genesis 15:13** and **Acts 7:6-8**; cf. **Exodus 12:40-41**).

14. How did Moses escape being put to death as a male child?

He was hidden 3 months, then hidden in the river bank. He was then found by the daughter of Pharaoh and taken into her house (**Exodus 2:1-10**; cf. **Acts 7:21**).

15. After Moses fled Egypt and married (Exodus 2:11-22), why did God call upon him and was Moses readily willing to do what the Lord asked of him?

God heard the cry of His people and called Moses to go and deliver them. He was not jumping at the opportunity to do so (**Exodus 2:23-4:17**).

- **Acts 7:22-35**

16. What did God do to set Israel free from Egypt through Moses and Aaron?

God had to harden Pharaoh's heart and bring about punishment on his firstborn (**Exodus 3:8** and **Exodus 4:20-23**), to set Israel free. He did that through plagues, leading them out of Egypt, and defending them when Pharaoh changed his mind (**Exodus 5:1-14:31**).

- The first demands of Moses to Pharaoh were met with harder burdens on the people (**Exodus 5:1-14**).
 - ◆ The harder bondage and demands caused the people to turn on Moses and Aaron (**Exodus 5:15-6:13**).
 - ◆ Moses needed God pushing him as he did not want to do this (**Exodus 6:28-7:9**).
 - ◆ God showed His might through signs and wonders (**Psalms 78:43-50** and **Psalms 135:8-9**).
- The rod becomes a serpent (**Exodus 7:10-13**).

- The waters in the river turned to blood for seven days, but the magicians did so too (**Exodus 7:14-25**).
- Smitten with frogs matched by the magicians too (**Exodus 8:1-7**).
- When Pharaoh asked and got relief, his heart turned not to let the people go (**Exodus 8:8-15**).
- The Lord then sent lice, the magicians could NOT match that and confessed that this was the finger of God (**Exodus 8:16-19**).
 - ◆ Remember, whenever miracles could be worked there were those who worked evil and did miracles powered by darkness (**Deuteronomy 13:1**, **Matthew 24:24**, **II Thessalonians 2:7-9**, and **Revelation 19:20**; cf. **I John 4:1-5**).
- A grievous swarm of flies (**Exodus 8:20-24**).
- Again, Pharaoh had enough and pleaded to end it, but only temporarily (**Exodus 8:25-32**).
- Next, the plague on Egypt's [Not Israel's] cattle which is in the field, upon the horses, upon the asses, upon the camels, upon the oxen, and upon the sheep: there shall be a very grievous murrain (**Exodus 9:1-7**).
- The boils on man and beast (**Exodus 9:8-12**).
- Hail mingled with fire (**Exodus 9:13-26**).
- Again, his causes TEMPORARY confession of sin from Pharaoh until the plague was over, then he "sinned yet more" (**Exodus 9:27-35**).
- These things were done to be reported amongst the generations to come that they may know God is the Lord (**Exodus 10:1-2**).
- Locusts as never seen before or after covering the whole land (**Exodus 10:1-16**).
- Darkness that could be felt (**Exodus 10:21-29**).
- Death of the firstborn, the Passover, etc. (**Exodus 11:1-12:36**).

17. Why were the children of Israel to remember the Passover?

As an annual remembrance that the Lord delivered Israel from Egypt (**Exodus 13:1-10**; cf. **Numbers 9:1-14**).

18. What did the Lord do for Israel when they were pursued by Pharaoh and his army?

God opened the Red Sea and the children of Israel crossed on dry ground after which when the Egyptians pursued they were drowned by God (**Exodus 14:1-31**).

- They then praised God for all of this (**Exodus 15:1-27**). It was short lived though...
- For additional thought about Jesus' role in these things, consider **I Corinthians 10:1-11**

19. Were the children of Israel satisfied for long with being set free from Egyptian bondage?

No, they soon murmured and complained (**Exodus 15:23-26**, **Exodus 16:1-3**, and **Exodus 17:1-4**). This continues throughout the O.T.

- **Psalms 78:13-40.** Especially: *"How oft did they provoke him in the wilderness, and grieve him in the desert"* (**Psalms 78:40**)!

20. If you read Exodus 19-23, would you conclude there were only ten commandments?
No. There were many given from how to build altars, an eye for an eye, restitution, etc. (**Exodus 19:1-23:33**). As you read through the remainder of the Old Testament there are hundreds more...

- Until John, there was the Law AND the prophets (**Matthew 11:13**).

21. Who was separated from the children of Israel and made priests unto them?
Aaron and his sons (**Exodus 28:1-29:46**).

- **Exodus 30:30, Exodus 40:12-16,** and **Numbers 3:3-10.**
- This is not so today (**Hebrews 7:1-28** and **I Peter 2:5-9**).

22. When Moses delayed coming down from the mount, what did Israel do and why didn't God destroy them all?

They made a golden calf and were not destroyed because Moses interceded for them (**Exodus 32:1-35**). The children of Levi killed the idolaters (**Exodus 32:25-29**).

23. Did the Lord give general or detailed instructions concerning the building of the tabernacle?

They gave offerings and were specifically, with details, instructed on how to construct the tabernacle according to God's design (**Exodus 25:1-27:21** and **Exodus 35:4-40:33**).

- God supernaturally helped them (**Exodus 35:30-35**).
- Remember, the Spirit was active in the "O.T." (**I Samuel 1:10-16, II Samuel 23:2, II Peter 1:20-21**, etc.).

24. As the children of Israel journeyed, how did they know when to go onward in their journey?

When the Lord filled the tabernacle and the cloud or fire was upon it they stayed, when the cloud was taken up they journeyed (**Exodus 40:34-38**).

- When the Lord led them it was by cloud and fire also (**Psalms 78:14**).

25. Were the offerings for sin simple as you read through the beginning of Leviticus?

Not nearly. They are detailed for nine chapters (**Leviticus 1:1-9:24**) and then more throughout the OT (**Leviticus 16:1-11**, etc.).

- Thankfully, our offering was made by Christ giving Himself (**Hebrews 9:15-10:22**).

- In addition, we should be thankful that the commands of our Lord in the New Testament are not burdensome (**1 John 5:2-3**).

26. What caused Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, to die?

They offered strange fire before the LORD, which he commanded them not (**Leviticus 10:1-3**; cf. **Exodus 30:9**, **Numbers 3:3-4**, and **Numbers 26:61**).

27. What would have happened had a priest drank wine and then entered the tabernacle?
He would die (**Leviticus 10:9**; cf. **Ezekiel 44:21**).

- The very next verses discusses not mixing holy and unholy (**Leviticus 10:10**). Alcohol alters judgment and would have caused errors like that (**Proverbs 31:4-5**; cf. **Isaiah 28:7**).
- For a study on alcohol and why Christians do not drink it, go here:
http://www.wordsoftruth.net/whychristiansdontdrinkalcohol_byeager.html

28. Were physical impurities of the flesh of significance under the Law of Moses?

Yes, leprosy, boils, unclean garments, semen issues, menstrual cycles, etc. all made a person unclean (**Leviticus 12:1-15:33**).

- Knowledge of these things explains the background of other Scriptures (i.e. **Matthew 8:1-4**, **Luke 17:11-19**, etc.)
- Many of these were put out of the camp (**Numbers 5:1-4**).
- Not our focus today (**Romans 8:1-8**).

29. When studying through Leviticus, do you find that the children of Israel were expected to punish some sins with a physical death penalty?

Yes, (**Leviticus 19:20**, **Leviticus 20:2**, **Leviticus 20:9-10**, **Leviticus 20:13-27**, **Leviticus 24:14**, **Leviticus 24:16-23**, **Leviticus 27:29**, etc.)

30. Could a priest have gotten married? Was he expected to be pure?

Yes, and Yes, (**Leviticus 21:1-22:28**).

31. What was pentecost?

A feast that was to occur the fiftieth day after the Passover (**Leviticus 23:15-22**).

- This is why **Acts 2:1-47** was a perfect opportunity for the teaching of the Gospel.

32. Were the children of Israel, in the book of Leviticus, clearly warned of disobedience as well as told that God would remember His covenant with their fathers?

Yes, (**Leviticus 26:1-46**). Such will be restated over and over again too.

33. What criteria was used in the numbering of Israel?

“(1) And the LORD spake unto Moses in the wilderness of Sinai, in the tabernacle of the congregation, on the first day of the second month, in the second year after they were come out of the land of Egypt, saying, (2) Take ye the sum of all the congregation of the children of Israel, after their families, by the house of their fathers, with the number of their names, every male by their polls; (3) From twenty years old and upward, all that are able to go forth to war in Israel: thou and Aaron shall number them by their armies. (4) And with you there shall be a man of every tribe; every one head of the house of his fathers” (Numbers 1:1-4).

34. Who did God take from among the children of Israel instead of all the firstborn?
The Levites (Numbers 3:11-16).

- Numbers 3:41, Numbers 3:45, Numbers 8:16, Numbers 8:18, and Numbers 18:16

35. What occurred during the vow of a Nazarite?
Separation, consecration to the Lord, followed by a sacrifice and shaving of his head (Numbers 6:1-21).

- Acts 18:18 and Acts 21:23-24

36. Were there only a couple of occasions wherein Israel was to blow trumpets?
No, there were many: *“Also in the day of your gladness, and in your solemn days, and in the beginnings of your months, ye shall blow with the trumpets over your burnt offerings, and over the sacrifices of your peace offerings; that they may be to you for a memorial before your God: I am the LORD your God” (Numbers 10:10).*

- Not just worship occasions (i.e. Leviticus 23:24), but war, etc. too (Numbers 10:9 and I Chronicles 15:28).

37. When Moses got overwhelmed, who was appointed to help him?
Seventy men of the elders of the land whom were given the Spirit (Numbers 11:1-30).

38. Why was Miriam, Moses’ sister, stricken with Leprosy?
Because her and Aaron spoke against Moses (Numbers 12:1-12). Moses went to God to intercede for her (Numbers 12:13-16).

39. Why were Joshua and Caleb the only two spies that didn’t die of the plague God sent?
The other spies gave a false report and discouraged the children of Israel so that they would not want to enter into the land God promised them and their fathers. Joshua and Caleb did not lie. Thus, they lived and would enter the promised land (Numbers 13:1-14:38).

40. Why were the Amalekites and the Canaanites able to smite and discomfit Israel?
Because God was not with Israel due to their sins (Numbers 14:39-45).

- **Psalms 44:1-11**

41. What happened when a man gathered sticks on the Sabbath Day?

He was stoned to death (**Numbers 15:32-36**; cf. **Exodus 31:14-15**) for violating the law of no work on the Sabbath Day (**Exodus 20:8-10** and **Exodus 35:1-3**).

- The passing away of the Law of Moses included the end of the Sabbath Day law (**Colossians 2:6-17**).

42. Why did fourteen thousand seven hundred Israelites die, in addition to those that died about the matter of Korah?

Because they gathered up a rebellion against Moses and Aaron. Thus, the Lord opened the earth to swallow up Korah and his partners in crime. Then the Lord caused a plague upon the 14,700 (**Numbers 16:1-50**). Then, Aaron's rod that budded was to be a reminder of those who rebelled (**Numbers 17:1-13**). It was kept in the Ark of the Covenant (**Hebrews 9:1-4**).

- **Numbers 26:9-10** and **Jude 1:11**

43. What error did Moses commit that kept him from the promised land?

The children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron because of lacking water. God answered Moses and Aaron telling them to take Aaron's rod, speak to the rock, and that the rock would bring forth water. Moses erred in that he smote the rock twice rather than speaking to it. This kept him from the land God's promised (**Numbers 20:1-13**).

- God said this: *"And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them"* (**Numbers 20:12**).
- Aaron did not enter the promised land (**Numbers 20:24**; **Numbers 20:28-29**).
- Moses was allowed to see it from afar, but not to enter (**Deuteronomy 32:49-50** and **Joshua 1:1-2**).
- For all that Moses was, God did not make an exception. We'd do well to learn from that (**Matthew 25:1-13**). Even Moses' pleading didn't help (**Deuteronomy 3:23-26**).

44. When studying about Balaam, how does Revelation 2:14 help you?

The text is not clear in itself. Thus, **Revelation 2:14** helps to understand that Balaam did not do exactly as Balak wanted, but did teach him how to cause Israel to err (**Numbers 22:1-24:25**).

- **Nehemiah 13:1-2**, **II Peter 2:15**, and **Jude 1:11**

45. What caused God to want the heads of the people hung up before Him against the sun?

“(1) And Israel abode in Shittim, and the people began to commit whoredom with the daughters of Moab. (2) And they called the people unto the sacrifices of their gods: and the people did eat, and bowed down to their gods. (3) And Israel joined himself unto Baalpeor: and the anger of the LORD was kindled against Israel. (4) And the LORD said unto Moses, Take all the heads of the people, and hang them up before the LORD against the sun, that the fierce anger of the LORD may be turned away from Israel. (5) And Moses said unto the judges of Israel, Slay ye every one his men that were joined unto Baalpeor” (Numbers 25:1-5).

- **Psalms 106:28-29**

46. What did Phinehas do to turn away God’s wrath from the children of Israel?

*“(6) And, behold, one of the children of Israel came and brought unto his brethren a Midianitish woman in the sight of Moses, and in the sight of all the congregation of the children of Israel, who were weeping before the door of the tabernacle of the congregation. (7) And when Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, saw it, he rose up from among the congregation, and took a javelin in his hand; (8) And he went after the man of Israel into the tent, and thrust both of them through, the man of Israel, and the woman through her belly. So the plague was stayed from the children of Israel. (9) And those that died in the plague were twenty and four thousand. (10) And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, (11) **Phinehas, the son of Eleazar, the son of Aaron the priest, hath turned my wrath away from the children of Israel, while he was zealous for my sake among them, that I consumed not the children of Israel in my jealousy.** (12) Wherefore say, Behold, I give unto him my covenant of peace: (13) And he shall have it, and his seed after him, even the covenant of an everlasting priesthood; because he was zealous for his God, and made an atonement for the children of Israel. (14) Now the name of the Israelite that was slain, even that was slain with the Midianitish woman, was Zimri, the son of Salu, a prince of a chief house among the Simeonites. (15) And the name of the Midianitish woman that was slain was Cozbi, the daughter of Zur; he was head over a people, and of a chief house in Midian. (16) And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, (17) Vex the Midianites, and smite them: (18) For they vex you with their wives, wherewith they have beguiled you in the matter of Peor, and in the matter of Cozbi, the daughter of a prince of Midian, their sister, which was slain in the day of the plague for Peor's sake” (Numbers 25:6-18; cf. Psalms 106:29-31).*

47. What was given by God as a law if a man died and had no son to take his inheritance?

The daughter could have it and if no daughter it would go in order through his family down the line (Numbers 27:1-11).

- We find later, if the daughter took the land she had to marry in the tribe of her father as the land could not be passed from one tribe to another (**Numbers 36:5-13**; cf. **Proverbs 22:28**).

48. Who was chosen to lead Israel in Moses' place?

Joshua (**Numbers 27:12-23**).

49. What happened when the tribes of Reuben, Gad, and half of the tribe of Manasseh wanted to stop short of entering the promised land and stake a claim?

They were granted permission with the qualifier that they first had to help their brethren go and conquer the promised land (**Numbers 32:1-42**).

50. Who divided the land up for the tribes?

The Lord (**Numbers 34:1-35:5**).

51. What was a city of refuge?

It was a city where a person could flee to if they killed a person unawares to avoid an avenger. If not convicted by the congregation the innocent slayer could avoid the revenger of blood by staying in the city of refuge till the high priest died. The slayer then could go back to the land of his possession (**Numbers 35:6-28**).