

# One Year through the Old Testament

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## GENESIS

### *January 1: Genesis 1:1 – 2:25*

1. Bible believing people trust the Genesis account as truth. We believe that God created the world in six close to normal days. There are those who believe in theistic evolution (God used evolution), and there are those who believe in total evolution (there is no God and therefore no ultimate cause). How does the Biblical account rule out anything but a twenty-four hour day?

Clues:

With the use of the word 'beginning?'

2. From God's definition of a day (verse 3-5)?
3. From the calendar God set up in verse 14. How is the day used there?
4. The Biblical account uses the phrase again and again "after their kind." How does that rule out evolution?
5. What special work does God give man to do?

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6. In chapter two God gives a detail explanation of his interaction with man. He created Adam before Eve but gave him the task of naming the animals. How did he get Adam ready for the blessing of Eve? (verse 18-20)
  
7. In 2:24 God instituted marriage. What do the following tell us about the aspects of marriage?
  - i. “leave father and mother”
  
  - ii. “be united”
  
  - iii. “become one flesh”

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 2: Genesis 3:1 - 4:26***

1. What was Satan's strategy in tempting Adam and Eve?
  - i. Verse 1
  - ii. Verse 4
2. Trace the sins that Adam and Eve racked up. It is like an avalanche.
3. What applications might be made to us?
4. The first promise of the Savior is made in Genesis 3: 15. To whom is God speaking?
5. Look at the verse and tell who are the following:
  - i. I
  - ii. You
  - iii. Your offspring
  - iv. Her offspring
  - v. He
  - vi. You
6. What made Abel's offering to God acceptable while Cain's was not?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 3: Genesis 5:1 - 7:24***

1. Whose family tree is included in chapter five?
2. See Genesis 5:3. What is the difference between the image of God and Seth being born in the likeness of Adam?
3. Who are the "sons of God" and "the daughters of men?" (6:1)
4. Look at 6:5. What does that verse say about man?
5. How big was the ark?
6. Noah was to take clean and unclean animals. What was the difference?
7. Genesis 7:11 is a key verse. How does that verse explain some of the geology of the earth?
8. What is God obviously willing to do to those who reject him and what he says?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 4: Genesis 8:1 - 10: 32***

1. What was the purpose of the flood if God knew the world would still be sinful and resort to its old ways?
2. What does Genesis 8:22 say to doomsayers who say the environment is lost?
3. What is the significance of Genesis 9:6?
4. What does "every inclination of his heart is evil from his childhood" mean?
5. What is the Noahaic covenant?
6. What is the cursing of Ham and the blessing of Shem and Japheth (10:24-26)?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 5: Genesis 11:1 - 13:4***

1. What was the purpose of the tower of Babel?
2. The building of the tower was a great demonstration of humanism. What is humanism and why is it wrong?
3. What does the Lord mean in 11:6?
4. Chapter 12 is one of those red-letter chapters of the Bible. God made a covenant with Abraham. Why is it so important (12:2-3)?
5. Why is the family of Shem so important?
6. What does Abraham's fiasco in Egypt show us?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 6: Genesis 13:5 - 15:21***

1. What was admirable about the way Abram handled the situation with Lot?
2. Who is Mechizedek, and how do we know that Abram esteemed him greatly? Look in Hebrews 5 and 7 to read more about him.
3. Why do you think Abram refused any reward from the King of Sodom?
4. What is the significance of 15:6? How was Abram saved?
5. What was the purpose of the dream in the last half of chapter 15 starting with verse twelve?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 7: Genesis 16:1-18:19***

1. Abraham and Sarah were taking the matter of God's promise into their own hands. Look at the mess that was made. What were some of the problems that resulted?
2. Take note of what happens when a couple tries to make marriage involve more people than one man and one woman? Notice what happened when Abram didn't lead decisively.
3. Who claims they are the modern day Ishmaelites?
4. What was the covenant that God made with Abraham? (17:2)
5. What did it mean? (17: 10 -14)
6. Who appeared to Abraham at Mamre?
7. What was not going to be too hard for the Lord to do?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 8: Genesis 18:20 - 19:38***

1. How is God's grace demonstrated in Genesis 18?
2. What are some characteristics of Abraham's prayer that we would want to emulate?
3. What was the sin of Sodom and Gomorrah?
4. Why did God tell them not to look back?
5. We can see that Lot and the daughters were not strong spiritually. Look what happens in 19: 33-38. What does this say to you?
6. Later on the Ammonites and the Moabites will be Israel's enemies. Yet, they were really fighting, with family.

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 9: Genesis 20:1 - 22: 24***

1. Does Abraham's story sound familiar? How could Abraham do what he did for the second time?
2. Also guys, Sarah must have been like our wives— a real fox even as the years are tacked on one by one. How old was she?
3. The story of Abimelech makes us think that we just might meet him in heaven, don't you think?
4. Again, why was having a child really so important for Abraham and Sarah?
5. Many times in the Old Testament men have multiple wives. Some wonder if God is condoning this. Yet what happens here?
6. What is so exemplary about Abraham's faith as he was ready to sacrifice his son? Look at Hebrews 11: 17-19 to see what was going through Abraham's mind.
7. Not much is said about the Isaac. What is exemplary about his faith?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 10: Genesis 23:1 - 24:51***

1. For all you math whizzes ^ how old was Isaac when his mother died?
2. What did Abraham mean he was a stranger and an alien?
3. Why didn't Abraham want to accept the gift of the cave of Macpelah?
4. We can see that Abraham took great care in finding a wife for his son. Where did he want the woman to come from? Why?
5. Why was Rebekah a great daughter-in-law prospect? How is she someone that any Christian would like to emulate?
6. Note the great faith of Rebekah as she consented to go with the slave.

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 11: Genesis 24:52 - 26:16***

1. Agree or Disagree: Rebekah did not have any say in whom she would marry.
2. Look at 24:60. Remember that these words were said by her relatives living in Haran. Yet what did they understand?
3. What is the significance in the phrase that Abraham „was gathered to his people?“
4. Two nations were born to Rebekah with her twin sons. What were they?
5. What did Esau give up when he gave up his birthright?
6. What was the oath (26:3) God swore to Abraham and was given to Isaac?
7. Isaac shows characteristics like his father Abraham. Nevertheless how did God show grace to Isaac?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 12: Genesis 26:17 - 27:46***

1. The herdsmen of Gerar kept fighting with Isaac's men. Isaac kept moving and digging new wells. When is enough is enough?
2. It is interesting that Abimelech, Ahuzzath and Phicol all knew that the LORD was with Isaac but yet we see no confession of faith. How does that happen?
3. Why were Judith and Basemath such a pain to Rebekah?
4. What do you notice about Isaac and Rebekah,s parenting?
5. Jacob tricked Esau out of his birthright and blessing. What was the difference?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 13: Genesis 28:1 - 29:35***

1. God used the tension between Jacob and Esau to get Jacob to the house of his mother's father to find a wife. Why didn't Isaac want him to marry a local girl?
2. Why was this dream that Jacob had so important at this juncture in his life?
3. What was the promise that was repeated here?
4. Why would this have been a very emotional time for Jacob (29:11).
5. How could Jacob be so easily tricked when he was the one who seemed to be the instigator earlier in his life (the marriage to Leah when he thought he was getting Rachel etc.)?
6. What is the unusual order in which the sons were born regarding the promise of the Savior?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 14: Genesis 30:1 - 31:16***

1. While it is must be granted that the Lord tolerated multiple wives. What point should be noted that makes us understand that God intended one wife for one man?
2. What are mandrakes?
3. How did Jacob acquire so much wealth?
4. Agree or Disagree - Jacob was being God's instrument to punish Laban for his dishonesty throughout the years?
5. Whom does God give to us to exact punishment on the wrongdoer?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 15: Genesis 31:17 - 32:12***

1. If the purpose for Jacob to go to his uncle's home was to find a good "Lutheran girl," how does one explain the household gods in Laban's household and Rachel taking them with her?
2. Think about Jacob and his life. He spent a lot of it in deceit. Name some instances.
3. How did God show that he remained with him?
4. What was admirable in the way that Jacob and Laban handled their dispute?
5. Genesis 32:1 says that Jacob met angels. It makes one wonder how he would have recognized them.
6. While handling the dispute with Laban, now he had to deal with Esau. What in the twenty years he had been with Laban gave him the means to deal with it?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 16: Genesis 32:12 - 34:31***

1. Jacob,s family would come to him in waves. What was the purpose?
2. There was a wrestling match on the shores of the Jabbok. In this corner having little hair and a lightweight was Jacob, who was in the other corner?
3. What was the purpose?
4. How was the name so true of Jacob and of the people that descended from him?
5. How would you rate the way Jacob handled his brother?
6. Agree or Disagree: The molestation of Dinah and the manner in which Simeon and Levi handled it was justice taken too far.
7. Why were the sons of Jacob so opposed to the marriage with Shechem?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 17: Genesis 35:1 - 36:43***

1. Why wasn't it surprising that Jacob's family would have foreign gods in their possession?
2. How was it obvious that God was with the family of Jacob?
3. What does Israel mean? See 32:28
4. How was that name significant to Jacob and how was that significant to his descendants?
5. A scorecard is found in 35:23ff of Jacob's family. Remember that these are the sons to whom the land of Canaan would be assigned by family.
6. Notice 35:29 that the sons were there to bury their Dad. In chapter 36 we find the family of Esau. In 36:8 we see that they become the Edomites. As we go through the Old Testament be sure to remember them. They give the Israelites a lot of trouble but all the while they are relatives. Just like relatives to do that, huh?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 18: Genesis 37:1 - 38:30***

1. Again we see the result of multiple wives and mixed families. 37:1 reports that Jacob (Israel) loved Joseph more than the other children. What about that?
2. Was the sharing of his dreams with his brother something that God wanted Joseph to do? Notice in 37:11 that Jacob „kept the matter in mind.%o
3. What was Rueben trying to do about the Joseph matter?
4. What was Judah,s plan?
5. Was Jacob's mourning at the "death" of Joseph out of line with the promises of eternal life to his believers?
6. Why is the story about the sin of Judah recorded in the Bible? Why wasn't it simply left out?
7. The duty of Onan to give Tamar a child was part of the Law of Moses ^ something called the Levirate marriage (see Deuteronomy 25:5).

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 19: Genesis 39:1 - 41:16***

1. Agree or Disagree If we hire Christian workers we will have a successful business just like Potiphar.
2. What was exemplary in the way Joseph handled Mrs. Potiphar?
3. Genesis 39: 9 is a great passage to have memorized. It will come in handy under all kinds of circumstances.
4. Were there ways Mrs. Potiphar could have been handled even better?
5. What did each dream of the baker and the butler mean?
6. We can see that God definitely had a timetable for Joseph,s life. How did God train Joseph during this time?
7. What admirable qualities of Joseph are worthy of imitation?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 20: Genesis 41:17 - 42:17***

1. What was the dream Pharaoh had?
2. Why were there two dreams? Cf. 41:32
3. How had Joseph been trained for what he was about to experience?
4. Remember how many years have passed since we first started to hear about Joseph and the problems with his brothers Cf. 37:2. Is there anything that we can learn from that?
5. What were the names of Joseph's children and what was the significance?
6. Did Joseph have the right to treat his brothers as he did?

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## ***January 21: Genesis 42:18 - 43:34***

1. Notice the guilt the brothers were carrying for so many years. Why and what were they missing?
2. Notice also the blame game and let's-pass-the-buck game. Isn't it nice to know we can take our sin to the cross and leave the guilt there and it's gone?
3. Remember Reuben is the first-born and speaks up. Then we hear how Judah guarantees the safe return of Benjamin. It almost sounds like they are trying to outdo the other. What are your thoughts?
4. Joseph, still unidentified, respected "the God of your father." Should the brothers have seen that as something unusual? What did astonish the brothers?
5. Why do you think Benjamin was given a much greater portion?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 22: Genesis 44:1 - 45:28***

1. Was Joseph carrying this lesson a little too far by placing the silver chalice in Benjamin's saddlebag?
2. What do you find admirable about Judah's intercession? What was not admirable?
3. What was the reason Joseph went through the ordeal he did?
4. How old was Joseph now? Cf. 45:11
5. Notice again the special treatment of Benjamin. Why?
6. Why do you think that Joseph reminded his brothers not to quarrel?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 23: Genesis 46:1 - 47:31***

1. Why did Jacob need reassurance from God about going to Egypt?
2. What is comforting to us about the details given regarding all the families and members?
3. How many ended up going to Egypt? How big would Israel become in Egypt?
4. Imagine the reunion that Joseph had with his father.
5. Why did they settle in Goshen?
6. Was Joseph being cruel in taking the land and animals in exchange for the food?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 24: Genesis 48:1 - 49:33***

1. In what way would Jacob show that Manasseh and Ephraim were his children?
2. Jacob was about to bless them but placed his right hand on the younger and the left on the older. Jacob knew exactly what he was doing. What exactly was he doing?
3. Why was Reuben not blessed like the other sons, after all he was the first-born?
4. Remember the sin of Simeon and Levi. They too did not receive any land that would one day be dispersed when Israel would enter into Canaan.
5. How would the future generations of the brothers bow down to Judah? Take note of 49:10.
6. Look at a map of Israel, as the land would one day be divided. Compare where they lived to what Jacob said in his blessing.

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## Exodus

### *January 25: Genesis 50:1 - Exodus 2:10*

1. How was it obvious Joseph was respected in Egypt?
2. Jacob's death caused the brothers to fear that there would be reprisals from Joseph. What does this tell us about conscience and forgiveness?
3. Genesis 50:20 is a great passage to commit to memory. How would you use this in your life?
4. Exodus ushers us into a new era of Israelite history. What was the cause of the biggest change that Israel was about to undergo?
5. In what ways did Egypt show their animosity toward Israel?
6. How did God look out for Moses?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 26: Exodus 2:11-3:22***

1. Moses was nearly 40 years old by this time. Notice again, as it is with a lot of Old Testament people, that the Bible does not spare some of the details of the sinful weaknesses of some of the great godly leaders. What does that say to us?
  
2. In round numbers the year was around 1450 BC. The Israelites were in Egypt for around 400 years.
  
3. After another forty years, God was calling Moses to lead his people. What excuses did Moses offer and what were the Lord's answers to them?
  - a. Verse 11
  
  - b. Verses 13
  
4. What kind of excuses do we offer?
  
5. How does God answer us?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 27: Exodus 4:1 - 5:21***

1. Moses wasn't done making excuses why he should not be the one to lead Israel. ◻What were they this time?
2. How did God answer?
3. What was Aaron's position to be? ◻What was his relationship to Moses?
4. One more time... Who was Jethro?
5. Why was God going to kill Moses? ◻Why was this such a big deal?
6. How did Pharaoh respond to God,s request through Moses?
7. How did Pharaoh show contempt for Israel?
8. Doing what God wants can indeed make us a stench in the nostrils of others. ◻What are examples?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 28: Exodus 5: 22 - 7:24***

1. How was Moses feeling? Why?
2. How was Israel feeling? Why?
3. Details are given about the first three sons of Jacob. There are more regarding Levi. Why?
4. The first plague was about to be sent to Egypt. In it we see how the magicians of Egypt were able (or almost able) to duplicate the snakes. How is that explained?
5. How does God show his power over Satan's?
6. What is the first plague?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 29: Exodus 7:25 - 9:35***

1. The first plague was the plague of the Nile turning into blood. The second was the plague of frogs. How were the magicians able to duplicate that?
2. Notice the double miracle in 8: 10-12
3. Why was Pharaoh,s heart hardened? Cf. 8:15
4. What was the third plague? Kinda like the south Georgia plague, huh?
5. What didn't happen during this plague? Cf. 8:18
6. Look at 8:22. What was apparent about the first three plagues? What is different about the fourth?
7. Note again the distinction between the Israelites and the Egyptians for the fifth plague?
8. What is the sixth plague?
9. The Lord hardened Moses' heart (Cf. 9:12). What does that mean?
10. What is the 7th plague?
11. In 9:30 Moses stated that Pharaoh and Moses did not fear the Lord. Why not?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 30: Exodus 10:1 - 12:13***

1. In the opening words the Lord gives the reason for hardening the heart of Pharaoh ^ what is it?
2. What is the eighth plague?
3. How does Pharaoh show that he wants to be half-obedient?
4. What do you think of his confession in 10:16,17?
5. Note how God was hardening the heart of Pharaoh all the way through. What is the warning?
6. What is the ninth plague? How did it affect the Israelites in Goshen? Why didn't someone say, Sumpin's Up!
7. What was astounding about the tenth plague?
8. How could Israel avoid it?
9. Why the unleavened bread and the cloak tucked under the belt?

Important thoughts from the reading:

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## ***January 31: Exodus 12:14 - 13:16***

1. The Feast of the Unleavened Bread was the weeklong celebration that began their church year. The Passover was one day in the celebration. Why was unleavened bread to be removed from their houses?
2. Hyssop was a leafy plant that later would symbolize cleansing.
3. How did the blood on the doorpost save Israel?
4. Imagine being an Egyptian and to have just the firstborn and all the firstborn of beast and animal to die on that one night.
5. The Lord told them that they needed to have dough without yeast. Why was that apparent now?
6. What was the number of Israelites?
7. How long were the people in Egypt?
8. Why so many specific rules about the Passover?
9. Notice the connection of circumcision with Passover. Why was that?
10. Notice the importance of passing all this down to the next generation.
11. How would the firstborn of Israel always be connected with the escape from Egypt?

Important thoughts from the reading: