

GENESIS

THE ACCOUNT OF CREATION

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.* ²The earth was formless and empty, and darkness covered the deep waters. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.

³Then God said, “Let there be light,” and there was light. ⁴And God saw that the light was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. ⁵God called the light “day” and the darkness “night.” And evening passed and morning came, marking the first day.

⁶Then God said, “Let there be a space between the waters, to separate the waters of the heavens from the waters of the earth.” ⁷And that is what happened. God made this space to separate the waters of the earth from the waters of the heavens. ⁸God called the space “sky.”

And evening passed and morning came, marking the second day.

⁹Then God said, “Let the waters beneath the sky flow together into one place, so dry ground may appear.” And that is what happened. ¹⁰God called the dry ground “land” and the waters “seas.” And God saw that it was good. ¹¹Then God said, “Let the land sprout with vegetation—every sort of seed-bearing plant, and trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. These seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came.” And that is what happened.

¹²The land produced vegetation—all sorts of seed-bearing plants, and trees with seed-bearing fruit. Their seeds produced plants and trees of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

¹³And evening passed and morning came, marking the third day.

¹⁴Then God said, “Let lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. Let them be signs to mark the seasons, days, and years. ¹⁵Let these lights in the sky shine down on the earth.” And that is what happened. ¹⁶God made two great lights—the larger one to govern the day, and the smaller one to govern the night. He also made the stars. ¹⁷God set these lights in the sky to light the earth, ¹⁸to govern the day and night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good.

¹⁹And evening passed and morning came, marking the fourth day.

²⁰Then God said, “Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind.” ²¹So God created great sea creatures and every living thing that scurries and swarms in the water, and every sort of bird—each producing offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good. ²²Then God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply. Let the fish fill the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth.”

1:1 Or In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, . . . Or When God began to create the heavens and the earth, . . .

1:1 Pss 89:11; 102:25 Isa 42:5; 48:13 John 1:1-2 1:2 Ps 104:30 Isa 45:18 1:3 Pss 33:9; 104:2 Isa 45:7 2 Cor 4:6
1:4 Ps 74:16 1:6 Job 26:10 Ps 136:5-6 Isa 40:22 Jer 10:12 1:7 Job 38:8-11 Ps 148:4 Prov 8:28 1:8 Gen 1:5 Job 26:7
1:9 Ps 95:5 Prov 8:29 Jer 5:22 2 Pet 3:5 1:10 Pss 33:7; 95:5 1:11 Gen 2:9 Ps 104:14 Matt 6:30 1:14 Pss 74:16; 104:19
1:15 Gen 1:5 1:16 Pss 8:3; 19:1-6; 136:8-9 1 Cor 15:41 1:18 Jer 33:20, 25 1:20 Gen 2:19 Ps 146:6 1:21 Ps 104:25-28

²³And evening passed and morning came, marking the fifth day.

²⁴Then God said, “Let the earth produce every sort of animal, each producing offspring of the same kind—livestock, small animals that scurry along the ground, and wild animals.” And that is what happened.

²⁵God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to produce offspring of the same kind. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶Then God said, “Let us make human beings* in our image, to be like us. They will reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, the livestock, all the wild animals on the earth,* and the small animals that scurry along the ground.”

²⁷ So God created human beings* in his own image. In the image of God he created them; male and female he created them.

²⁸Then God blessed them and said, “Be fruitful and multiply. Fill the earth and govern it. Reign over the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the animals that scurry along the ground.”

²⁹Then God said, “Look! I have given you every seed-bearing plant throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. ³⁰And I have given every green plant as food for all the wild animals, the birds in the sky, and the small animals that scurry along the ground—everything that has life.” And that is what happened.

³¹Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was very good!

And evening passed and morning came, marking the sixth day.

1:26a Or *man*; Hebrew reads *adam*. **1:26b** As in Syriac version; Hebrew reads *all the earth*. **1:27** Or *the man*; Hebrew reads *ha-adam*. **2:2** Or *ceased*; also in 2:3. **2:6** Or *mist*.

2

So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. ²On the seventh day God had finished his work of creation, so he rested* from all his work. ³And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from all his work of creation.

⁴This is the account of the creation of the heavens and the earth.

THE MAN AND WOMAN IN EDEN

When the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵neither wild plants nor grains were growing on the earth. For the LORD God had not yet sent rain to water the earth, and there were no people to cultivate the soil. ⁶Instead, springs* came up from the ground and watered all the land. ⁷Then the LORD God formed the man from the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man's nostrils, and the man became a living person.

⁸Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden in the east, and there he placed the man he had made. ⁹The LORD God made all sorts of trees grow up from the ground—trees that were beautiful and that produced delicious fruit. In the middle of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰A river flowed from the land of Eden, watering the garden and then dividing into four branches. ¹¹The first branch, called the Pishon, flowed around the entire land of Havilah, where gold is found. ¹²The gold of that land is exceptionally pure; aromatic resin and onyx stone are also found there. ¹³The second branch, called the Gihon, flowed around the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴The third branch, called the Tigris, flowed east of the land of Asshur. The fourth branch is called the Euphrates.

1:24 Gen 2:19 **1:26** Gen 5:1; 9:6 Ps 8:6-8 Acts 17:28-29 **1:27** *Matt 19:4 *Mark 10:6 **1:29** Gen 9:3 Pss 104:13; 136:25
1:30 Pss 104:14; 145:15 **1:31** Ps 104:24 **2:1** Deut 4:19; 17:3 Ps 104:2 Isa 45:12 **2:2** Exod 20:11; 31:17 *Heb 4:4
2:3 Isa 58:13 **2:4** Gen 1:3-31 Job 38:4-11 **2:5** Gen 1:11 **2:7** Gen 3:19 Job 33:4 Ps 103:14 Ezek 37:5
 Zech 12:1 John 20:22 *1 Cor 15:45 **2:8** Gen 3:23; 13:10 Isa 51:3 Ezek 28:13 Joel 2:3
2:9 Gen 3:22 Prov 3:18; 11:30 Ezek 47:12 Rev 2:7; 22:2, 14 **2:10** Rev 22:1, 17
2:11 Gen 25:18 **2:14** Gen 15:18 Deut 1:7 Dan 10:4

¹⁵The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and watch over it. ¹⁶But the LORD God warned him, “You may freely eat the fruit of every tree in the garden—¹⁷except the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat its fruit, you are sure to die.”

¹⁸Then the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.” ¹⁹So the LORD God formed from the ground all the wild animals and all the birds of the sky. He brought them to the man* to see what he would call them, and the man chose a name for each one. ²⁰He gave names to all the livestock, all the birds of the sky, and all the wild animals. But still there was no helper just right for him.

²¹So the LORD God caused the man to fall into a deep sleep. While the man slept, the LORD God took out one of the man’s ribs* and closed up the opening. ²²Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib, and he brought her to the man.

²³“At last!” the man exclaimed.

“This one is bone from my bone,
and flesh from my flesh!
She will be called ‘woman,’
because she was taken from ‘man.’”

²⁴This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one.

²⁵Now the man and his wife were both naked, but they felt no shame.

3

THE MAN AND WOMAN SIN

The serpent was the shrewdest of all the wild animals the LORD God had made. One day he asked the woman, “Did God really say you must not eat the fruit from any of the trees in the garden?”

²“Of course we may eat fruit from the trees in the garden,” the woman replied.

³“It’s only the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God said, ‘You must not eat it or even touch it; if you do, you will die.’”

⁴“You won’t die!” the serpent replied to the woman. ⁵“God knows that your eyes will be opened as soon as you eat it, and you will be like God, knowing both good and evil.”

⁶The woman was convinced. She saw that the tree was beautiful and its fruit looked delicious, and she wanted the wisdom it would give her. So she took some of the fruit and ate it. Then she gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it, too. ⁷At that moment their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they sewed fig leaves together to cover themselves.

⁸When the cool evening breezes were blowing, the man* and his wife heard the LORD God walking about in the garden. So they hid from the LORD God among the trees. ⁹Then the LORD God called to the man, “Where are you?”

¹⁰He replied, “I heard you walking in the garden, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked.”

¹¹“Who told you that you were naked?” the LORD God asked. “Have you eaten from the tree whose fruit I commanded you not to eat?”

¹²The man replied, “It was the woman you gave me who gave me the fruit, and I ate it.”

¹³Then the LORD God asked the woman, “What have you done?”

“The serpent deceived me,” she replied. “That’s why I ate it.”

¹⁴Then the LORD God said to the serpent,

“Because you have done
this, you are cursed
more than all animals,
domestic and wild.

2:19 Or *Adam*, and so throughout the chapter. **2:21** Or *took a part of the man’s side*. **3:8** Or *Adam*, and so throughout the chapter.

2:15 Gen 2:8 **2:16** Gen 3:1-3 **2:17** Gen 3:1, 16-17 Deut 30:15, 19-20 Rom 6:23 Jas 1:15 **2:18** Gen 3:12 Prov 18:22
2:19 Gen 1:20-25 **2:22** 1 Cor 11:8-9 1 Tim 2:13 **2:23** Gen 29:14 Eph 5:28-30 **2:24** *Matt 19:5 *1 Cor 6:16 Eph 5:31
2:25 Gen 3:7, 10-11 **3:1** 2 Cor 11:3 Rev 12:9; 20:2 **3:2** Gen 2:16 **3:3** Gen 2:17 Exod 19:12 **3:4** John 8:44 2 Cor 11:3
3:5 Gen 2:17; 3:22 Isa 14:14 Ezek 28:2 **3:6** 2 Cor 11:3 1 Tim 2:14 Jas 1:14-15 1 Jn 2:16 **3:8** Lev 26:12 Deut 23:14 Job 31:33
3:9 Gen 4:9; 18:9 **3:10** Deut 5:5 **3:12** Prov 28:13 **3:13** 2 Cor 11:3 1 Tim 2:14 **3:14** Deut 28:15 Isa 65:25

You will crawl on your belly,
groveling in the dust as long as you live.

¹⁵ And I will cause hostility between
you and the woman,
and between your offspring
and her offspring.

He will strike* your head,
and you will strike his heel.”

¹⁶ Then he said to the woman,

“I will sharpen the pain of your pregnancy,
and in pain you will give birth.
And you will desire to control
your husband,
but he will rule over you.*”

¹⁷ And to the man he said,

“Since you listened to your wife
and ate from the tree
whose fruit I commanded
you not to eat,
the ground is cursed because of you.
All your life you will struggle
to scratch a living from it.

¹⁸ It will grow thorns and thistles for you,
though you will eat of its grains.

¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow
will you have food to eat
until you return to the ground
from which you were made.
For you were made from dust,
and to dust you will return.”

PARADISE LOST: GOD’S JUDGMENT

²⁰ Then the man—Adam—named his wife
Eve, because she would be the mother of all

3:15 Or *bruise*; also in 3:15b. **3:16** Or *And though you will have desire for your husband, / he will rule over you.* **3:20** *Eve* sounds like a Hebrew term that means “to give life.” **3:22** Or *the man*; Hebrew reads *ha-adam*. **4:1a** Or *the man*; also in 4:25. **4:1b** Or *I have acquired*. *Cain* sounds like a Hebrew term that can mean “produce” or “acquire.” **4:8** As in Samaritan Pentateuch, Greek and Syriac versions, and Latin Vulgate; Masoretic Text lacks “*Let’s go out into the fields.*”

who live.*²¹ And the LORD God made clothing
from animal skins for Adam and his wife.

²² Then the LORD God said, “Look, the
human beings* have become like us, know-
ing both good and evil. What if they reach
out, take fruit from the tree of life, and eat
it? Then they will live forever!”²³ So the LORD
God banished them from the Garden of Eden,
and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground
from which he had been made. ²⁴ After send-
ing them out, the LORD God stationed mighty
cherubim to the east of the Garden of Eden.
And he placed a flaming sword that flashed
back and forth to guard the way to the tree
of life.

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CAIN AND ABEL

Now Adam* had sexual relations with
his wife, Eve, and she became preg-
nant. When she gave birth to Cain,
she said, “With the LORD’s help, I have pro-
duced* a man!” ² Later she gave birth to his
brother and named him Abel.

When they grew up, Abel became a shep-
herd, while Cain cultivated the ground.
³ When it was time for the harvest, Cain pre-
sented some of his crops as a gift to the LORD.
⁴ Abel also brought a gift—the best portions
of the firstborn lambs from his flock. The
LORD accepted Abel and his gift, ⁵ but he did
not accept Cain and his gift. This made Cain
very angry, and he looked dejected.

“Why are you so angry?” the LORD asked
Cain. “Why do you look so dejected?” You will
be accepted if you do what is right. But if you
refuse to do what is right, then watch out! Sin
is crouching at the door, eager to control you.
But you must subdue it and be its master.”

⁸ One day Cain suggested to his brother,
“Let’s go out into the fields.”* And while they
were in the field, Cain attacked his brother,
Abel, and killed him.

⁹ Afterward the LORD asked Cain, “Where
is your brother? Where is Abel?”

3:15 John 8:44 Rom 16:20 Heb 2:14 **3:16** 1 Cor 11:3 Eph 5:22 1 Tim 2:15 **3:17** Job 5:7 Eccl 1:3 Rom 8:20-22
3:18 Job 31:40 Heb 6:8 **3:19** Gen 2:7 Pss 90:3; 104:29 Eccl 12:7 1 Cor 15:47 **3:20** 2 Cor 11:3 1 Tim 2:13
3:21 2 Cor 5:2-3 **3:22** Gen 1:26 **3:24** Ezek 10:1 Rev 2:7; 22:2, 14 **4:2** Luke 11:50-51 **4:3** Lev 21:2
Num 18:12 **4:4** Exod 13:12 Heb 11:4 **4:6** Jon 4:4 **4:7** Rom 6:12, 16
Jas 1:15 **4:8** Matt 23:35 1 Jn 3:12 **4:9** Gen 3:9

"I don't know," Cain responded. "Am I my brother's guardian?"

¹⁰But the LORD said, "What have you done? Listen! Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground! ¹¹Now you are cursed and banished from the ground, which has swallowed your brother's blood. ¹²No longer will the ground yield good crops for you, no matter how hard you work! From now on you will be a homeless wanderer on the earth."

¹³Cain replied to the LORD, "My punishment* is too great for me to bear! ¹⁴You have banished me from the land and from your presence; you have made me a homeless wanderer. Anyone who finds me will kill me!"

¹⁵The LORD replied, "No, for I will give a sevenfold punishment to anyone who kills you." Then the LORD put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who might try to kill him. ¹⁶So Cain left the LORD's presence and settled in the land of Nod,* east of Eden.

THE DESCENDANTS OF CAIN

¹⁷Cain had sexual relations with his wife, and she became pregnant and gave birth to Enoch. Then Cain founded a city, which he named Enoch, after his son. ¹⁸Enoch had a son named Irad. Irad became the father of* Mehujael. Mehujael became the father of Methushael. Methushael became the father of Lamech.

¹⁹Lamech married two women. The first was named Adah, and the second was Zillah. ²⁰Adah gave birth to Jabal, who was the first of those who raise livestock and live in tents. ²¹His brother's name was Jubal, the first of all who play the harp and flute. ²²Lamech's other wife, Zillah, gave birth to a son named Tubal-cain. He became an expert in forging tools of bronze and iron. Tubal-cain had a sister named Naamah. ²³One day Lamech said to his wives,

"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;
listen to me, you wives of Lamech.

I have killed a man who attacked me,
a young man who wounded me.

²⁴If someone who kills Cain is punished seven times,
then the one who kills me will be
punished seventy-seven times!"

THE BIRTH OF SETH

²⁵Adam had sexual relations with his wife again, and she gave birth to another son. She named him Seth,* for she said, "God has granted me another son in place of Abel, whom Cain killed." ²⁶When Seth grew up, he had a son and named him Enosh. At that time people first began to worship the LORD by name.

5

THE DESCENDANTS OF ADAM

This is the written account of the descendants of Adam. When God created human beings,* he made them to be like himself. ²He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them "human."

³When Adam was 130 years old, he became the father of a son who was just like him—in his very image. He named his son Seth. ⁴After the birth of Seth, Adam lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters.

⁵Adam lived 930 years, and then he died.

⁶When Seth was 105 years old, he became the father of* Enosh. ⁷After the birth of* Enosh, Seth lived another 807 years, and he had other sons and daughters.

⁸Seth lived 912 years, and then he died.

4:13 Or *My sin*. **4:16** *Nod* means "wandering." **4:18** Or *the ancestor of*, and so throughout the verse. **4:25** *Seth* probably means "granted"; the name may also mean "appointed." **5:1** Or *man*; Hebrew reads *adam*; similarly in 5:2. **5:6** Or *the ancestor of*; also in 5:9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 25. **5:7** Or *the birth of this ancestor of*; also in 5:10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 26.

4:10 Num 35:33 Deut 21:1 Heb 12:24 **4:11** Deut 27:15-26 **4:12** Deut 28:15-24 **4:14** Gen 9:6 Job 15:22
4:17 Ps 49:11 **4:23** Lev 19:18 Deut 32:35 **4:25** Gen 4:8; 5:3 1 Chr 1:1 Luke 3:38 **4:26** Gen 12:8
 1 Kgs 18:24 Joel 2:32 Zeph 3:9 Acts 2:21 **5:1** Gen 1:26; 6:9 1 Chr 1:1 **5:2** Gen 1:27
 *Matt 19:4 *Mark 10:6 **5:3** Gen 1:26; 4:25 1 Cor 15:49 **5:4** 1 Chr 1:1
5:5 Gen 2:17 Heb 9:27 **5:6** 1 Chr 1:1 Luke 3:38

⁹When Enosh was 90 years old, he became the father of Kenan. ¹⁰After the birth of Kenan, Enosh lived another 815 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ¹¹Enosh lived 905 years, and then he died.

¹²When Kenan was 70 years old, he became the father of Mahalalel. ¹³After the birth of Mahalalel, Kenan lived another 840 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ¹⁴Kenan lived 910 years, and then he died.

¹⁵When Mahalalel was 65 years old, he became the father of Jared. ¹⁶After the birth of Jared, Mahalalel lived another 830 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ¹⁷Mahalalel lived 895 years, and then he died.

¹⁸When Jared was 162 years old, he became the father of Enoch. ¹⁹After the birth of Enoch, Jared lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ²⁰Jared lived 962 years, and then he died.

²¹When Enoch was 65 years old, he became the father of Methuselah. ²²After the birth of Methuselah, Enoch lived in close fellowship with God for another 300 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ²³Enoch lived 365 years, ²⁴walking in close fellowship with God. Then one day he disappeared, because God took him.

²⁵When Methuselah was 187 years old, he became the father of Lamech. ²⁶After the birth of Lamech, Methuselah lived another 782 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ²⁷Methuselah lived 969 years, and then he died.

²⁸When Lamech was 182 years old, he became the father of a son. ²⁹Lamech named his son Noah, for he said, “May he bring us relief* from our work

and the painful labor of farming this ground that the LORD has cursed.”

³⁰After the birth of Noah, Lamech lived another 595 years, and he had other sons and daughters. ³¹Lamech lived 777 years, and then he died.

³²After Noah was 500 years old, he became the father of Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

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A WORLD GONE WRONG

Then the people began to multiply on the earth, and daughters were born to them. ²The sons of God saw the beautiful women* and took any they wanted as their wives. ³Then the LORD said, “My Spirit will not put up with* humans for such a long time, for they are only mortal flesh. In the future, their normal lifespan will be no more than 120 years.”

⁴In those days, and for some time after, giant Nephilites lived on the earth, for whenever the sons of God had intercourse with women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes and famous warriors of ancient times.

⁵The LORD observed the extent of human wickedness on the earth, and he saw that everything they thought or imagined was consistently and totally evil. ⁶So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them and put them on the earth. It broke his heart. ⁷And the LORD said, “I will wipe this human race I have created from the face of the earth. Yes, and I will destroy every living thing—all the people, the large animals, the small animals that scurry along the ground, and even the birds of the sky. I am sorry I ever made them.” ⁸But Noah found favor with the LORD.

THE STORY OF NOAH

⁹This is the account of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, the only blameless person living on earth at the time, and he walked in close fellowship with God.

5:29 *Noah* sounds like a Hebrew term that can mean “relief” or “comfort.” 6:2 Hebrew *daughters of men*; also in 6:4. 6:3 Greek version reads *will not remain in*.

5:9 1 Chr 1:2 Luke 3:37 5:12 1 Chr 1:2 Luke 3:37 5:15 1 Chr 1:2 Luke 3:37 5:18 1 Chr 1:3 Luke 3:37 Jude 1:14 5:21 1 Chr 1:3 Luke 3:37 5:22 Gen 6:9; 48:15 5:24 2 Kgs 2:1, 11 Ps 73:24 Heb 11:5 5:25 1 Chr 1:3 Luke 3:36 5:29 Gen 3:7 1 Chr 1:3 Luke 3:36 Rom 8:20 5:32 Gen 7:6; 9:18 6:1 Luke 11:28 6:3 Ps 78:39 1 Pet 3:20 6:4 Num 13:33 6:5 Ps 14:1-3 6:6 Exod 32:14 Num 23:19 1 Sam 15:11, 35 2 Sam 24:16 6:7 Deut 29:20 6:8 Exod 33:17 6:9 Job 1:1 Ezek 14:14

MATTHEW

THE ANCESTORS OF JESUS THE MESSIAH

This is a record of the ancestors of Jesus the Messiah, a descendant of David and of Abraham*:

- ² Abraham was the father of Isaac. Isaac was the father of Jacob. Jacob was the father of Judah and his brothers.
 - ³ Judah was the father of Perez and Zerah (whose mother was Tamar). Perez was the father of Hezron. Hezron was the father of Ram.*
 - ⁴ Ram was the father of Amminadab. Amminadab was the father of Nahshon. Nahshon was the father of Salmon.
 - ⁵ Salmon was the father of Boaz (whose mother was Rahab). Boaz was the father of Obed (whose mother was Ruth). Obed was the father of Jesse.
 - ⁶ Jesse was the father of King David. David was the father of Solomon (whose mother was Bathsheba, the widow of Uriah).
 - ⁷ Solomon was the father of Rehoboam. Rehoboam was the father of Abijah. Abijah was the father of Asa.*
 - ⁸ Asa was the father of Jehoshaphat. Jehoshaphat was the father of Jehoram.* Jehoram was the father* of Uzziah.
 - ⁹ Uzziah was the father of Jotham. Jotham was the father of Ahaz. Ahaz was the father of Hezekiah.
 - ¹⁰ Hezekiah was the father of Manasseh. Manasseh was the father of Amon.* Amon was the father of Josiah.
- ¹¹ Josiah was the father of Jehoiachin* and his brothers (born at the time of the exile to Babylon).
 - ¹² After the Babylonian exile: Jehoiachin was the father of Shealtiel. Shealtiel was the father of Zerubbabel.
 - ¹³ Zerubbabel was the father of Abiud. Abiud was the father of Eliakim. Eliakim was the father of Azor.
 - ¹⁴ Azor was the father of Zadok. Zadok was the father of Akim. Akim was the father of Eliud.
 - ¹⁵ Eliud was the father of Eleazar. Eleazar was the father of Matthan. Matthan was the father of Jacob.
 - ¹⁶ Jacob was the father of Joseph, the husband of Mary. Mary gave birth to Jesus, who is called the Messiah.
- ¹⁷All those listed above include fourteen generations from Abraham to David, fourteen from David to the Babylonian exile, and fourteen from the Babylonian exile to the Messiah.

THE BIRTH OF JESUS THE MESSIAH

¹⁸This is how Jesus the Messiah was born. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. But before the marriage

1:1 Greek *Jesus the Messiah, Son of David and son of Abraham*. **1:3** Greek *Aram*, a variant spelling of Ram; also in 1:4. See 1 Chr 2:9-10. **1:7** Greek *Asaph*, a variant spelling of Asa; also in 1:8. See 1 Chr 3:10. **1:8a** Greek *Joram*, a variant spelling of Jehoram; also in 1:8b. See 1 Kgs 22:50 and note at 1 Chr 3:11. **1:8b** Or *ancestor*; also in 1:11. **1:10** Greek *Amos*, a variant spelling of Amon; also in 1:10b. See 1 Chr 3:14. **1:11** Greek *Jeconiah*, a variant spelling of Jehoiachin; also in 1:12. See 2 Kgs 24:6 and note at 1 Chr 3:16.

1:1-17 // Luke 3:23-38 **1:1** Gen 22:18 2 Sam 7:12-14 1 Chr 17:11 Pss 89:3-4; 132:11 Isa 9:6; 11:1 Matt 22:42 John 7:42 Rom 1:3 Gal 3:16 Rev 22:16 **1:2** Gen 21:3, 12; 25:26; 29:35 1 Chr 1:34 **1:3** Gen 38:29-30 Ruth 4:12, 18-19 1 Chr 2:4-5, 9 **1:4-5** Ruth 4:13, 17-22 1 Chr 2:10-12, 15 Heb 11:31 **1:6** Ruth 4:17, 22 2 Sam 12:24 1 Chr 2:13-15 **1:7-10** 1 Chr 3:10-14 **1:11** 2 Kgs 24:14-16 1 Chr 3:15-16 Jer 27:20 Dan 1:1-2 **1:12** 1 Chr 3:17, 19 Ezra 3:2 **1:16** Matt 27:17, 22 Luke 2:11 **1:18-25** // Luke 2:1-7 **1:18** Luke 1:27, 35 Gal 4:4

took place, while she was still a virgin, she became pregnant through the power of the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Joseph, to whom she was engaged, was a righteous man and did not want to disgrace her publicly, so he decided to break the engagement* quietly.

²⁰As he considered this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream. "Joseph, son of David," the angel said, "do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. For the child within her was conceived by the Holy Spirit. ²¹And she will have a son, and you are to name him Jesus,* for he will save his people from their sins."

²²All of this occurred to fulfill the Lord's message through his prophet:

²³ "Look! The virgin will conceive a child! She will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel,* which means 'God is with us.'"

²⁴When Joseph woke up, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded and took Mary as his wife. ²⁵But he did not have sexual relations with her until her son was born. And Joseph named him Jesus.



VISITORS FROM THE EAST

Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the reign of King Herod. About that time some wise men* from eastern lands arrived in Jerusalem, asking, ²"Where is the newborn king of the Jews? We saw his star as it rose,* and we have come to worship him."

³King Herod was deeply disturbed when he heard this, as was everyone in Jerusalem. ⁴He called a meeting of the leading priests and teachers of religious law and asked, "Where is the Messiah supposed to be born?"

1:19 Greek to divorce her. **1:21** Jesus means "The Lord saves." **1:23** Isa 7:14; 8:8, 10 (Greek version). **2:1** Or royal astrologers; Greek reads magi; also in 2:7, 16. **2:2** Or star in the east. **2:6a** Greek the rulers. **2:6b** Mic 5:2; 2 Sam 5:2. **2:15** Hos 11:1.

⁵"In Bethlehem in Judea," they said, "for this is what the prophet wrote:

⁶ "And you, O Bethlehem in the land of Judah, are not least among the ruling cities* of Judah, for a ruler will come from you who will be the shepherd for my people Israel.*"

⁷Then Herod called for a private meeting with the wise men, and he learned from them the time when the star first appeared. ⁸Then he told them, "Go to Bethlehem and search carefully for the child. And when you find him, come back and tell me so that I can go and worship him, too!"

⁹After this interview the wise men went their way. And the star they had seen in the east guided them to Bethlehem. It went ahead of them and stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw the star, they were filled with joy! ¹¹They entered the house and saw the child with his mother, Mary, and they bowed down and worshiped him. Then they opened their treasure chests and gave him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

¹²When it was time to leave, they returned to their own country by another route, for God had warned them in a dream not to return to Herod.

THE ESCAPE TO EGYPT

¹³After the wise men were gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. "Get up! Flee to Egypt with the child and his mother," the angel said. "Stay there until I tell you to return, because Herod is going to search for the child to kill him."

¹⁴That night Joseph left for Egypt with the child and Mary, his mother, ¹⁵and they stayed there until Herod's death. This fulfilled what the Lord had spoken through the prophet: "I called my Son out of Egypt.*"

1:19 Deut 24:1 **1:20** Luke 1:35 **1:21** Luke 1:31; 2:11, 21 Acts 5:31; 13:23 Heb 7:25 **1:23** *Isa 7:14; 8:8, 10 John 1:14
 1 Tim 3:16 Rev 21:3 **1:25** Luke 1:31 **2:1** Luke 1:5; 2:4-7 **2:2** Num 24:17 Jer 23:5 Matt 2:9 Rev 22:16 **2:5** John 7:42
2:6 *Mic 5:2 **2:9** Matt 2:2 **2:11** Ps 72:10 Isa 60:6 **2:12** Matt 2:22 **2:13** Matt 1:20; 2:19 **2:15** *Hos 11:1

¹⁶Herod was furious when he realized that the wise men had outwitted him. He sent soldiers to kill all the boys in and around Bethlehem who were two years old and under, based on the wise men's report of the star's first appearance. ¹⁷Herod's brutal action fulfilled what God had spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

¹⁸ "A cry was heard in Ramah—
weeping and great mourning.
Rachel weeps for her children,
refusing to be comforted,
for they are dead."^{*}

THE RETURN TO NAZARETH

¹⁹When Herod died, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt. ²⁰"Get up!" the angel said. "Take the child and his mother back to the land of Israel, because those who were trying to kill the child are dead."

²¹So Joseph got up and returned to the land of Israel with Jesus and his mother. ²²But when he learned that the new ruler of Judea was Herod's son Archelaus, he was afraid to go there. Then, after being warned in a dream, he left for the region of Galilee. ²³So the family went and lived in a town called Nazareth. This fulfilled what the prophets had said: "He will be called a Nazarene."

3

JOHN THE BAPTIST PREPARES THE WAY

In those days John the Baptist came to the Judean wilderness and began preaching. His message was, ²"Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near."³ ³The prophet Isaiah was speaking about John when he said,

"He is a voice shouting in
the wilderness,
'Prepare the way for the LORD's coming!
Clear the road for him!'"⁴

⁴John's clothes were woven from coarse camel hair, and he wore a leather belt around his waist. For food he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁵People from Jerusalem and from all of Judea and all over the Jordan Valley went out to see and hear John. ⁶And when they confessed their sins, he baptized them in the Jordan River.

⁷But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming to watch him baptize,^{*} he denounced them. "You brood of snakes!" he exclaimed. "Who warned you to flee the coming wrath? ⁸Prove by the way you live that you have repented of your sins and turned to God. ⁹Don't just say to each other, 'We're safe, for we are descendants of Abraham.' That means nothing, for I tell you, God can create children of Abraham from these very stones. ¹⁰Even now the ax of God's judgment is poised, ready to sever the roots of the trees. Yes, every tree that does not produce good fruit will be chopped down and thrown into the fire.

¹¹"I baptize with^{*} water those who repent of their sins and turn to God. But someone is coming soon who is greater than I am—so much greater that I'm not worthy even to be his slave and carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire.^{*} ¹²He is ready to separate the chaff from the wheat with his winnowing fork. Then he will clean up the threshing area, gathering the wheat into his barn but burning the chaff with never-ending fire."

THE BAPTISM OF JESUS

¹³Then Jesus went from Galilee to the Jordan River to be baptized by John. ¹⁴But John tried to talk him out of it. "I am the one who needs to be baptized by you," he said, "so why are you coming to me?"

2:18 Jer 31:15. **3:2** Or *has come, or is coming soon.* **3:3** Isa 40:3 (Greek version). **3:7** Or *coming to be baptized.* **3:11a** Or *in.* **3:11b** Or *in the Holy Spirit and in fire.*

2:18 *Jer 31:15 **2:19** Matt 1:20; 2:12 **2:20** Exod 4:19 **2:22** Matt 2:12 **2:23** Judg 13:5, 7 Luke 2:39 John 1:45-46 Acts 4:10; 24:5
3:1-12 //Mark 1:1-8 //Luke 3:1-18 //John 1:19-28 **3:2** Matt 4:17; 10:7 Mark 1:15 **3:3** *Isa 40:3 Mal 3:1 Luke 1:76 **3:4** Lev 11:22
2 Kgs 1:8 **3:6** Mark 1:4 **3:7** Matt 12:34; 23:33 Luke 3:7; 21:23 John 8:44 Rom 5:9 Eph 5:6 Col 3:6 1 Thes 1:10
3:8 Acts 26:20 **3:9** John 8:33, 37, 39 Acts 13:26 Rom 2:28-29; 4:12 **3:10** Matt 7:19 Luke 13:7 John 15:6
3:11 John 1:26-27, 31, 33 Acts 1:5; 2:3-4; 13:24; 19:4 **3:12** Matt 13:30 **3:13-17** //Mark 1:9-11 //Luke 3:21-22

¹⁵But Jesus said, “It should be done, for we must carry out all that God requires.*” So John agreed to baptize him.

¹⁶After his baptism, as Jesus came up out of the water, the heavens were opened* and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and settling on him. ¹⁷And a voice from heaven said, “This is my dearly loved Son, who brings me great joy.”

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THE TEMPTATION OF JESUS

Then Jesus was led by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted there by the devil. ²For forty days and forty nights he fasted and became very hungry.

³During that time the devil* came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, tell these stones to become loaves of bread.”

⁴But Jesus told him, “No! The Scriptures say,

‘People do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes
from the mouth of God.’**

⁵Then the devil took him to the holy city, Jerusalem, to the highest point of the Temple, ⁶and said, “If you are the Son of God, jump off! For the Scriptures say,

‘He will order his angels to protect you.
And they will hold you up
with their hands
so you won’t even hurt your
foot on a stone.’**

⁷Jesus responded, “The Scriptures also say, ‘You must not test the LORD your God.’**”

3:15 Or for we must fulfill all righteousness. **3:16** Some manuscripts read *opened to him*. **4:3** Greek *the tempter*. **4:4** Deut 8:3. **4:6** Ps 91:11-12. **4:7** Deut 6:16. **4:10** Deut 6:13. **4:15-16** Isa 9:1-2 (Greek version). **4:17** Or *has come, or is coming soon*.

⁸Next the devil took him to the peak of a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. ⁹“I will give it all to you,” he said, “if you will kneel down and worship me.”

¹⁰“Get out of here, Satan,” Jesus told him. “For the Scriptures say,

‘You must worship the LORD your God
and serve only him.’**”

¹¹Then the devil went away, and angels came and took care of Jesus.

THE MINISTRY OF JESUS BEGINS

¹²When Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he left Judea and returned to Galilee. ¹³He went first to Nazareth, then left there and moved to Capernaum, beside the Sea of Galilee, in the region of Zebulun and Naphtali. ¹⁴This fulfilled what God said through the prophet Isaiah:

¹⁵“In the land of Zebulun
and of Naphtali,
beside the sea, beyond
the Jordan River,
in Galilee where so many
Gentiles live,
¹⁶the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light.
And for those who lived in the land
where death casts its shadow,
a light has shined.”*

¹⁷From then on Jesus began to preach, “Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the Kingdom of Heaven is near.*”

THE FIRST DISCIPLES

¹⁸One day as Jesus was walking along the shore of the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers—Simon, also called Peter, and Andrew—throwing a net into the water, for they fished for a living. ¹⁹Jesus called out to them, “Come, follow me, and I will show

3:16 Isa 11:2 John 1:31-34 **3:17** Gen 22:2 Ps 2:7 Isa 42:1 Matt 12:18; 17:5 Mark 9:7 Luke 9:35 **4:1-11** //Mark 1:12-13 //Luke 4:1-13 **4:1** Gen 3:1-7 **1** Thes 3:5 **4:2** Exod 34:28 **1** Kgs 19:8 **4:4** *Deut 8:3 **4:6** *Ps 91:11-12 **4:7** *Deut 6:16 **4:10** *Deut 6:13 **4:11** **1** Kgs 19:4-8 Luke 22:43 Heb 1:14 Jas 4:7 **4:12-17** //Mark 1:14-15 //Luke 4:14-15 **4:15-16** *Isa 9:1-2; 42:6-7 Luke 2:32 John 1:5 **4:17** Matt 3:2; 10:7 **4:18-22** //Mark 1:16-20 //Luke 5:1-11 **4:19** Matt 16:17-18 John 1:43

you how to fish for people!”²⁰ And they left their nets at once and followed him.

²¹A little farther up the shore he saw two other brothers, James and John, sitting in a boat with their father, Zebedee, repairing their nets. And he called them to come, too. ²²They immediately followed him, leaving the boat and their father behind.

CROWDS FOLLOW JESUS

²³Jesus traveled throughout the region of Galilee, teaching in the synagogues and announcing the Good News about the Kingdom. And he healed every kind of disease and illness. ²⁴News about him spread as far as Syria, and people soon began bringing to him all who were sick. And whatever their sickness or disease, or if they were demon possessed or epileptic or paralyzed—he healed them all. ²⁵Large crowds followed him wherever he went—people from Galilee, the Ten Towns,* Jerusalem, from all over Judea, and from east of the Jordan River.

5

THE SERMON ON THE MOUNT

One day as he saw the crowds gathering, Jesus went up on the mountainside and sat down. His disciples gathered around him, ²and he began to teach them.

THE BEATITUDES

- ³ “God blesses those who are poor and
realize their need for him,*
for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.
- ⁴ God blesses those who mourn,
for they will be comforted.
- ⁵ God blesses those who are humble,
for they will inherit the whole earth.
- ⁶ God blesses those who hunger
and thirst for justice,*
for they will be satisfied.
- ⁷ God blesses those who are merciful,
for they will be shown mercy.

⁸ God blesses those whose
hearts are pure,
for they will see God.

⁹ God blesses those who work for peace,
for they will be called the
children of God.

¹⁰ God blesses those who are
persecuted for doing right,
for the Kingdom of Heaven is theirs.

¹¹“God blesses you when people mock you and persecute you and lie about you and say all sorts of evil things against you because you are my followers. ¹²Be happy about it! Be very glad! For a great reward awaits you in heaven. And remember, the ancient prophets were persecuted in the same way.

TEACHING ABOUT SALT AND LIGHT

¹³“You are the salt of the earth. But what good is salt if it has lost its flavor? Can you make it salty again? It will be thrown out and trampled underfoot as worthless.

¹⁴“You are the light of the world—like a city on a hilltop that cannot be hidden.

¹⁵No one lights a lamp and then puts it under a basket. Instead, a lamp is placed on a stand, where it gives light to everyone in the house. ¹⁶In the same way, let your good deeds shine out for all to see, so that everyone will praise your heavenly Father.

TEACHING ABOUT THE LAW

¹⁷“Don’t misunderstand why I have come. I did not come to abolish the law of Moses or the writings of the prophets. No, I came to accomplish their purpose. ¹⁸I tell you the truth, until heaven and earth disappear, not even the smallest detail of God’s law will disappear until its purpose is achieved. ¹⁹So if you ignore the least commandment and teach others to do

4:25 Greek *Decapolis*. **5:3** Greek *poor in spirit*. **5:6** Or for *righteousness*.

4:20 Mark 10:28 Luke 18:28 **4:23-25** Luke 6:17-19 **4:23** Matt 9:35 Mark 1:39 Luke 4:15 **5:1** Luke 6:12 John 6:3
5:3-12 // Luke 6:20-23 **5:3** Isa 57:15 Matt 25:34 **5:4** Isa 61:2-3 **5:5** Ps 37:11 Rom 4:13 **5:6** Isa 55:1-2 **5:7** Matt 18:33
Jas 2:13 **5:8** Ps 24:3-5 **5:9** Heb 12:14 Jas 3:18 **5:10** 2 Tim 2:12 **5:11** Matt 10:22 1 Pet 4:14 **5:12** 2 Chr 36:16
Matt 23:30, 37 Acts 7:52 Heb 11:32-38 Jas 5:10 **5:13** Mark 9:50 Luke 14:34-35 **5:14** John 8:12; 9:5 Phil 2:15
5:15 Mark 4:21 Luke 8:16; 11:33 **5:16** Eph 5:8-9 1 Pet 2:12 **5:17** Rom 3:31
5:18 Luke 16:17; 21:33 **5:19** Jas 2:10

the same, you will be called the least in the Kingdom of Heaven. But anyone who obeys God's laws and teaches them will be called great in the Kingdom of Heaven.

²⁰"But I warn you—unless your righteousness is better than the righteousness of the teachers of religious law and the Pharisees, you will never enter the Kingdom of Heaven!

TEACHING ABOUT ANGER

²¹"You have heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not murder. If you commit murder, you are subject to judgment.'^{*}

²²But I say, if you are even angry with someone,^{*} you are subject to judgment! If you call someone an idiot,^{*} you are in danger of being brought before the court. And if you curse someone,^{*} you are in danger of the fires of hell.^{*}

²³"So if you are presenting a sacrifice^{*} at the altar in the Temple and you suddenly remember that someone has something against you,²⁴leave your sacrifice there at the altar. Go and be reconciled to that person. Then come and offer your sacrifice to God.

²⁵"When you are on the way to court with your adversary, settle your differences quickly. Otherwise, your accuser may hand you over to the judge, who will hand you over to an officer, and you will be thrown into prison. ²⁶And if that happens, you surely won't be free again until you have paid the last penny.^{*}

TEACHING ABOUT ADULTERY

²⁷"You have heard the commandment that says, 'You must not commit adultery.'^{*}

5:21 Exod 20:13; Deut 5:17. **5:22a** Some manuscripts add *without cause*. **5:22b** Greek uses an Aramaic term of contempt: *If you say to your brother, 'Raca.'* **5:22c** Greek *if you say, 'You fool.'* **5:22d** Greek *Gehenna*; also in 5:29, 30. **5:23** Greek *gift*; also in 5:24. **5:26** Greek *the last kodrantes* [i.e., quadrans]. **5:27** Exod 20:14; Deut 5:18. **5:29** Greek *your right eye*. **5:30** Greek *your right hand*. **5:31** Deut 24:1. **5:33** Num 30:2. **5:38** Greek *the law that says: 'An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.'* Exod 21:24; Lev 24:20; Deut 19:21.

²⁸But I say, anyone who even looks at a woman with lust has already committed adultery with her in his heart. ²⁹So if your eye—even your good eye^{*}—causes you to lust, gouge it out and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell. ³⁰And if your hand—even your stronger hand^{*}—causes you to sin, cut it off and throw it away. It is better for you to lose one part of your body than for your whole body to be thrown into hell.

TEACHING ABOUT DIVORCE

³¹"You have heard the law that says, 'A man can divorce his wife by merely giving her a written notice of divorce.'^{*} ³²But I say that a man who divorces his wife, unless she has been unfaithful, causes her to commit adultery. And anyone who marries a divorced woman also commits adultery.

TEACHING ABOUT VOWS

³³"You have also heard that our ancestors were told, 'You must not break your vows; you must carry out the vows you make to the LORD.'^{*} ³⁴But I say, do not make any vows! Do not say, 'By heaven!' because heaven is God's throne. ³⁵And do not say, 'By the earth!' because the earth is his footstool. And do not say, 'By Jerusalem!' for Jerusalem is the city of the great King. ³⁶Do not even say, 'By my head!' for you can't turn one hair white or black. ³⁷Just say a simple, 'Yes, I will,' or 'No, I won't.' Anything beyond this is from the evil one.

TEACHING ABOUT REVENGE

³⁸"You have heard the law that says the punishment must match the injury: 'An eye for an eye, and a tooth for a tooth.'^{*} ³⁹But I say, do not resist an evil person! If someone slaps you on the right cheek, offer the other cheek also. ⁴⁰If you are sued in court and your shirt is taken from

5:20 Matt 6:1 **5:21** *Exod 20:13 *Deut 5:17 Matt 19:18 Mark 10:19 Luke 18:20 Rom 13:9 Jas 2:11 **5:22** Eph 4:26 Jas 1:19-20 1 Jn 3:15 **5:25-26** Matt 18:34-35 Luke 12:58-59 **5:27** *Exod 20:14 *Deut 5:18 Matt 19:18 Mark 10:19 Luke 18:20 Rom 13:9 Jas 2:11 **5:29-30** Matt 18:8-9 Mark 9:43-47 **5:31** *Deut 24:1 Matt 19:7 Mark 10:4 **5:32** 1 Cor 7:10-11 **5:33** Lev 19:12 Num 30:2 Deut 23:21 **5:34** Isa 66:1 Matt 23:12 Jas 5:12 **5:35** Ps 48:2 Isa 66:1 **5:37** Jas 5:12 **5:38-48** //Luke 6:27-35 **5:38** *Exod 21:24 *Lev 24:20 *Deut 19:21 **5:39** Rom 12:17 1 Cor 6:7 1 Pet 3:9 **5:40** 1 Cor 6:7