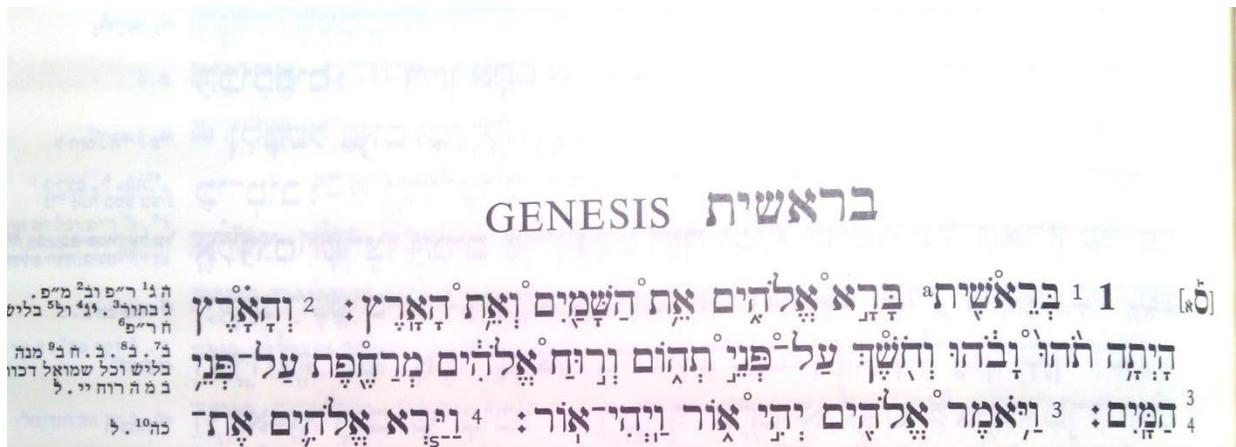


# The Book of Genesis

Some Background to the book of Genesis:

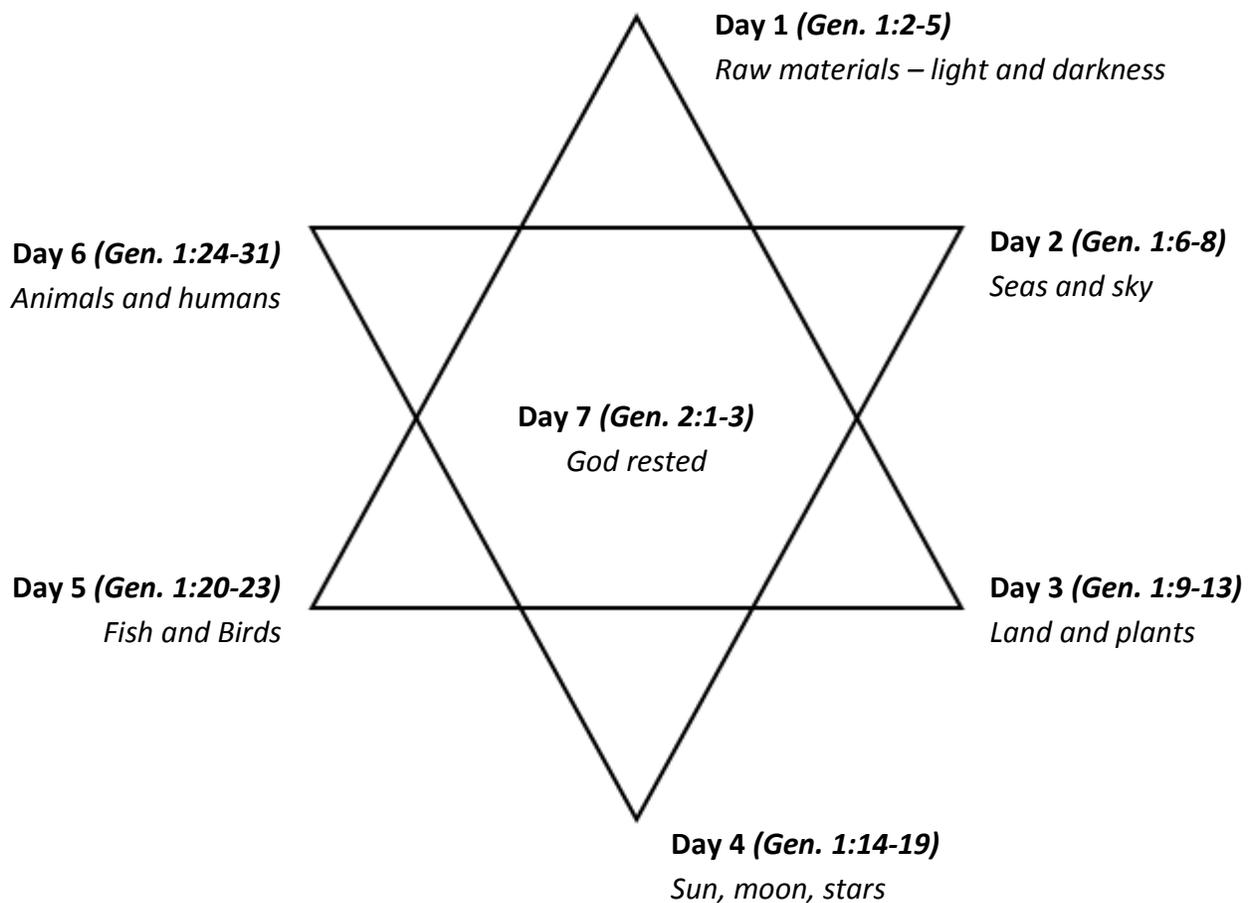
- Who wrote the book of Genesis?
- When was this book written?
- How did Moses know what to write in the book of Genesis?
- Why is this book called Genesis?



“To appreciate the unique structure of the book of Genesis, it will be helpful to remember that Moses arranged his literary material in ten sections, each introduced by the formula ‘This is the account of...’ These ten accounts are minihistories and illustrate how from the very beginning of time God has been interested and active in establishing a family of believers...In each case, the account does not tell us of the *origin* of the person or thing named but of its *subsequent history*, and always with reference to God’s great plan of salvation.” (People’s Bible: Genesis, p.5)

1. Heaven and Earth	(2:4-4:36)	6. Terah	(11:27-25:11)
2. Adam	(5:1-6:8)	7. Ishmael	(25:12-18)
3. Noah	(6:9-9:29)	8. Isaac	(25:19-35:29)
4. Sons of Noah	(10:1-11:9)	9. Esau	(36:1-27:1)
5. Shem	(11:10-26)	10. Jacob	(37:2-50:26)

- How long did it take for God to create the world?
- Use the “Creator’s Star” below to chart the orderliness of the creation account.



- How did God create everything on days 1 – 5?
- What is different about day 6?

- What does the repeated phrase “according to their kinds” add to our understanding of creation?
  - Verses 11-12 – <sup>11</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds.” And it was so. <sup>12</sup> The earth produced vegetation: seed-bearing plants according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.
  - Verse 21 – <sup>21</sup> So God created the large sea-creatures and every living creature that moves and swarms in the water, according to their kinds. He also created every winged bird according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.
  - Verses 24-25 – <sup>24</sup> Then God said, “Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that crawl, and the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds.” And it was so. <sup>25</sup> So God made the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and creatures that crawl on the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

#### Read Genesis 2:4-25

- How was the first man created? What does that tell you about man?
- Why did God create a tree that man was not supposed to eat from? (verses 16-17)
- In Genesis 1:27, we read, “So God created man in His own image; He created him in the image of God; He created them male and female.” What is the image of God and how is that on display in these verses?
- What do we see taking place in verses 24-25?

#### Read Genesis 1:31

- What does God have to say about his creation?

- What does it mean to sin?



## Read Genesis 3:1

- What doesn't seem right about this verse?
- Note the subtle, yet dangerous shift! (*cf. Genesis 2:16-17*)

## Read Genesis 3:2-5

- Note the vagueness and the subtle shifts that the serpent twists into his words:
  - “your eyes will be opened”
  - “you will be like God”
  - “knowing good and evil”
- To whom was the serpent talking in these verses?

## Read Genesis 3:6-7

- What was the purpose of the tree in the middle of the garden?

Read Genesis 3:8-13

- Sin changes things with regard to our relationship with God. How is that displayed here?
  
- Note how quickly sin snowballs! The man and woman did not accept responsibility for their sin, but rather began the blame game.
  - Who did the man blame?
  
  - Who did the woman blame?

Read Genesis 3:14-15

- What is verse 15 talking about?