

Genesis Catechism

Q1: What is Genesis about?

A: The outline of Genesis is as follows:

- **Genesis 1-3: Creation and Fall**
- **Genesis 4-11: Violence, the Flood, and the Nations**
- **Genesis 12-25: Abraham**
- **Genesis 26-36: Isaac and Jacob**
- **Genesis 37-50: Joseph**

Q2: What do we learn from the story of the Creation?

A: We learn that God is the Sovereign Creator of all things,¹ creation is good², and human beings were created in God's image with glory and honor³ and then blessed by God to help bring creation to Sabbath rest. God is the King⁴ and we are His royal priests⁵!

Q3: What is the promise of the Fall?

A: The promise of the Fall is that sin and rebellion leads to exile and death, but the Seed of the Woman will bring salvation in victory over the Serpent⁶. God and His people will make things right!

Q4: What are some of the effects of the fall?

A: Blaming others, not taking responsibility for our sin⁷, envy and pride leading to anger and harming others⁸, foolish rejection of authority, and cities built on rebellion⁹. Help us Lord to see, confess, and hate all of this!

Q5: Why was there a flood?

A: Genesis 6:5: "The Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every intention of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." God hates sin that ruins His world!

¹ Psalm 33:1-9

² See repetition of "good" and then use of "very good" in Gen 1

³ Read Psalm 8

⁴ Psalm 96:1-6

⁵ See Bible Project video on day of Genesis 3 reading; 1 Peter 2:9; Rev 1:5-6; 5:9-10

⁶ See Genesis 3:14-15

⁷ See Gen 3:9-13; discuss ways you and your children do this

⁸ See Gen 4

⁹ See Gen 4:17-24; 11:1-9

Q6: Who was Noah?

A: Noah was God's promised rest¹⁰. He trusted and obeyed God by building the ark¹¹, and God brought him safely through the flood into a renewed world¹². God judged sin, but He remained faithful to His creation and to His covenant promises.

Q7: Who was Abraham?

A: God promised Abraham a land, a seed, and a blessing to all nations¹³.

Q8: Who was Isaac?

A: Isaac was Abraham's promised son. His name means "laughter" reminding us that God fulfilled His impossible promise to Abraham and Sarah¹⁴. Isaac inherited God's covenant¹⁵, dug wells, and blessed Jacob instead of Esau.

Q9: Who was Jacob?

A: Jacob was the deceiver who saw heaven and earth connected¹⁶, who wrestled with God¹⁷, and learned that the blessing comes from God alone.

Q10: What is the story of Joseph about?

A: Joseph was the faithful son of Jacob who lost his colorful coat, suffered much in Egypt, refused to be a victim, and saved Pharaoh and his brothers. God help us to be faithful and forgiving¹⁸ like Joseph!

Q11: Does Genesis give us hope for God's creation?

A: Yes, God declares His creation good, and Genesis gives us great hope and confidence for the renewal of creation through God's covenant promises and His blessing in and through His people.

Q12: How does Genesis lead us to new life in Jesus?

A: Jesus is the promised Seed of Abraham¹⁹ and King from the line of Judah²⁰ through whom the enemies of God are defeated, the good world is brought to Sabbath rest, heaven

¹⁰ Gen 5:29 – "Noah" means "rest"- here is another indication that God will bring rest to His creation even in the midst of human sin

¹¹ Gen 6:22

¹² Gen 9:1-17 – see God's grace in putting structures in place showing His ongoing commitment to creation and man's image role in it

¹³ Gen 12:1-3

¹⁴ Gen 18:10-15; 21:1-7

¹⁵ Gen 24:1-7

¹⁶ Gen 28:10-22; see video on "Anointing" on day of Gen 28 reading

¹⁷ Gen 32:22-32

¹⁸ Gen 50:19-21

¹⁹ Matt 1:1; Gal 3:15-18

²⁰ See Gen 49:8-12, then Matthew 1:2-16; Heb 7:14; Rev 5:5

comes to earth²¹, and a righteous city is built²². He brings us to rest²³ and happy obedience²⁴ as we live in His victory. Bless us, O Lord, so that we might live in the victory of Jesus!

²¹ John 1:49-51

²² Matthew 5:14; Rev 21:1-8

²³ Matt 11:28-30; also see 12:1-8 afterwards on Sabbath

²⁴ Ephesians 2:10; Phill 1:9-11; Titus 2:11-15; 2 Thess 2:16-17; Heb 13:20-21