

Bible Study Leader's Help for Get Your Bible out of the Saddle Bag Volume 1: Genesis thru Esther:

Genesis

- **Generation:**

In Genesis we have Origin of the world-man- sin-spread of mankind-increase of sin-flood-new start-Shem- Terah-Abraham-Isaac-Jacob-Joseph. In the Book of Genesis, God is made the first cause.

- **Degeneration:**

The origin of Man's sin comes to surface. Everything we know about sin we can learn from the third chapter of Genesis.

- **Regeneration:**

All things were created for man. Sin keeps him from them. Man was made to have dominion. Sin keeps him from being Lord of Creation but, according to the book of Genesis, sins can be forgiven.

Spiritual Lessons:

1. Back of all things-God.
2. Man is God's highest creation.
3. Sin is our greatest enemy, because it keeps us from realizing our divine purpose.
4. Family is the unity of society. (One man and one woman)
5. God intended for the human race to have communion with Him. That is why the Power of Prayer is so needed in all of our lives.
6. God imparts His power to humanity. He provided for Abraham and God will provide for us. He protected Joseph and He wants to protect you.

Exodus (Leader Notes)

Bondage:

- A Pharaoh arose who knew not Joseph. What this means?
- The growth of the Hebrew Nation was a threat to Egypt.
- The oppression was to decrease the population. Notice the steps were taken.
- Moses life was divided into three forty year periods.
 1. His 40 years in Egypt
 2. His 40 years in the Wilderness
 3. His 40 years in leading Egypt to the Promised Land

Deliverance:

- God leading Moses back to Egypt.
- God using the plagues
- God dividing the Red Sea
- God using cloud by day and the fire by night.
- God providing food and water.

Organization:

- The Commandments
- The Feast
- Tabernacle

The Book of Exodus closes with God's guidance by a pillar of fire and a pillar of clouds by day. How does God guide you today?

The Book of Leviticus (Leader Notes)

Offerings: Chapters 1-7

- **Burnt offerings** show a need for perfect dedication. It was the oldest offering. Lamb without blemish, perfect in quality and quantity. Signifies the perfect life.
- **Meat offering** signifies perfect service.
- **Peace Offering: Thanks Offering.**
It carries the thought of communion. Here we have the perfect communion.
- **Sin Offering:** An offering for our willful transgression.
- **Trespass Offering:** This offering was for a definite act of wrong doing and willful wrong doing.

Priesthood: Chapters 8-10

Uncleanness and Purification: 11-12

- Here is the list of animals to be used And not to be used for food.

The Feasts: 23-24

The Sabbath; Passover; Unleavened Bread; First Fruits; Pentecost; Trumpets; Day of Atonement; Tabernacles of Booths

Symbols of Relation: 25-27

Thoughts:

We see that the Tabernacle is the center of the life of the people. As we look at the feast and the offerings we see the seriousness of sins and the need for forgiveness and cleansing.

Christ is Our High Priest and became the Ultimate Offering. How is important is 1 John 1:9 in our Christian Life?

Numbers (Leader Notes)

Genesis covers thousands of years; Exodus something over 80 years; Leviticus 50 days; Numbers about 30 years.

The Name: Numbers because there were two times the people were numbered. They were numbered at Sinai at the beginning and Moab at the end of the book.

Period covered: The wilderness period.

Preparation for entrance; Chapters 1-10

Numbering 20 years and up. We see that order is seen in everything.

A Generation that Fails:

- Murmurings and complaining caused by unbelief.
- 70 elders appointed to help Moses.
- Sending of the spies. Majority and Minority reports. It cost the Israelites more to stay out than to go in.
- Revolts of Aaron, Miriam, Korah, Dathan and Abiram.
- Death of Miriam and unbelief of Moses and Aaron. (Both kept out of the Promised land)
- Visitation of serpents and brazen serpent on the pole.
- The sadness of mankind: Thoughts of leeks, onions and melons, but not of taskmasters.

A Generation that will Succeed:

- Joshua chosen to succeed Moses.
- Directions given for division of the land.
- 48 cities for the Levites of which 6 are to be cities of refuge.

Thoughts: We see God in history here. One generation may fail, but God raises another.

Deuteronomy (Notes for Leader)

Deuteronomy covers about two to three months.

This book makes up the three addresses of Moses.

G. Campbell Morgan called it "The Book of Reviews."

A repetition of the Law: Chapter 4

The Commissioning of Joshua and the charge from Moses: (27-31)

The great song: Chapter 32

The Death of Moses...

It is always good to remember God's Law.

Thoughts:

In Chapter 34 we see Moses climbing Mount Nebo from the plains of Moab. When he arrived, the Lord showed him the Promised Land. He also heard the promises of God.

What would you like to see before you die? What does it mean to know God face to face?

What great lessons have you learned from the life of Moses?

The Book of Deuteronomy was called the "Book of Review." It is good to review what God has done and what he wants to do for you.

Joshua (Notes for Leader)

This book covers twenty-five years.

The Conquest of the Land- Chapters 1-12

**Consecration; Crossing the Jordan; Headquarters at Gilgal;
Conquering Jericho,**

In all there were 13 Kings conquered in two great battles-one in the south and one in the north.

Conclusion: Chapters 23-24

Two address by Joshua and then his death.

Lessons:

- **Trust and follow God's leader**
- **Accept God's Plan**
- **Compromise will always bring defeat**
- **Only in God's strength is there security**
- **Remember be strong and of good courage**
- **Be obedient to God's word.**

Judges & Ruth: (Notes for Leader)

Judges:

Judges because of a period covered. The Book of Ruth has its name because of the main character in the book.

Time covered: From the death of Joshua to the birth of Samuel. (Covers about 400 years)

Judges: there were 12. Six are mentioned at length. They did what they thought in their own eyes and not in the eyes of God.

The Israelites committed Idolatry and did not keep their Vows to God.

Thoughts:

Look at Chapter six:

- Notice God's patience with Gideon
- Notice Gideon's Fear, Faith and Fleece
- When was the last time you took a risk for God?
- Remember you and God make a majority

Ruth:

The Book of Ruth starts out bad but ends with gladness. From Boaz and Ruth we have: Obed then Jessie and David. It is another passage that shows us that God is preparing His people for a Savior.

Boaz was the Kinsmen Redeemer for Naomi and Ruth. How is Christ our Kinsmen Redeemer?

First & Second Samuel (Leader Notes)

The Books of First & Second Samuel cover about 100 years.

First Samuel:

- We see the birth and childhood of Samuel and the faith of his mother, Hannah
- We see the failing of Eli as a father and the sinfulness of his sons
- We see the demands of the Israelites for a King. Saul is appointed.
- Saul fails and David is anointed. David defeats Goliath and Saul becomes jealous pursues David.
- The friendship of David and Jonathan.
- David sparing Saul's life twice
- Saul takes his own life

Thoughts:

We see some great faith walking in I Samuel. Talk about the following:

- Hannah; Samuel; David against Goliath;

We see the put down and rejection of David by his father; brothers and Saul. How did David deal with the rejection?

Saul's greatest enemy was jealousy. How does jealousy destroy people?

The wife of Phinehas while dying, gave birth to a son and she named him Ichabod, which means "The Glory has departed." She did this in reference to the evilness of her husband and the death of her husband, father-in-law and brother-in-law and the capturing of the Ark of the Covenant by the Philistines.

Where has the "Glory Departed "in America and why? How can God's glory be restored?

Second Samuel:

The Success and Failures of David

David was anointed King over Judah in Chapter Three and King over Israel in Chapter Five.

We see David and Bathsheba and the sin of adultery and murder starts in Chapter 11. This is a turning point in the book. David's household is affected in negative way from then on.

- **David is rebuked**
- **Baby dies**
- **Tamar is raped by her step brother, Amnon**
- **Amnon is killed Absalom**
- **Absalom betray his father, David and dies in battle**

Chapter 22: God delivers David and in chapter 23 we see David's Mighty Men

Thoughts:

- **David was called a "Man after God's own heart." What does that mean and why that description?**
- **David's idleness led to his sin. It has been said that "Idleness is the Devil's workshop." How is that statement true?**
- **Would you agree that David was not a good parent?**
- **David came back to God. Look at Psalm 51. What can we learn from his confession in this Psalm?**

First & Second Kings (Leader notes)

It is called Kings because it gives an account of the history during the greater portion of the monarchial period.

These two books treated together because they were once one book.

These books have a place for the prophets. We see Nathan as he enthrones Solomon as king. We see Elijah and Elisha and their journey with God and how God worked in their lives.

We see that God blessed the nation when they were loyal to him.

We see the greatness of Solomon.

We see the Davidic line of the Kings of Israel.

First Kings:

- In the first chapter of I Kings we see the passing of David and in chapters 2 thru 11 we see the reign of Solomon. In chapters 12-16 we see the division of the Kingdom of Israel.
- In chapters 17-22, we see the life and ministry of the prophet Elijah.

Second Kings:

- In Chapters 1-9 of 2 Kings, we see Elijah's successor Elisha and his ministry. God performed twice as many miracles through Elisha than Elijah.
- In Chapters 10-25, we see the corruption and the downfall of Israel and eventually their defeat and exile.

Thoughts:

Solomon was granted whatever he wanted so he chose to receive God's wisdom. Look how Solomon used God's wisdom in I Kings 3: 16-28. As a believer we can also receive God's wisdom. Look at James 1:5

How do you make important decisions?

Elijah had a great victory on Mount Carmel in I Kings 18. In the next chapter we see him running from Queen Jezebel. What a great lesson for us one day we operate in the faith in God and the next day we operate by fear of man.

First & Second Chronicles (Notes for Leaders)

First Chronicles is a reminder of the exiled family of Israelites and their place in history.

Second Chronicles is to remind the exiles of the importance of worship of the Jewish people.

The first 14 chapters of 2 Chronicles spend a good deal of time on Solomon and his reign, the building of the Temple and the challenge to Israel to worship and live for God.

2 Chronicles 7:14 is a great challenge for the people of God. It is also a challenge for believers today. This great challenge could bring revival to America. Read and discuss.

Ezra & Nehemiah (Notes for Leaders)

These two books cover 110 years. The two books deal with the return and the rebuilding of Jerusalem. Ezra, and the rebuilding of the Temple and Nehemiah, the rebuilding of the walls.

538 BC the Capture of Babylon and Decree of Cyrus all the way to 332 BC the Conquest of Persian Empire by Alexander the Great.

Think about the following passages and discuss;

Nehemiah 4:8 "The people had a mind to work."

Nehemiah 8:10 "The joy of the Lord is my strength."

Look at the Prominence of the Scriptures in Chapter 8 & 13 of Nehemiah. They treated the Scriptures with respect.

Look at faithfulness of Nehemiah & Ezra and faithfulness of God and His promises.

The Book of Esther (Notes for the Leader)

The events of this Book happened in the third century BC.

God used Esther and she met the challenge of "For such a time as this." This is a great story about God intervening through people like Haman and Esther. It shows that God does overcome evil and evil people like Mordecai.

We see beauty that was dedicated to God.

We also see determination.

Finish this phrase: For such a times as this we as believers need to...

