

BOOK 1

MAN: BEFORE THE WATERS

The Oldest Story of Man - Read Genesis 2-11 Before Genesis 1 Gets a Vote

Core study: Genesis 2:4 through Genesis 11

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UNTRAINED THINKERS

HOW THIS BOOK MUST BE READ

The Control Rule



For this study, Genesis chapter 1 is temporarily removed from the table. We do not use it to explain Genesis 2, force Genesis 2 into a chronology, or answer questions that Genesis 2-11 can answer for itself.

The purpose is not to prove the Untrained Thinkers theory in advance. It is to establish the man's-eye storyline first and then see what the text actually gives us.

> **CONTROL RULE: Establish Genesis 2-11 independently. Only afterward bring Genesis 1 back and test where - or whether - it fits.**

THE GENESIS 2 CORE TEACHING

Man's Storyline

This sequence is the locked control timeline for Book 1.

1	Dry ground / man
2	Eden
3	Sin
4	Expulsion
5	Descendants
6	Corruption
7	Ruined earth
8	Water judgment
9	Waters increase
10	World submerged
11	Wind
12	Waters decrease
13	Land appears
14	Life exits the Ark
15	Blessing
16	Multiplication
17	Families
18	Nations
19	Languages
20	Earth populated

GENESIS 2

The Man From the Ground



Genesis 2:4 begins a history of the heavens and the earth and quickly places the reader at ground level: land, soil, vegetation, water, and a man who is formed from dust.

Jehovah forms the man, gives him life, plants Eden, gives instruction, brings living creatures to him, and the man names them. The woman is then presented as his partner. This is the beginning of the human story in our control study.

BOOK 1 QUESTION: If Genesis 1 were unavailable, could we still understand where man, the animals, Eden, marriage and God's command enter the story? Yes - Genesis 2 supplies them.

GENESIS 3

The Break in the Relationship



Genesis 3 moves from instruction to disobedience. The serpent challenges God's word, the humans eat, judgment follows, and access to the tree of life is blocked.

Genesis 3:15 also introduces a forward-looking conflict involving the serpent, a woman and offspring. Book 1 records the promise; it does not assume its complete fulfillment has already arrived.

PRESSURE TEST: Read Genesis 3:15 as a promise inside man's story. Then follow the story forward and ask where Scripture itself shows that promise reaching fulfillment.

GENESIS 4-6

From Family to a Ruined Earth



Genesis 4 and 5 move through descendants, death, violence and generations. Genesis 6 then describes a world whose human conduct has become deeply corrupt and violent.

The Flood therefore does not appear without a narrative cause. Book 1 has already shown the progression: command -> disobedience -> descendants -> worsening corruption -> judgment.

The Flood is not introduced as a weather story. It is introduced as judgment on a ruined, violent world.

GENESIS 7:11

The Water Does Not Come From Rain Alone



This point is locked into the study: the Flood account identifies more than rainfall. Genesis 7:11 describes the fountains or springs of the GREAT DEEP breaking open and the floodgates of the heavens opening.

Rain is part of the event, but it is not the whole water source described by the text. When Genesis 1 is eventually allowed back into the study, its 'deep' / 'watery deep' language must be compared carefully with the 'great deep' language here - without assuming in advance that they are identical.

WORD GARDEN TO SAVE FOR BOOK 2: GREAT DEEP (Genesis 7:11) <-> WATERY DEEP (Genesis 1:2). Compare the Hebrew, context, direction of the waters and narrative function.

GENESIS 7

The Earth Fills With Water



Genesis 7 gives the increasing-water side of the story. The waters rise, become mighty, lift the Ark and eventually overwhelm the land. This is where man's account explicitly describes the world becoming submerged.

That direction matters. We should not accidentally make Genesis 1 describe the filling stage when Genesis 1:2 begins with waters already present.

MAN'S ACCOUNT: waters INCREASE -> world SUBMERGED. Keep that direction separate from the later draining/receding stage.

GENESIS 8

Wind, Recession and Dry Ground



Genesis 8 reverses the direction. God remembers Noah, a wind passes over the earth, the water sources are restrained, the waters steadily recede, mountain tops become visible, and the ground eventually dries.

Life then exits the Ark. Genesis 8:19 describes the creatures leaving in their family/groupings. The Ark therefore carries living representatives through the judgment into the world that follows.

BOOK 1 OBSERVATION: water-covered world -> wind -> decreasing waters -> visible land -> dry ground -> life comes out.

GENESIS 9-11

Blessing, Families, Nations and Languages



After the Flood, Noah and his sons are blessed and told to be fruitful, multiply and fill the earth. Genesis 10 traces families, lands, languages and nations. Genesis 11 explains the scattering and language division at Babel.

Book 1 therefore reaches an earth populated by human families and nations without needing Genesis 1 to supply the storyline.

END OF BOOK 1 CONTROL STORY: man -> rebellion -> ruined earth -> judgment -> preservation -> dry ground -> renewed human expansion -> families -> nations -> languages.

UNTRAINED THINKERS CHECKPOINT

What Book 1 Proves - and What It Does Not



Book 1 proves a limited but important point: Genesis 2-11 can be followed as a coherent human-history narrative on its own terms.

It does NOT by itself prove that Genesis 1 happened after the Flood. That claim must survive Book 2, where Genesis 1 is finally brought back and tested against the timeline we established without it.

UNTRAINED THINKERS: We ask. We examine. We study. We apply. We grow. The Bible has the answers.