

part 1: chapters 1-11 Prologue to the Entire Bible



SIMPLE SUMMARY:

Genesis begins with Creation (chapters 1-2) and then shows how humanity, left to its own choices, will ruin everything, culminating in the story of the Tower of Babel (chapters 3-11).



KEYS FOR INTERPRETATION:

Every word, every detail is intentional; nothing is accidental. When confused, ask, "Why is this detail here? Why is this detail omitted?"

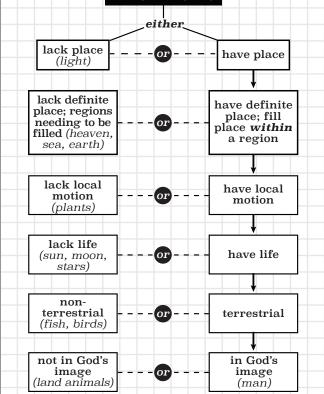
CONTEXT MATTERS.

What does it mean that this story follows that story?

GENESIS 1 - CREATION

THE BIG IDEA: nothing in Creation is divine; everything was made by the Creator. Don't worship the world.

ALL CREATURES





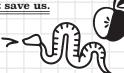
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GENESIS 2-3 — HUMAN INNOCENCE AND HUMAN DESIRE



THE BIG IDEA: Humanity cannot define good and evil for itself. Human reason and

human nature won't save us.



GENESIS 4 - FRATRICIDE

THE BIG IDEA: This is what unregulated human life is like, once we take right and wrong into our own hands. Anarchy and Revolution won't save us.

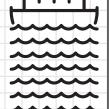
GENESIS 5-10 — FLOOD



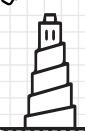
THE BIG IDEA:

Even starting over won't fix the problem with humanity, as the episode of Noah's drunkenness shows.

Family won't save us.



GENESIS 11 – BABEL



THE BIG IDEA:

Human power and human wickedness are so great that if they are joined together Creation itself is at risk.

Technology won't save us.

