## A PASSAGE THROUGH THE OLD TESTAMENT

# Year One, Quarter One "In the Beginning"



a two year study in the books of the Old Testament

arranged into eight 13 lesson series

by J.S. Smith

Year One, First Quarter: "Ir	The Beginning"	Year Two, First Quarter: "l	srael and Judah"
1. Creation	Gen. 1-2	1. David's Demise	1 Kings 1-2
2. Sin	Gen. 3-4	2. Solomon's Splendor	1 Kings 3-10
3. Noah's Ark	Gen. 6-10	3. Solomon's Demise	1 Kings 11
4. Promises to Abraham	Gen. 11-12, 15-18	4. Rehoboam and Jeroboam	1 Kings 12-16
5. Sodom and Gomorrah	Gen. 13-14, 18-19	5. Elijah	1 Kings 17-19
6. Abraham, Sarah and Isaac	Gen. 20-24	6. Ahab and Jezebel	1 Kings 20-22
7. Jacob and Esau	Gen. 25-28, 32-33, 36	7. Elisha	2 Kings 1-4, 6
8. Jacob and Rachel	Gen. 29-31, 34-35	8. Naaman the Leper	2 Kings 5
9. Joseph Sold Into Slavery	Gen. 37-38	9. Bloody Reigns	2 Kings 7-12
10. Joseph Imprisoned	Gen. 39	10. Fall of Israel	2 Kings 13-17
11. Joseph Interprets Dreams	Gen. 40-41	11. Hezekiah	2 Kings 18-21
12. Providence	Gen. 42-45	12. Josiah	2 Kings 22-23
13. Reunited	Gen. 46-50	13. Fall of Judah	2 Kings 24-25
Year One, Second Quarter: "Fro	om Fount to Canaan"	Year Two, Second Quarter: "T	The Major Prophets"
1. Call of Moses	Exod. 1-5	1. Isaiah, Part A	Isa. 1-39
2. The Nine Plagues	Exod. 6-10	2. Isaiah, Part B	Isa. 40-55
3. The Passover	Exod. 0-10 Exod. 11-13	3. Isaiah, Part C	Isa. 56-66
4. Crossing the Red Sea	Exod. 11-13 Exod. 14-18	4. Jeremiah, Part A	Jer. 1-20
5. The Ten Commandments	Exod. 19-31	5. Jeremiah, Part B	Jer. 21-39
6. The Golden Calf	Exod. 32-40	6. Jeremiah, Part C	Jer. 40-52
7. Nadab and Abihu	Lev. 1-10	7. Lamentations	Lam. 1-5
8. Holy Living	Lev. 11-27	8. Ezekiel, Part A	Ezek. 1-24
9. Leaving Sinai for Canaan	Num. 1-10	9. Ezekiel, Part B	Ezek. 25-32
10. Loyalty and Disloyalty	Num. 11-21	10. Ezekiel, Part C	Ezek. 23-32 Ezek. 33-48
11. Balaam and Balak	Num. 22-36	11. Daniel, Part A	Dan. 1-3
12. Moses's Review	Deut. 1-4	12. Daniel, Part B	Dan. 4-6
13. Moses's Final Charge	Deut. 1-4 Deut. 5-34	13. Daniel, Part C	Dan. 7-12
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Year One, Third Quarter: "		Year Two, Third Quarter: "T	he Minor Prophets"
1. Entrance Into The Land	Joshua 1-4	1. Joel	he Minor Prophets"
<ol> <li>Entrance Into The Land</li> <li>Jericho</li> </ol>	Joshua 1-4 Joshua 5-6	<ol> <li>Joel</li> <li>Jonah</li> </ol>	he Minor Prophets"
<ol> <li>Entrance Into The Land</li> <li>Jericho</li> <li>Ai and Other Conquests</li> </ol>	Joshua 1-4 Joshua 5-6 Joshua 7-21	<ol> <li>Joel</li> <li>Jonah</li> <li>Amos</li> </ol>	he Minor Prophets"
<ol> <li>Entrance Into The Land</li> <li>Jericho</li> <li>Ai and Other Conquests</li> <li>Covenant Matters</li> </ol>	Joshua 1-4 Joshua 5-6 Joshua 7-21 Joshua 22-24	<ol> <li>Joel</li> <li>Jonah</li> <li>Amos</li> <li>Hosea</li> </ol>	he Minor Prophets"
<ol> <li>Entrance Into The Land</li> <li>Jericho</li> <li>Ai and Other Conquests</li> <li>Covenant Matters</li> <li>Failure to Drive Out Canaanites</li> </ol>	Joshua 1-4 Joshua 5-6 Joshua 7-21 Joshua 22-24 Judges 1-2	<ol> <li>Joel</li> <li>Jonah</li> <li>Amos</li> <li>Hosea</li> <li>Micah</li> </ol>	he Minor Prophets"
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#### Lesson 1: Creation Genesis 1-2

1. (Gen. 1:1-2) A children's question is "Where did God stand when he created the universe?". How would you answer that? 2. (1:3-31) List what God created on each day: • The first day: • The second day: • The third day: • The fourth day: • The fifth day: • The sixth day: 3. In whose image did God create man? Since God is spirit, what does this mean? 4. What instruction did God give man? 5. Was man created good or evil? 6. (2:1-3) By what name was the seventh day later called? 7. (2:4-17) What material did God use to form man? Does this harmonize with science? 8. Where did God place man? What was his job there? 9. What two prominent trees were planted there? What was God's warning to him?

10. (2:18-25) What deficiency did God recognize in man's life? How did he intend to fill it?

11. What task did God busy Adam with in the meanwhile?
12. What material did God use to form Adam's companion?
13. What does Adam's response to her appearance teach us about the marital relationship?
14. There are three instructions for marriage given in verse 24. What are they? Explain each one.

#### Lesson 2: Sin Genesis 3-4

1. (Gen. 3:1-7) From which tree did God forbid Adam and Eve to eat? Why (cf. 2:17)?
2. How did the serpent attack her obedience?
3. What happened when Adam and Eve ate from the forbidden tree?
4. (3:8-21) What does their reaction to God's presence show about them after their sin?
5. On whom did Adam blame his sin? Did God accept this explanation?
6. On whom did Eve blame her sin? Did God accept her explanation?
7. To what event does God point in punishing the devil (verse 15)?
8. What curse did God pronounce upon the woman (cf. I Tim. 2:12-15)?
9. What curse did God pronounce on Adam?

10. (3:22-24) Why did God expel them from the garden of Eden?
11. (4:1-8) Why was Cain angry (cf. Heb. 11:4 and Rom. 10:17)?
12. What advice did God give Cain?
13. What did Cain do instead?
14. (4:9-15) What question did Cain reply with to God's question? What does this reveal about his character?
15. (4:16-26) Who was Adam and Eve's third son?

#### Lesson 3: Noah's Ark Genesis 5-10

1. (Gen. 5:1-32) Which of Adam's descendants lived the longest? Who were Noah's three sons?
2. (6:1-4) What was angering God at this early date?
3. (6:5-8) Why was God sorry that He had created man? What was His intention?
4. Who would be spared among men? Why? Was this an arbitrary choice (cf. 6:9, 7:1)?
5. (6:9-22) Upon whom does the writer place the blame for sin in verse 12? Did God create man with an inherently sinful nature, then?
6. What did God tell Noah to construct? How precise were God's blueprints? How precisely did Noah follow them?
7. (7:1-12) How long did Noah have to assemble the animals? Were there two of every kind? How long did God forecast it would rain?
8. How many went into the ark (I Peter 3:20)? Why did not many more people enter the ark (II Peter 2:5)?

9. (7:13-24) What happened to all those caught outside the ark when the floodwaters increased? How does Peter use this as an illustration of water baptism (I Peter 3:20-21)?
10. (8:1-19) With God's experience with man's sin, did He now want Noah to repopulate the earth?
11. (8:20-22) How does the writer describe Noah's worship to God's senses? Why do you think he chose that particular phrase?
12. (9:1-19) What sign did God give Noah to show that he would never flood the whole earth again? Does it still hold this significance?
13. Will the earth then stand forever (II Peter 3:8-13)?
14. (9:20-29) What was the difference between Ham's handling of this situation and that of Shem and Japheth? Was Noah without sin in the matter?
15. (10:1-32) What were the three basic divisions of mankind after Noah's time?

#### Lesson 4: Promises to Abraham Genesis 11-12, 15-18:15

1. (Gen. 11:1-9) What di	d the people propose to build? W	hy did God prevent them?
2. (11:10-31) How was l	Lot related to Abraham? What ca	used Sarah social stigma?
3. (12:1-9) What three t	hings did God tell Abraham to le	eave behind?
a.	b.	c.
4. Why was this a test today?	of Abraham's faith? Why is mov	ing away from home a test of a person's faith
5. Each of the first three	-	ne promise to Abraham. What are they?
a. verse one:	b. verse two:	c. verse three:
	n do as God said (Heb. 11:8-10)? I the famine lead Abraham? Wh	at was his fear there? What did he do about
	the news that Sarah was Abraha	am's wife as Abraham predicted?

9. (15:1-6) How did God teach Abraham about the future nation of Israel? Did Abraham believe this lesson?
10. (15:7-21) What era of Hebrew history is foretold by God as Abraham falls asleep?
11. (16:1-15) How did Abraham and Sarah conspire to take matters into their own hands? What caused them to do this?
12. (17:1-8) How old was Abraham when God renewed his covenant with him?
13. (17:9-14) What did God command as a physical part of this covenant? Is this still binding upon Christians today (Gal. 5:6, 6:15)?
14. (17:15-27) What were the names of Abraham's sons? Who were their respective mothers?
15. (18:1-15) How did Sarah react to the news that she would still bear a child in her old age? Despite this, what did the Hebrew writer say about her (11:11-12)?

#### Lesson 5: Sodom and Gomorrah Genesis 13-14, 18:16-33, 19

2. Why was there strife between Lot's and Abraham's herdsmen?
3. Who should have had the right to first choice? Why did he give it up to the other?
4. Why did Lot choose the plain of the Jordan and pitch his tent toward Sodom? Was it wise?
5. (14:1-16) What became of Lot in his new chosen homeland? Was Abraham apparently bitter that his nephew had taken advantage of his offer to choose first?
6. (14:17-24) A mysterious person appears in this passage. Melchizedek will also figure prominently in the New Testament high priesthood of Jesus Christ. Who was this Melchizedek?
7. What does the New Testament reveal about him (Heb. 7:1-4)?
8. (18:16-32) Why was God considering action against Sodom and Gomorrah, according to verse 20? According to Jude 7, why?

9. How did Abraham react when God revealed this plan to him? How many righteous did God need to see to stay His hand?
10. Who was Abraham interested in preserving?
11. (19:1-8) What one word described Lot's offers to the two angels who came to visit (I Peter 4:9, Heb. 13:2)?
12. What did the men of Sodom have on their minds?
13. What shocking counteroffer did Lot make them? Why would he do this?
14. (19:9-14) What did the Sodomites think of Lot? How did he feel about living among them (II Peter 2:7)?
15. What warning did the angels give Lot? How did his sons-in-law respond?
16. (19:15-29) Did Lot immediately rush out of the city? What could have kept him?
17. What warning did the angels give Lot and his wife? Did they both heed it?
18. (19:30-38) What did Lot's daughters do to him?

#### **Lesson 6: Abraham and Sarah Bear Isaac** Genesis 20-24

1. (Gen. 20:1-13) On whom had Abraham and Sarah used this ploy before?
2. In both cases, who does the rebuking: the man of God or the heathen?
3. Did Abraham's story have a kernel of truth to it? Does God permit half-truths, then?
4. Abraham's lie showed a weakness in his faith in God and His promises. Occasionally, our faith falters in the face of danger and we resort to sin to protect us. How should we respond instead, according to I Peter 3:13-17?
5. (20:14-18) Was Sarah rebuked by Abimelech also? Did she deserve rebuke, though a submissive wife and not the author of the lie? Why or why not?
3. (21:1-7) Despite all of Abraham's and Sarah's attempts to help God and deliver on His promise in their time and way, God came through as He saw fit. What was the child's name?
7. (21:8-21) Why was Abraham reluctant to heed Sarah's wish to dismiss Hagar and Ishmael?
3. Paul uses this event and its characters in a New Testament analogy on the two major covenants between mankind and God (Gal. 4:21-31). What are the implications of this analogy: Are we under the law of Moses at all now? What has become of the law of Moses, including the Ten Commandments (Eph. 2:15)?

9. (22:1-14) What did God command Abraham to do? How did the man react?
10. How did the wood for the offering get to the place for the sacrifice? How is this indicative of Christ's suffering (John 19:17)?
11. To what animal did both men refer when considering the offering? How does this animal fit into the gospel plan (Isa. 53:7)?
12. Did God allow the sacrifice? Did he ever intend to kill Isaac this way?
13. (22:15-24) If Abraham had disobeyed this command, would God have delivered his promises anyway? Were God's promises to Abraham conditional upon a "working faith"?
14. (23:1-20) The apostle Peter remembers Sarah in the New Testament. What lesson does he teach with her example (I Peter 3:1-6)?
15. What offer did the sons of Heth make to Abraham when Sarah died?
16. Was this territory part of the Promised Land?
17. Why do you think Abraham insisted on buying the land?
18. (24:1-66) What was the name of Isaac's bride?

#### Lesson 7: Jacob and Esau Genesis 25-28, 32-33, 36

9. (27:41-46) What did Esau plan to do in vengeance?
10. What was making Rebekah weary (26:34-35)?
11. What advice did she give her favorite son?
12. (28:1-9) Did he obey her?
13. (28:10-22) What is the significance of "Jacob's Ladder"?
14. (32:1-12) How did Jacob react to the news that his brother was coming?
15. Did he have anything to fear in reality?
16. (32:13-21) How did Jacob attempt to appease his brother?
17. (32:22-32) To what was Jacob's name changed? With whom was he wrestling?
18. (33:1-20) How did Esau react to the sight of his brother and his family? Did he take Israel's gift?
19. (36:1-43) What is the name of the nation that descended from Esau?

#### Lesson 8: Jacob and Rachel Genesis 29-31, 34-35

1. (Gen. 29:1-20) What woman did Jacob see upon heading east? What was her occupation?
2. What kindness did Jacob show Rachel? What information did he divulge to her?
3. What wages did Jacob desire for serving Laban? Did Laban agree to these terms?
4. In those days, many wives were nothing more than their husband's possessions. Did Jacob have genuine feelings for Rachel or merely see her as a thing?
5. (29:21-30) How did Laban deceive Jacob? How many years did Rachel end up costing Jacob?
6. (29:31-35) Name Leah's four sons, born in this passage. Was childbearing enough to save he marriage to Jacob?
7. (30:1-24) Name the sons born to Rachel's maid, Bilhah.
8. Name the sons born to Leah's maid, Zilpah.
9. Name the other children that Leah bore.
10. Name the son that Rachel bore.
11. (30:25-36) What wages did Jacob now ask of Laban?

12. (30:37-43) How did Jacob become prosperous?
13. (31:1-21) Why did Jacob decide now to leave Laban's house?
14. (31:22-55) Why did Laban not harm Jacob when he caught up with his entourage?
15. What was Rachel's crime? What was her deception when nearly caught? How might her larceny damage Israel in the years to come?
16. (34:1-24) Who violated Dinah? Did Jacob immediately lose control when he found out?
17. How did Jacob's sons deceive Shechem and his family to get revenge?
18. (34:25-31) Why didn't the men of the city fight when Simeon and Levi arrived to exact vengeance and plunder them?
19. How did Jacob feel about his sons' action?
20. (35:1-15) What did Jacob hide under the terebinth tree by Shechem?
21. (35:16-29) What child did Rachel bear last? Why was her joy curtailed?

#### Lesson 9: Joseph Sold Into Slavery Genesis 37-38

1. (Gen. 37:1-11) Would Jacob's family always be strangers in the land of Canaan?
2. What word might one use to apply to Joseph's actions here? Is this the kind of thing to make one popular with others?
3. What else made Joseph's brothers dislike him?
4. What was the implication of Joseph's dreams? How did Joseph's brothers feel about him following these two dreams?
5. (37:12-24) Why were the brothers worried when they saw Joseph coming?
6. How did Reuben temper their plans to kill Joseph?
7. What was significant about the coat of many colors that they took from Joseph?
8. (37:25-36) How was Reuben's benevolent plan upset?

9. Where did Joseph end up?
10. Did the brothers tell their father a lie? Did they deceive him?
11. (38:1-10) With Joseph gone, Judah began to wander into sin. His children were born to a heathen woman. Why did Er and Onan die?
12. (38:11-23) After Onan's death, what command did Judah give Tamar? Did he keep this promise?
13. How did Tamar take matters into her own hands?
14. How was Tamar cunning in this event?
15. (38:24-30) In what way does Judah prove to be hypocritical when he learns Tamar is with child from harlotry?
16. How does he react to the news that he is the father of her children?
17. What were the names of their twins?

## Lesson 10: Joseph Imprisoned Genesis 39

1. (Gen. 39:1-6) Who was Joseph's owner? How had Joseph become enslaved?
2. What is ironic about the situation, considering that it was Ishmaelites who sold Joseph?
3. No doubt, Joseph thought his condition hopeless. But who was with him, ensuring the progress of God's scheme of redemption?
4. How much did Potiphar trust Joseph? Why?
5. How can Joseph's example affect our relationships with employers today?
6. Might Joseph's future be different if we were ugly?
7. (38:7-18) What was the request of Potiphar's wife to Joseph?
8. How did Joseph refuse her?

9. When we commit an offense against a person, how is God affected?
10. How persistent was Potiphar's wife in her requests?
11. What happened one day when none of the other men of the house were present?
12. Her lust refused, how did she now treat the object of her desire?
13. Often, we cannot help being in situation in which temptation attacks us every day. How can we consistently refuse its allure, as Joseph did?
14. Compare Joseph's reaction to the temptation of Potiphar's wife with David's behavior concerning Uriah's wife, Bathsheba.
15. (39:19-23) How well did Potiphar know his wife?
16. What benefit did God give the prisoner?
17. Did Joseph's progress in Potiphar's house continue in the prison?

## Lesson 11: Joseph Interprets Dreams Genesis 40-41

1. (Gen. 40:1-23) Who were Joseph's new cell mates? Why were they in?
2. What made these two sad?
3. What was the interpretation of the butler's dream? Be very brief in your answer.
4. What did Joseph ask of the butler in return for this interpretation?
5. What was the interpretation of the baker's dream? Be very brief in your answer.
6. How did Pharaoh celebrate his birthday?
7. How did the butler show his gratitude to Joseph?
8. (41:1-13) How long separated the butler's release and Pharaoh's dreams?

9. Why was Pharaoh's spirit troubled and not comforted by his magicians?
10. How does the butler help both Pharaoh and Joseph?
11. (41:14-24) To whom did Joseph give the credit for his ability to interpret dreams?
12. (41:25-36) What was the interpretation of Pharaoh's dreams?
13. What tax rate did Joseph suggest to Pharaoh to ward off the effects of the famine?
14. (41:37-45) Whom did Pharaoh appoint to oversee the saving plan?
15. How many times has God's guidance led Joseph to a high rank in Egypt?
16. (41:46-57) What did Joseph name his two sons?
17. Why did all roads suddenly lead to Egypt?

### Lesson 12: Providence Genesis 42-45

1. (Gen. 42:1-24) None of the people yet understand about God's providence, but the historian makes it clear. How had God provided for Israel in Joseph's enslavement?
2. Did Joseph's ten brothers recognize the governor as their brother? Did Joseph recognize them?
3. Had Joseph's own dreams now come true?
4. What test did Joseph inflict upon his brothers? How did Joseph get a measure of revenge on his brothers for enslaving him?
5. Were the brothers guilty about selling Joseph into slavery? After all they had done to him, was Joseph touched with emotion to be reunited with them?
6. (42:25-38) What did Joseph do, that confounded his brothers?
7. What offer did Reuben make? What do we know about Reuben's character?
8. (43:1-14) The family seems resigned to giving up Simeon, but why are they ultimately compelled to go back to Egypt?

9. (43:15-25) Why did the brothers think Joseph had invited them to his house?
10. To whom did the steward attribute the return of their wealth?
11. (43:26-34) What happened to Joseph when he saw Benjamin?
12. Why was Joseph particularly fond of Benjamin?
13. (44:1-17) What extra "gift" did Joseph command to be given to Benjamin?
14. Why were the other sons so unwilling to leave Benjamin and go home? Had they matured since selling Joseph more than two decades earlier?
15. (44:18-34) What offer does Judah make? Why?
16. Whose idea was it to sell Joseph as a slave in the first place?
17. How much did he and all the brothers care for their father's feelings back then?
18. (45:1-15) What reason did Joseph give for his brother's former treachery?
19. What command did he give them?
20. (45:16-28) What was Pharaoh's invitation? Did Jacob consent to do so?

#### Lesson 13: Reunited Genesis 46-50

1. (Gen. 46:1-7)	What promise did (	God make to Jacob in	his dream about Egypt?

2. (46:8-33) Because shepherding was considered an abomination to the Egyptians, Joseph had to handle his family's occupation carefully in Pharaoh's realm. Did he counsel them to lie about their occupation?
3. (47:1-12) Were the brothers truthful with Pharaoh? What could have happened had they lied and been discovered later?
4. (47:13-31) How did Joseph save the lives of the Egyptians in the ensuing years?
5. What was Jacob's dying wish?
6. (48:1-22) Jacob knew something of blessings being switched from older son to younger. How does he apportion his blessings upon Joseph's sons?
7. (49:1-4) Reuben was the first son of Israel. Would the royal and Messianic line issue from him or a younger brother?
8. What sin of Reuben's harmed his character and reputation?
9. (49:5-7) What was the character flaw of Simeon and Levi?

10. (49:8-12) What is in store for Judah's offspring?
11. (49:13) Where did Jacob see Zebulun?
12. (49:14-15) Why would Isaachar's children became slaves to the Canaanites (Judges 1:30)?
13. (49:16-18) Name one great descendant of Dan (Judges 13:2, 14:4).
<ul> <li>14. (49:19-21) Jacob has little to say to these three sons, but it is positive. What is their future?</li> <li>Gad:</li> <li>Asher:</li> <li>Naphtali:</li> </ul>
15. (49:22-26) To what trait of Joseph's life does Jacob pay tribute in opening this blessing?
16. (49:27-28) Jacob saw the Benjaminites as like ravenous wolves. How was King Saul, a descendant of Benjamin, like a wolf?
17. (49:29-33) What wish does Jacob renew?
18. (50:1-14) Did his sons carry through with their promise?
19. (50:15-21) How does Joseph sum up his brothers' treatment of him and their future?
20. (50:22-26) What was Joseph's dying wish? Was it fulfilled (Josh. 24:32)?

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J.S. Smith
Fort Worth, Texas
Electronic Mail: jeffssmith@mac.com
Internet: www.electronicgospel.org
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