

## Welcome to 10 Minute Topics

### This week's topic is: Genesis Overview

Bereishit [בראשית] (Genesis) means “In the Beginning” and is the first book of the Torah. Bereishit contains 50 chapters and 1,533 verses. Bereishit is broken into 12 parshiot (weekly Torah readings).

Bereshit (1:1-6:8) - (In the Beginning):

1:1-31: Creation

2:1-7: The Seventh Day

2:8-14: The Garden of Eden (Gan Eden)

2:15-25: Man in the Garden

3:1-5: Serpent's Enticement

3:6-24: Sin and Expulsion from the Garden

4:1-16: Cain and Abel

4:17-26: Descendants of Cain

5:1-2: The genealogy of mankind

5:3-32: The ten generations from Adam to Noah

6:1-8 Prelude to the flood

Noach (6:9-11:32) - (Noah):

6:9-12: Noah

6:13-22: Decree of the flood

7:1-24: The flood

8:1-5: Receding of the waters

8:6-12: Sending forth the raven and the dove

8:13-19: The earth dries

8:20-22: Noah brings an offering

9:1-11: G-d's covenant with Noah

9:12-19: The rainbow

9:20-23: Intoxication and shame of Noah

9:24-29: Noah foretells his sons' destinies

10:1-7: Genealogy of Noah (the seventy nations)

10:8-32: Nimrod

11:1-9: Tower of Babel

11:10-32: The ten generations from Noah to Abraham

Lech Lecha (12:1-17:27) - (Go, Leave):

12:1-3: G-d's call to Abraham

12:4-9: Abraham comes to Canaan

12:10-20: Abraham and Sarah in Egypt

13:1-4: The return to Eretz Yisrael

13:5-13: Abraham and Lot part ways

13:14-18: The repetition of the promise

14:1-9: The war of the kings  
14:10-11: Sodom is defeated  
14:12-14: Lot taken captive  
14:15-20: Abraham saves Lot  
14:21-24: Abraham shuns honor  
15:1-6: G-d's reassurance to Abraham  
15:7-12: The Covenant Between the Parts: The promise of the land  
15:13-16: Egyptian exile and redemption  
15:17-21: The ratification of the covenant  
16:1-15: Hagar and Ishmael  
17:1-4: The covenant  
17:5-14: New names and a new destiny  
17:15-27: The promise to Sarah

Vayeira (18:1-22:24) - (And He appeared):

18:1-9: Visiting the sick and hospitality to strangers  
18:10-16: The promise of a son is revealed to Sarah  
18:17-22: G-d's love for Abraham  
18:23-33: Abraham intercedes for Sodom  
19:1-3: Sodom is destroyed  
19:4-29: Lot  
19:30-38: Lot's daughters and the birth of Moab and Ammon  
20:1-13: Abraham in Gerar  
20:14-18: Abimelech appeases Abraham and Sarah  
21:1-8: The birth of Isaac  
21:9-16: Hagar and Ishmael are expelled  
21:17-21: Ishmael is saved  
21:22-33: The alliance with Abimelech at Beer-sheba  
22:1-19: The tenth trial: The Akeidah/Binding of Isaac on the altar  
22:20-24: The birth of Rebecca

Chaya Sarah (23:1-25:18) - (Life of Sarah):

23:1-20: Sarah's death and the purchase of a burial site  
24:1-12: Finding a wife for Isaac  
24:13-17: Eliezer's criteria  
24:18-28: Rebecca is equal to the test  
24:19-33: Laban  
24:34-61: The recapitulation  
24:62-67: Isaac and Rebecca  
25:1-18: Abraham's genealogy

Toldot (25:19-28:9) - (Line):

25:19-23: Rebecca's barrenness and pregnancy  
25:24-26: The birth of Jacob and Esau  
25:27-28: The personalities emerge  
25:29-34: Sale of the birthright

26:1-5: A famine forces Isaac to Philistia  
26:6-18: Isaac in Gerar  
26:19-22: The prophetic dispute over the wells  
26:23-25: G-d assures Isaac  
26:26-33: Abimelech reaffirms the treaty  
26:34-35 Esau marries  
27:1-4: Isaac's decision to bless Esau  
27:5-17: Rebecca's scheme  
27:18-29: Jacob gets Isaac's blessing  
27:30-40: Esau arrives for his blessings  
27:41: Esau's hatred of Jacob  
27:42-46: Jacob is told to flee to Laban  
28:1-8: The admonition against marrying a Canaanite; the Abrahamic blessing is conveyed to Jacob  
28:9 Esau marries the daughter of Ishmael

Vayeitzei (28:10-32:3) - (And He Left):

28:10-22: Jacob's flight and his vision at Moriah  
29:1-13: Jacob meets Rachel  
29:14-21: Jacob contracts to marry and is deceived  
29:22-30: Laban substitutes Leah for Rachel  
29:31-35: Leah bears four sons  
30:1-13: Rachel is fulfilled through Bilhah  
30:14-16: The dudaim  
30:17-21: Leah's last three children  
30:22-26: Rachel conceives: the birth of Joseph  
30:27-33: Jacob wishes to leave, but concludes an employment contract with Laban  
30:34-43 Laban's new deceit  
31:1-3: The decision to flee from Laban  
31:4-16: Jacob wins the consent of his wives  
31:17-21: Jacob's flight  
31:22-24: Laban's pursuit and G-d's warning  
31:25-43: The confrontation of Jacob and Laban  
31:44-32:3: Laban proposes a treaty

Vayishlach (32:4-36:43) - (And He Sent):

32:4-7: Esau advances to attack Jacob  
32:8-9: Military preparations  
32:10-13: Prayer  
32:14-22: The tribute  
32:23-30: The struggle with the angel  
32:31-33: The prohibition of eating the tendon of an animal's thigh  
33:1-17: The encounter between Jacob and Esau  
33:18-20: Jacob arrives in Shechem  
34:1-5: Dinah's abduction  
34:6-12: Jacob's family learns of the outrage

34:13-24: The deception  
34:25-31: Simeon and Levi decimate Shechem  
35:1-5: Jacob journeys to Bet-el  
35:6-8: The deaths of Rebecca and Deborah  
35:9-15: G-d blesses and renames Jacob  
35:16-21 The birth of Benjamin and death of Rachel  
35:22-26: Reuben's error and partial vindication  
35:27: Jacob and Isaac are reunited  
35:28-29: Isaac's death  
36:1-5: The chronicles of Esau  
36:6-19: Esau separates himself from Jacob  
36:20-30: The Seirite genealogy  
36:31-43: The Edomite kings

Vayeishev (37:1-40:23) - (And He Lived):

37:1-4: The chronicles of Jacob and his offspring  
37:5-7: Joseph's dream  
37:8: The intensified hatred  
37:9-11: Joseph's second dream  
37:12-20: Joseph is sent to visit his brothers  
37:21-24: Reuben saves Joseph from the plot to kill him  
37:25-30: Joseph is sold  
37:31-36: The version told to Jacob  
38:1-7: Judah and Tamar  
38:8-12: Judah's sons marry Tamar but die for their sin  
38:13-23: The moral basis for the union of Tamar and Judah  
38:24-26: Tamar's pregnancy  
38:27-30: Tamar bears twins  
39:1-12: Joseph in Egypt  
39:13-23: Potiphar's wife slanders Joseph  
40:1-23: The cupbearer and the baker

Mikeitz (41:1-44:17) - (At The End):

41:1-8: Pharaoh's dream  
41:9-13: The Chamberlain of the Cupbearer's "remembers Joseph"  
41:14-24: Joseph is summoned  
41:25-36: Pharaoh recapitulates his dream  
41:37-36: Joseph's interpretation  
41:37-46: Joseph becomes Viceroy  
41:47-49: Joseph's plan is implemented  
41:50-52: Joseph's children: Manasseh and Ephraim  
41:53-57: The famine devastates Egypt  
42:1-5: Jacob sends his sons to Egypt  
42:6-13: The brothers bow to Joseph  
42:14-20: Joseph stands his ground but offers his brothers a way out  
42:21-22: The brothers' regret

42:23-24: Joseph chooses his hostage  
42:25-28: Joseph sends them back—with their money  
42:29-38: The dialogue with Jacob  
43:1-15: The brothers request that Jacob send Benjamin to Egypt  
43:16-54: Joseph sees Benjamin and tests his brothers' sincerity  
44:1-15: The final test: Benjamin is accused of thievery  
44:16-17: Judah speaks on behalf of all

Vayigash (44:18-47:27) - (And He Drew Near):

44:18-34: Judah steps forward  
45:1-15: Joseph identifies himself and conciliates his brothers  
45:16-20: Pharaoh joins in the welcome  
45:21-24: Joseph dispenses gifts and sends his brothers off  
45:25-38: Jacob receives the news  
46:1-26: Jacob undertakes the journey to Joseph  
46:27-28: Seventy descendants journeying to Egypt  
46:29-30: Jacob arrives in Egypt  
46:31-34: Joseph ensures his family's settlement in Goshen  
47:1-6: Joseph reports his father and brother's arrival to Pharaoh  
47:7-12: Jacob and Pharaoh meet  
47:13-27: Joseph and the famine

Vayechi (47:28-50:26) - (And He Lived):

47:28-31: Jacob's end draws near; his request of Joseph  
48:1-7: Jacob's illness  
48:8-22: The blessing of Manasseh and Ephraim  
49:1-27: Jacob's blessings: Reuven, Simeon and Levi, Judah, Zebulun, Issachar, Dan, Gad, Asher, Naphtali, Joseph, and Benjamin  
49:28-33: Jacob's final request  
50:1-3: Jacob is mourned by all Egypt  
50:4-6: Permission for burial  
50:7-14: The burial procession  
50:15-21: Joseph reassures his brothers  
50:22-23: Joseph lives out his years  
50:24-26 Signs of the redemption