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ISBN 0-8423-7575-9 Imitation Leather Black  
ISBN 0-8423-7576-7 Imitation Leather Burgundy  
ISBN 0-8423-7577-5 Imitation Leather Navy

Printed in Korea

07 06 05 04 03  
8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

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## *Welcome to the Bible!*

You hold in your hands the most powerful message ever written. Countless lives have been changed by it. Numerous authorities have tried to ban it. Some godless people have burned it. And many Christians have died to preserve it. Why has this book had such a huge impact on people? This book, the Bible, is the very Word of God. He is the author. He chose certain individuals to write down exactly what he wanted to tell humankind. We know what these individuals wrote down was from God. One of Jesus' closest friends, Peter, wrote, "Above all, you must understand that no prophecy in Scripture ever came from the prophets themselves or because they wanted to prophesy. It was the Holy Spirit who moved the prophets to speak from God" (2 Peter 1:20-21).

Although the writers wrote in Hebrew or Greek, their words have been carefully translated into many languages. Today we can read God's message in our own language—modern English.

### **God's Message for Today**

In 2 Timothy 3:16, the apostle Paul reminded his student, Timothy, that "all Scripture is inspired by God and is useful to teach us what is true and to make us realize what is wrong in our lives. It straightens us out and teaches us to do what is right." This is still true today, even though the Bible was written hundreds of years ago. That's because its message is timeless, personal, and powerful. Millions of people have discovered that God's words speak to their deepest needs. As a result of this discovery, people all around the world open God's Word each day for comfort, encouragement, hope, inspiration, and guidance. There they find the answers they need to life's most confusing questions and difficult problems.

The Bible, however, is more than an answer book for life's problems. It is also made up of exciting adventures, inspiring stories, beautiful poetry, convicting messages, and the hope-giving life story of Jesus Christ.

### **Many Books, One Message**

The Bible may look like one book, but it is actually sixty-six books in one. Thirty-nine books make up what we call the Old Testament, and twenty-seven make up the New Testament. It is possible that more than forty writers were used by God to write all sixty-six books. Despite the many writers, the Bible has one overall message, and each book contributes to this

message. What is that message? The message is that God loves you and has a plan to save you from sin.

### **God's Message for You**

What is the message of God's Word for you? What does God want *you* to do? Jesus' brother James wrote this about God's Word: "And remember, it is a message to obey, not just to listen to. If you don't obey, you are only fooling yourself. For if you just listen and don't obey, it is like looking at your face in a mirror but doing nothing to improve your appearance. You see yourself, walk away, and forget what you look like. But if you keep looking steadily into God's perfect law—the law that sets you free—and if you do what it says and don't forget what you heard, then God will bless you for doing it" (James 1:22-25). As God speaks to you through his Word, do what you know he wants you to do. Obey him.

*Welcome to God's life-changing message for you. Welcome to the Bible.*

## *How to Know Jesus Personally*

God wants each of us to experience a life that has meaning, direction, love, and peace. God makes this kind of life possible through a personal relationship with his Son, Jesus Christ. But before you accept Jesus as your Savior, here are five truths that will help you understand God's desire for you:

- 1. God has a plan for your life.** "God in heaven appoints each person's work" (John 3:27). God created you and has good plans for your life. To know those plans, you must know God personally.
- 2. God's plan gives meaning.** "Jesus replied, 'I am the bread of life. No one who comes to me will ever be hungry again. Those who believe in me will never thirst'" (John 6:35). Many people seek meaning and purpose for their life. But they never find it because they look for meaning in the wrong things and the wrong people. When you follow God's plans for your life, the most important of which is to know Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you will find meaning and purpose in all that you do.
- 3. God's plan gives direction.** "Jesus said to the people, 'I am the light of the world. If you follow me, you won't be stumbling through the darkness, because you will have the light that leads to life'" (John 8:12). Without God's direction, you may not know what to do with your life. You may try a lot of things, hoping to find meaning in each one. But if you have God in your life, he will lead you and show you how to make your life count for him and his Kingdom.
- 4. God's plan brings peace.** "I am leaving you with a gift—peace of mind and heart. And the peace I give isn't like the peace the world gives. So don't be troubled or afraid" (John 14:27). When you follow Jesus as your Lord and Savior, you will be at peace with God. You will also be filled with God's peace. So when troubles come, you will be able to have peace as you endure hardships.

5. **God's plan is for you to live with him in heaven.** "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life" (John 3:16). Before Adam and Eve sinned (Genesis 3), they had a good relationship with God. Therefore, they were able to come into God's physical presence. But after they sinned, they lost that relationship and could no longer come into God's physical presence. Sin had separated them and the entire human race, including you, from God. But God did not want sin to keep people from having a relationship with him. So he provided a way in which people could be cleansed of their sins and live with him in heaven forever. He gave his only Son, Jesus, as the perfect payment for everyone's sins.

Here are three things you must do in order to know Jesus personally as your Lord and Savior:

1. **Recognize that you are a sinner.** "For all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious standard" (Romans 3:23). "As the Scriptures say, 'No one is good—not even one'" (Romans 3:10). Because everyone is a sinner, no one deserves eternal life with God in heaven. In addition, no one can *work* hard enough to *earn* this life. Instead, God gives eternal life to everyone who believes that Jesus Christ is his Son. Before you can appreciate what Jesus has done for you, you need to recognize that you are a sinner in need of God's forgiveness. If you never acknowledge this, you will never accept God's forgiveness for your sins; and you will never enter into heaven.
2. **Ask Jesus to forgive you.** "Yet now he has brought you back as his friends. He has done this through his death on the cross in his own human body. As a result, he has brought you into the very presence of God, and you are holy and blameless as you stand before him without a single fault" (Colossians 1:22). If you recognize that you are a sinner, then you may be ready to ask Jesus to forgive you. Do you believe that Jesus is the eternal Son of God, who died to pay for your sins? If you do, and you have never thanked Christ for dying for you, thank him right now in a simple prayer. Pray, "Lord, I thank you for paying for the sins I have committed. I give my life to you. Teach me the right way to live. Amen."

If you have believed in Christ now for the first time, write your name and today's date on the blank lines as a record of the time of your salvation.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Time \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Turn away from your sins.** "Those who have been born into God's family do not sin, because God's life is in them. So they can't keep on

sinning, because they have been born of God” (1 John 3:9). As a Christian, you may sin from time to time. But you should not continue to live a sinful lifestyle. Putting your faith in Jesus means that you are leaving behind your old, sinful nature. It also means that you are living to please God. You can live to please God by obeying the commands he has given everyone in the Bible. If you obey God, you can be sure that you are a Christian and will one day have eternal life in heaven.

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# GENESIS

**Author** Moses, according to tradition

**Date Written** 1450–1410 B.C.

**Content** As its name implies, Genesis is the book of beginnings. It starts with the creation of the world and every living creature in it. It records the first marriage, the first sin, the first consequences of sin, and the first reference to God's future plan to redeem humanity. After recounting the stories of the Flood and the Tower of Babel, Genesis also tells the story of the birth of a nation—Israel. The story begins as God calls Abraham, the father of the Israelites, to leave his hometown, Ur (located in modern-day Iraq), and move to Canaan—the land God promised his descendants. Eventually, the Redeemer of the world would come from the descendants of Abraham. The story then shifts to the exploits of Isaac, Abraham's son, and then to Jacob, Abraham's grandson. Genesis concludes with the remarkable experiences of Joseph.

**Purpose** To show how the world and everything in it came about and to show God's desire to have a people set apart to worship him

**Outline**

- A. The creation of the world and humanity (1:1–2:25)
- B. The fall of Adam and Eve (3:1–4:26)
- C. The history of fallen humanity up to the Flood (5:1–9:29)
- D. The spread of people around the world (10:1–11:32)
- E. The life of Abraham (12:1–25:18)
- F. The life of Isaac (25:19–26:35)
- G. The lives of Jacob and Esau (27:1–37:1)
- H. The life of Joseph (37:2–50:26)

## The Account of Creation

**1** In the beginning God created\* the heavens and the earth. <sup>2</sup>The earth was empty, a formless mass cloaked in darkness. And the Spirit of God was hovering over its surface. <sup>3</sup>Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light. <sup>4</sup>And God saw that it was good. Then he separated the light from the darkness. <sup>5</sup>God called the light "day" and the darkness "night." Together these made up one day.

<sup>6</sup>And God said, "Let there be space between the waters, to separate water from water." And so it was. God made this space to separate the waters above from the waters below. <sup>8</sup>And God called the space "sky." This happened on the second day.

<sup>9</sup>And God said, "Let the waters beneath the sky be gathered into one place so dry ground may appear." And so it was. <sup>10</sup>God named the dry ground "land" and the water "seas." And God saw that it was good. <sup>11</sup>Then God said, "Let the land burst forth with every sort of grass and seed-bearing plant. And let there be trees that grow seed-bearing fruit. The seeds will then produce the kinds of plants and trees from which they came." And so it was. <sup>12</sup>The land was filled with seed-bearing plants and trees, and their seeds produced plants and trees of like kind. And God saw that it was good. <sup>13</sup>This all happened on the third day.

<sup>14</sup>And God said, "Let bright lights appear in the sky to separate the day from the night. They will be signs to mark off the seasons, the days, and the years. <sup>15</sup>Let their light shine down upon the earth." And so it was. <sup>16</sup>For God made two great lights, the sun and the moon, to shine down upon the earth. The greater one, the sun, presides during the day; the lesser one, the moon, presides through the night. He also made the stars. <sup>17</sup>God set these lights in the heavens to light the earth, <sup>18</sup>to govern the day and the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. <sup>19</sup>This all happened on the fourth day.

<sup>20</sup>And God said, "Let the waters swarm with fish and other life. Let the skies be filled with birds of every kind."

<sup>21</sup>So God created great sea creatures and every sort of fish and every kind of bird. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>22</sup>Then God blessed them, saying, "Let the fish multiply and fill the oceans. Let the birds increase and fill the earth."

<sup>23</sup>This all happened on the fifth day.

<sup>24</sup>And God said, "Let the earth bring forth every kind of animal—livestock, small animals, and wildlife." And so it was. <sup>25</sup>God made all sorts of wild animals, livestock, and small animals, each able to reproduce more of its own kind. And God saw that it was good.

<sup>26</sup>Then God said, "Let us make people\* in our image, to be like ourselves. They will be masters over all life—the fish in the sea, the birds in the sky, and all the livestock, wild animals,\* and small animals."

<sup>27</sup>So God created people in his own image; God patterned them after himself; male and female he created them.

---

## 1 BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

**So God created people in his own image; God patterned them after himself; male and female he created them.** GENESIS 1:27

*God made both man and woman in his image. Neither man nor woman was made more in the image of God than the other. From the beginning, the Bible places both man and woman at the pinnacle of God's creation. Neither sex is exalted, and neither is depreciated.*

---

<sup>28</sup>God blessed them and told them, “Multiply and fill the earth and subdue it. Be masters over the fish and birds and all the animals.” <sup>29</sup>And God said, “Look! I have given you the seed-bearing plants throughout the earth and all the fruit trees for your food. <sup>30</sup>And I have given all the grasses and other green plants to the animals and birds for their food.” And so it was. <sup>31</sup>Then God looked over all he had made, and he saw that it was excellent in every way. This all happened on the sixth day.

**2** So the creation of the heavens and the earth and everything in them was completed. <sup>2</sup>On the seventh day, having finished his task, God rested from all his work. <sup>3</sup>And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, because it was the day when he rested from his work of creation.

<sup>4</sup>This is the account of the creation of the heavens and the earth.

### The Man and Woman in Eden

When the LORD God made the heavens and the earth, <sup>5</sup>there were no plants or grain growing on the earth, for the LORD God had not sent any rain. And no one was there to cultivate the soil. <sup>6</sup>But water came up out of the ground and watered all the land. <sup>7</sup>And the LORD God formed a man’s body from the dust of the ground and breathed into it the breath of life. And the man became a living person.

<sup>8</sup>Then the LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he placed the man he had created. <sup>9</sup>And the LORD God planted all sorts of trees in the garden—beautiful trees that produced delicious fruit. At the center of the garden he placed the tree of life and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

<sup>10</sup>A river flowed from the land of Eden, watering the garden and then dividing into four branches. <sup>11</sup>One of these branches is the Pishon, which flows around the entire land of Havilah, where gold is found. <sup>12</sup>The gold of that land is exceptionally pure; aromatic resin and onyx stone are also found there. <sup>13</sup>The second branch is the Gihon, which flows around the entire land of Cush. <sup>14</sup>The third branch is the Tigris, which flows to the east of Asshur. The fourth branch is the Euphrates.

<sup>15</sup>The LORD God placed the man in the Garden of Eden to tend and care for it. <sup>16</sup>But the LORD God gave him this warning: “You may freely eat any fruit in the garden <sup>17</sup>except fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you eat of its fruit, you will surely die.”

<sup>18</sup>And the LORD God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a companion who will help him.” <sup>19</sup>So the LORD God formed from the soil every kind of animal and bird. He brought them to Adam\* to see what he would call them, and Adam chose a name for each one. <sup>20</sup>He gave names to all the livestock, birds, and wild animals. But still there was no companion suitable for him. <sup>21</sup>So the LORD God caused Adam to fall into a deep sleep. He took one of Adam’s ribs\* and closed up the place from which he had taken it. <sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God made a woman from the rib and brought her to Adam.

<sup>23</sup>“At last!” Adam exclaimed. “She is part of my own flesh and bone! She will be called ‘woman,’ because she was taken out of a man.” <sup>24</sup>This explains why a man leaves his father and mother and is joined to his wife, and the two are united into one. <sup>25</sup>Now, although Adam and his wife were both naked, neither of them felt any shame.

### The Man and Woman Sin

**3** Now the serpent was the shrewdest of all the creatures the LORD God had made. “Really?” he asked the woman. “Did God really say you must not eat any of the fruit in the garden?”

<sup>2</sup>“Of course we may eat it,” the woman told him. <sup>3</sup>“It’s only the fruit from the tree at the center of the garden that we are not allowed to eat. God says we must not eat it or even touch it, or we will die.”

<sup>4</sup>“You won’t die!” the serpent hissed. <sup>5</sup>“God knows that your eyes will be opened when you eat it. You will become just like God, knowing everything, both good and evil.”

<sup>6</sup>The woman was convinced. The fruit looked so fresh and delicious, and it would make her so wise! So she ate some of the fruit. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her. Then he ate it, too. <sup>7</sup>At that moment, their eyes were opened, and they suddenly felt shame at their nakedness. So they strung fig leaves together around their hips to cover themselves.

<sup>8</sup>Toward evening they heard the LORD God walking about in the garden, so they hid themselves among the trees. <sup>9</sup>The LORD God called to Adam, \* “Where are you?”

<sup>10</sup>He replied, “I heard you, so I hid. I was afraid because I was naked.”

<sup>11</sup>“Who told you that you were naked?” the LORD God asked. “Have you eaten the fruit I commanded you not to eat?”

<sup>12</sup>“Yes,” Adam admitted, “but it was the woman you gave me who brought me the fruit, and I ate it.”

<sup>13</sup>Then the LORD God asked the woman, “How could you do such a thing?”

“The serpent tricked me,” she replied. “That’s why I ate it.”

<sup>14</sup>So the LORD God said to the serpent, “Because you have done this, you will be punished. You are singled out from all the domestic and wild animals of the whole earth to be cursed. You will grovel in the dust as long as you live, crawling along on your belly. <sup>15</sup>From now on, you and the woman will be enemies, and your offspring and her offspring will be enemies. He will crush your head, and you will strike his heel.”

<sup>16</sup>Then he said to the woman, “You will bear children with intense pain and suffering. And though your desire will be for your husband,\* he will be your master.”

<sup>17</sup>And to Adam he said, “Because you listened to your wife and ate the fruit I told you not to eat, I have placed a curse on the ground. All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it. <sup>18</sup>It will grow thorns and thistles for you, though you will eat of its grains. <sup>19</sup>All your life you will sweat to produce food, until your dying day. Then you will return to the ground from which you came. For you were made from dust, and to the dust you will return.”

<sup>20</sup>Then Adam named his wife Eve,\* because she would be the mother of all people everywhere. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD God made clothing from animal skins for Adam and his wife.

<sup>22</sup>Then the LORD God said, “The people have become as we are, knowing everything, both good and evil. What if they eat the fruit of the tree of life? Then they will live forever!” <sup>23</sup>So the LORD God banished Adam and his wife from the Garden of Eden, and he sent Adam out to cultivate the ground from which he had been made. <sup>24</sup>After banishing them from the garden, the LORD God stationed mighty angelic beings\* to the east of Eden. And a flaming sword flashed back and forth, guarding the way to the tree of life.

2:19 Hebrew *the man*, and so throughout this chapter. 2:21 Or *took a part of Adam’s side*. 3:9 Hebrew *the man*, and so throughout this chapter. 3:16 Or *And though you may desire to control your husband*. 3:20 *Eve* sounds like a Hebrew term that means “to give life.” 3:24 Hebrew *cherubim*.

## Cain, Abel, and Seth

**4** Now Adam\* slept with his wife, Eve, and she became pregnant. When the time came, she gave birth to Cain,\* and she said, “With the LORD’s help, I have brought forth\* a man!”<sup>2</sup> Later she gave birth to a second son and named him Abel.

When they grew up, Abel became a shepherd, while Cain was a farmer.<sup>3</sup> At harvest time Cain brought to the LORD a gift of his farm produce,<sup>4</sup> while Abel brought several choice lambs from the best of his flock. The LORD accepted Abel and his offering,<sup>5</sup> but he did not accept Cain and his offering. This made Cain very angry and dejected.

<sup>6</sup> “Why are you so angry?” the LORD asked him. “Why do you look so dejected? <sup>7</sup>You will be accepted if you respond in the right way. But if you refuse to respond correctly, then watch out! Sin is waiting to attack and destroy you, and you must subdue it.”

<sup>8</sup> Later Cain suggested to his brother, Abel, “Let’s go out into the fields.”\* And while they were there, Cain attacked and killed his brother.

<sup>9</sup> Afterward the LORD asked Cain, “Where is your brother? Where is Abel?”

“I don’t know!” Cain retorted. “Am I supposed to keep track of him wherever he goes?”

<sup>10</sup> But the LORD said, “What have you done? Listen—your brother’s blood cries out to me from the ground!<sup>11</sup> You are hereby banished from the ground you have defiled with your brother’s blood.<sup>12</sup> No longer will it yield abundant crops for you, no matter how hard you work! From now on you will be a homeless fugitive on the earth, constantly wandering from place to place.”

<sup>13</sup> Cain replied to the LORD, “My punishment\* is too great for me to bear!<sup>14</sup> You have banished me from my land and from your presence; you have made me a wanderer fugitive. All who see me will try to kill me!”

<sup>15</sup> The LORD replied, “They will not kill you, for I will give seven times your punishment to anyone who does.” Then the LORD put a mark on Cain to warn anyone who might try to kill him.<sup>16</sup> So Cain left the LORD’s presence and settled in the land of Nod,\* east of Eden.

<sup>17</sup> Then Cain’s wife became pregnant and gave birth to a son, and they named him Enoch. When Cain founded a city, he named it Enoch after his son.

<sup>18</sup> Enoch was the father of\* Irad.

Irad was the father of Mehujael.

Mehujael was the father of Methushael.

Methushael was the father of Lamech.

<sup>19</sup> Lamech married two women—Adah and Zillah.<sup>20</sup> Adah gave birth to a baby named Jabal. He became the first of the herdsmen who live in tents.<sup>21</sup> His brother’s name was Jubal, the first musician—the inventor of the harp and flute.<sup>22</sup> To Lamech’s other wife, Zillah, was born Tubal-cain. He was the first to work with metal, forging instruments of bronze and iron. Tubal-cain had a sister named Naamah.

<sup>23</sup> One day Lamech said to Adah and Zillah, “Listen to me, my wives. I have killed a youth who attacked and wounded me.<sup>24</sup> If anyone who kills Cain is to be punished seven times, anyone who takes revenge against me will be punished seventy-seven times!”

<sup>25</sup> Adam slept with his wife again, and she gave birth to

another son. She named him Seth,\* for she said, “God has granted me another son in place of Abel, the one Cain killed.”<sup>26</sup> When Seth grew up, he had a son and named him Enosh. It was during his lifetime that people first began to worship the LORD.

## From Adam to Noah

**5** This is the history of the descendants of Adam. When God created people,\* he made them in the likeness of God.<sup>2</sup> He created them male and female, and he blessed them and called them “human.”\*

<sup>3</sup> When Adam was 130 years old, his son Seth was born,\* and Seth was the very image of his father.\*

<sup>4</sup> After the birth of Seth,\* Adam lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>5</sup> He died at the age of 930.

<sup>6</sup> When Seth was 105 years old, his son Enosh was born.<sup>7</sup> After the birth of Enosh, Seth lived another 807 years, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>8</sup> He died at the age of 912.

<sup>9</sup> When Enosh was 90 years old, his son Kenan was born.

<sup>10</sup> After the birth of Kenan, Enosh lived another 815 years, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>11</sup> He died at the age of 905.

<sup>12</sup> When Kenan was 70 years old, his son Mahalalel was born.<sup>13</sup> After the birth of Mahalalel, Kenan lived another 840 years, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>14</sup> He died at the age of 910.

<sup>15</sup> When Mahalalel was 65 years old, his son Jared was born.<sup>16</sup> After the birth of Jared, Mahalalel lived 830 years, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>17</sup> He died at the age of 895.

<sup>18</sup> When Jared was 162 years old, his son Enoch was born.<sup>19</sup> After the birth of Enoch, Jared lived another 800 years, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>20</sup> He died at the age of 962.

<sup>21</sup> When Enoch was 65 years old, his son Methuselah was born.<sup>22</sup> After the birth of Methuselah, Enoch lived another 300 years in close fellowship with God, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>23</sup> Enoch lived 365 years in all.<sup>24</sup> He enjoyed a close relationship with God throughout his life. Then suddenly, he disappeared because God took him.

<sup>25</sup> When Methuselah was 187 years old, his son Lamech was born.<sup>26</sup> After the birth of Lamech, Methuselah lived another 782 years, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>27</sup> He died at the age of 969.

<sup>28</sup> When Lamech was 182 years old, his son Noah was born.

<sup>29</sup> Lamech named his son Noah,\* for he said, “He will bring us relief from the painful labor of farming this ground that the LORD has cursed.”<sup>30</sup> After the birth of Noah, Lamech lived 595 years, and he had other sons and daughters.<sup>31</sup> He died at the age of 777.

<sup>32</sup> By the time Noah was 500 years old, he had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

## Noah and the Flood

**6** When the human population began to grow rapidly on the earth,<sup>2</sup> the sons of God saw the beautiful women of the human race and took any they wanted as their wives.<sup>3</sup> Then the LORD said, “My Spirit will not put

4:1a Hebrew *the man*. 4:1b *Cain* sounds like a Hebrew term that can mean “bring forth” or “acquire.” 4:1c Or *I have acquired*.

4:8 As in Samaritan Pentateuch, Greek and Syriac versions, Latin Vulgate; Masoretic Text lacks “Let’s go out into the fields.”

4:13 Or *My sin*. 4:16 *Nod* means “wandering.” 4:18 Or *the ancestor of*, and so throughout the verse. 4:25 *Seth* probably means “granted”; the name may also mean “appointed.” 5:1 Hebrew *man*. 5:2 Hebrew *man*. 5:3a Or *his son, the ancestor of Seth, was born*; similarly in 5:6, 9, 12, 15, 18, 21, 25. 5:3b Hebrew *was in his own likeness, after his image*. 5:4 Or *After the birth of this ancestor of Seth*; similarly in 5:7, 10, 13, 16, 19, 22, 26. 5:29 *Noah* sounds like a Hebrew term that can mean “relief” or “comfort.”

up with humans for such a long time, for they are only mortal flesh. In the future, they will live no more than 120 years."

<sup>4</sup>In those days, and even afterward, giants\* lived on the earth, for whenever the sons of God had intercourse with human women, they gave birth to children who became the heroes mentioned in legends of old.

<sup>5</sup>Now the LORD observed the extent of the people's wickedness, and he saw that all their thoughts were consistently and totally evil. <sup>6</sup>So the LORD was sorry he had ever made them. It broke his heart. <sup>7</sup>And the LORD said, "I will completely wipe out this human race that I have created. Yes, and I will destroy all the animals and birds, too. I am sorry I ever made them." <sup>8</sup>But Noah found favor with the LORD.

<sup>9</sup>This is the history of Noah and his family. Noah was a righteous man, the only blameless man living on earth at the time. He consistently followed God's will and enjoyed a close relationship with him. <sup>10</sup>Noah had three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

<sup>11</sup>Now the earth had become corrupt in God's sight, and it was filled with violence. <sup>12</sup>God observed all this corruption in the world, and he saw violence and depravity everywhere. <sup>13</sup>So God said to Noah, "I have decided to destroy all living creatures, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. Yes, I will wipe them all from the face of the earth!

<sup>14</sup>"Make a boat\* from resinous wood and seal it with tar, inside and out. Then construct decks and stalls throughout its interior. <sup>15</sup>Make it 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high.\* <sup>16</sup>Construct an opening all the way around the boat, 18 inches\* below the roof. Then put three decks inside the boat—bottom, middle, and upper—and put a door in the side.

<sup>17</sup>"Look! I am about to cover the earth with a flood that will destroy every living thing. Everything on earth will die! <sup>18</sup>But I solemnly swear to keep you safe in the boat, with your wife and your sons and their wives. <sup>19</sup>Bring a pair of every kind of animal—a male and a female—into the boat with you to keep them alive during the flood. <sup>20</sup>Pairs of each kind of bird and each kind of animal, large and small alike, will come to you to be kept alive. <sup>21</sup>And remember, take enough food for your family and for all the animals."

<sup>22</sup>So Noah did everything exactly as God had commanded him.

### The Flood Covers the Earth

**7** Finally, the day came when the LORD said to Noah, "Go into the boat with all your family, for among all the people of the earth, I consider you alone to be righteous. <sup>2</sup>Take along seven pairs of each animal that I have approved for eating and for sacrifice, and take one pair of each of the others. <sup>3</sup>Then select seven pairs of every kind of bird. There must be a male and a female in each pair to ensure that every kind of living creature will survive the flood. <sup>4</sup>One week from today I will begin forty days and forty nights of rain. And I will wipe from the earth all the living things I have created."

<sup>5</sup>So Noah did exactly as the LORD had commanded him. <sup>6</sup>He was 600 years old when the flood came, <sup>7</sup>and he went aboard the boat to escape—he and his wife and his sons and their wives. <sup>8</sup>With them were all the various kinds of animals—those approved for eating and sacrifice and those that were not—along with all the birds and other

small animals. <sup>9</sup>They came into the boat in pairs, male and female, just as God had commanded Noah. <sup>10</sup>One week later, the flood came and covered the earth.

<sup>11</sup>When Noah was 600 years old, on the seventeenth day of the second month, the underground waters burst forth on the earth, and the rain fell in mighty torrents from the sky. <sup>12</sup>The rain continued to fall for forty days and forty nights. <sup>13</sup>But Noah had gone into the boat that very day with his wife and his sons—Shem, Ham, and Japheth—and their wives. <sup>14</sup>With them in the boat were pairs of every kind of breathing animal—domestic and wild, large and small—along with birds and flying insects of every kind. <sup>15</sup>Two by two they came into the boat, <sup>16</sup>male and female, just as God had commanded. Then the LORD shut them in.

<sup>17</sup>For forty days the floods prevailed, covering the ground and lifting the boat high above the earth. <sup>18</sup>As the waters rose higher and higher above the ground, the boat floated safely on the surface. <sup>19</sup>Finally, the water covered even the highest mountains on the earth, <sup>20</sup>standing more than twenty-two feet\* above the highest peaks. <sup>21</sup>All the living things on earth died—birds, domestic animals, wild animals, all kinds of small animals, and all the people. <sup>22</sup>Everything died that breathed and lived on dry land. <sup>23</sup>Every living thing on the earth was wiped out—people, animals both large and small, and birds. They were all destroyed, and only Noah was left alive, along with those who were with him in the boat. <sup>24</sup>And the water covered the earth for 150 days.

### The Flood Recedes

**8** But God remembered Noah and all the animals in the boat. He sent a wind to blow across the waters, and the floods began to disappear. <sup>2</sup>The underground water sources ceased their gushing, and the torrential rains stopped. <sup>3</sup>So the flood gradually began to recede. After 150 days, <sup>4</sup>exactly five months from the time the flood began,\* the boat came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. <sup>5</sup>Two and a half months later,\* as the waters continued to go down, other mountain peaks began to appear.

<sup>6</sup>After another forty days, Noah opened the window he had made in the boat <sup>7</sup>and released a raven that flew back and forth until the earth was dry. <sup>8</sup>Then he sent out a dove to see if it could find dry ground. <sup>9</sup>But the dove found no place to land because the water was still too high. So it returned to the boat, and Noah held out his hand and drew the dove back inside. <sup>10</sup>Seven days later, Noah released the dove again. <sup>11</sup>This time, toward evening, the bird returned to him with a fresh olive leaf in its beak. Noah now knew that the water was almost gone. <sup>12</sup>A week later, he released the dove again, and this time it did not come back.

<sup>13</sup>Finally, when Noah was 601 years old, ten and a half months after the flood began,\* Noah lifted back the cover to look. The water was drying up. <sup>14</sup>Two more months went by,\* and at last the earth was dry! <sup>15</sup>Then God said to Noah, <sup>16</sup>"Leave the boat, all of you. <sup>17</sup>Release all the animals and birds so they can breed and reproduce in great numbers." <sup>18</sup>So Noah, his wife, and his sons and their wives left the boat. <sup>19</sup>And all the various kinds of animals and birds came out, pair by pair.

<sup>20</sup>Then Noah built an altar to the LORD and sacrificed on it the animals and birds that had been approved for that purpose. <sup>21</sup>And the LORD was pleased with the sacrifice and said to himself, "I will never again curse the earth, destroy-

6:4 Hebrew *Nephilim*. 6:14 Traditionally rendered an *ark*. 6:15 Hebrew *300 cubits* [135 meters] long, *50 cubits* [22.5 meters] wide, and *30 cubits* [13.5 meters] high. 6:16 Hebrew *1 cubit* [45 centimeters]. 7:20 Hebrew *15 cubits* [6.8 meters]. 8:4 Hebrew on the seventeenth day of the seventh month; see 7:11. 8:5 Hebrew On the first day of the tenth month; see 7:11 and note on 8:4. 8:13 Hebrew on the first day of the first month; see 7:11. 8:14 Hebrew The twenty-seventh day of the second month arrived; see note on 8:13.

ing all living things, even though people's thoughts and actions are bent toward evil from childhood. <sup>22</sup>As long as the earth remains, there will be springtime and harvest, cold and heat, winter and summer, day and night."

### God's Covenant with Noah

**9** God blessed Noah and his sons and told them, "Multiply and fill the earth. <sup>2</sup>All the wild animals, large and small, and all the birds and fish will be afraid of you. I have placed them in your power. <sup>3</sup>I have given them to you for food, just as I have given you grain and vegetables. <sup>4</sup>But you must never eat animals that still have their lifeblood in them. <sup>5</sup>And murder is forbidden. Animals that kill people must die, and any person who murders must be killed. <sup>6</sup>Yes, you must execute anyone who murders another person, for to kill a person is to kill a living being made in God's image. <sup>7</sup>Now you must have many children and repopulate the earth. Yes, multiply and fill the earth!"

<sup>8</sup>Then God told Noah and his sons, <sup>9</sup>"I am making a covenant with you and your descendants, <sup>10</sup>and with the animals you brought with you—all these birds and livestock and wild animals. <sup>11</sup>I solemnly promise never to send another flood to kill all living creatures and destroy the earth." <sup>12</sup>And God said, "I am giving you a sign as evidence of my eternal covenant with you and all living creatures. <sup>13</sup>I have placed my rainbow in the clouds. It is the sign of my permanent promise to you and to all the earth. <sup>14</sup>When I send clouds over the earth, the rainbow will be seen in the clouds, <sup>15</sup>and I will remember my covenant with you and with everything that lives. Never again will there be a flood that will destroy all life. <sup>16</sup>When I see the rainbow in the clouds, I will remember the eternal covenant between God and every living creature on earth." <sup>17</sup>Then God said to Noah, "Yes, this is the sign of my covenant with all the creatures of the earth."

### Noah's Sons

<sup>18</sup>Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the three sons of Noah, survived the Flood with their father. (Ham is the ancestor of the Canaanites.) <sup>19</sup>From these three sons of Noah came all the people now scattered across the earth.

<sup>20</sup>After the Flood, Noah became a farmer and planted a vineyard. <sup>21</sup>One day he became drunk on some wine he had made and lay naked in his tent. <sup>22</sup>Ham, the father of Canaan, saw that his father was naked and went outside and told his brothers. <sup>23</sup>Shem and Japheth took a robe, held it over their shoulders, walked backward into the tent, and covered their father's naked body. As they did this, they looked the other way so they wouldn't see him naked. <sup>24</sup>When Noah woke up from his drunken stupor, he learned what Ham, his youngest son, had done. <sup>25</sup>Then he cursed the descendants of Canaan, the son of Ham:

"A curse on the Canaanites!  
May they be the lowest of servants  
to the descendants of Shem and Japheth."

<sup>26</sup>Then Noah said,

"May Shem be blessed by the LORD my God;  
and may Canaan be his servant.

<sup>27</sup>May God enlarge the territory of Japheth,  
and may he share the prosperity of Shem;\*  
and let Canaan be his servant."

<sup>28</sup>Noah lived another 350 years after the Flood. <sup>29</sup>He was 950 years old when he died.

**10** This is the history of the families of Shem, Ham, and Japheth, the three sons of Noah. Many children were born to them after the Flood.

### Descendants of Japheth

<sup>2</sup>The descendants of Japheth were Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

<sup>3</sup>The descendants of Gomer were Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah.

<sup>4</sup>The descendants of Javan were Elishah, Tarshish, Kittim, and Rodanim.\* <sup>5</sup>Their descendants became the seafaring peoples in various lands, each tribe with its own language.

### Descendants of Ham

<sup>6</sup>The descendants of Ham were Cush, Mizraim,\* Put, and Canaan.

<sup>7</sup>The descendants of Cush were Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. The descendants of Raamah were Sheba and Dedan.

<sup>8</sup>One of Cush's descendants was Nimrod, who became a heroic warrior. <sup>9</sup>He was a mighty hunter in the LORD's sight.\* His name became proverbial, and people would speak of someone as being "like Nimrod, a mighty hunter in the LORD's sight." <sup>10</sup>He built the foundation for his empire in the land of Babylonia,\* with the cities of Babel, Erech, Akkad, and Calneh. <sup>11</sup>From there he extended his reign to Assyria, where he built Nineveh, Rehoboth-ir, Calah, <sup>12</sup>and Resen—the main city of the empire, located between Nineveh and Calah.

<sup>13</sup>Mizraim was the ancestor of the Ludites, Anamites, Lehabites, Naphtuhites, <sup>14</sup>Pathrusites, Casluhites, and the Caphtorites, from whom the Philistines came.\*

<sup>15</sup>Canaan's oldest son was Sidon, the ancestor of the Sidonians. Canaan was also the ancestor of the Hittites, <sup>16</sup>Jebusites, Amorites, Girgashites, <sup>17</sup>Hivites, Arkites, Sinites, <sup>18</sup>Arvadites, Zemarites, and Hamathites. <sup>19</sup>Eventually the territory of Canaan spread from Sidon to Gerar, near Gaza, and to Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim, near Lasha.

<sup>20</sup>These were the descendants of Ham, identified according to their tribes, languages, territories, and nations.

### Descendants of Shem

<sup>21</sup>Sons were also born to Shem, the older brother of Japheth.\* Shem was the ancestor of all the descendants of Eber. <sup>22</sup>The descendants of Shem were Elam, Asshur, Arphaxad, Lud, and Aram.

<sup>23</sup>The descendants of Aram were Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash.

<sup>24</sup>Arphaxad was the father of Shelah,\* and Shelah was the father of Eber. <sup>25</sup>Eber had two sons. The first was named Peleg—"division"—for during his lifetime the people of the world were divided into different language groups and dispersed. His brother's name was Joktan.

<sup>26</sup>Joktan was the ancestor of Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, <sup>27</sup>Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, <sup>28</sup>Obal, Abimaël, Sheba, <sup>29</sup>Ophir, Havilah, and Jobab.

9:27 Hebrew *may he live in the tents of Shem*. 10:4 As in some Hebrew manuscripts and Greek version (see also 1 Chr 1:7); most Hebrew manuscripts read *Dodanim*. 10:6 Or *Egypt*; also in 10:13. 10:9 Hebrew *a mighty hunter before the Lord*; also in 10:9b.

10:10 Hebrew *Shinar*. 10:14 Hebrew *Casluhites, from whom the Philistines came, Caphtorites*. Compare Jer 47:4; Amos 9:7. 10:21 Or *Shem, whose older brother was Japheth*. 10:24 Greek version reads *Arphaxad was the father of Cainan, Cainan was the father of Shelah*.

<sup>30</sup>The descendants of Joktan lived in the area extending from Meshah toward the eastern hills of Sehar.

<sup>31</sup>These were the descendants of Shem, identified according to their tribes, languages, territories, and nations.

<sup>32</sup>These are the families that came from Noah's sons, listed nation by nation according to their lines of descent. The earth was populated with the people of these nations after the Flood.

## 2 BIBLE MEMORY VERSE

***I will cause you to become the father of a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and I will make you a blessing to others.*** GENESIS 12:2

*God promised to bless Abram and make him famous, but there was one condition: Abram had to do what God wanted him to do. This meant leaving his home and friends and traveling to a new land, where God promised to build a great nation from Abram's family. Abram obeyed, and walked away from his home, trusting in God's promise of future blessings. Like Abram, God may be trying to lead you to a place of greater service and usefulness for him. Don't let the comfort and security of your present position make you miss God's plan for you.*

### The Tower of Babel

**11** At one time the whole world spoke a single language and used the same words. <sup>2</sup>As the people migrated eastward, they found a plain in the land of Babylonia\* and settled there. <sup>3</sup>They began to talk about construction projects. "Come," they said, "let's make great piles of burnt brick and collect natural asphalt to use as mortar. <sup>4</sup>Let's build a great city with a tower that reaches to the skies—a monument to our greatness! This will bring us together and keep us from scattering all over the world."

<sup>5</sup>But the LORD came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. <sup>6</sup>"Look!" he said. "If they can accomplish this when they have just begun to take advantage of their common language and political unity, just think of what they will do later. Nothing will be impossible for them! <sup>7</sup>Come, let's go down and give them different languages. Then they won't be able to understand each other."

<sup>8</sup>In that way, the LORD scattered them all over the earth; and that ended the building of the city. <sup>9</sup>That is why the city was called Babel,\* because it was there that the LORD confused the people by giving them many languages, thus scattering them across the earth.

### From Shem to Abram

<sup>10</sup>This is the history of Shem's family.

When Shem was 100 years old, his son Arphaxad was born. This happened two years after the Flood. <sup>11</sup>After the birth of Arphaxad, Shem lived another 500 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>12</sup>When Arphaxad was 35 years old, his son Shelah was born. <sup>13</sup>After the birth of Shelah, Arphaxad lived another 403 years and had other sons and daughters. \*

<sup>14</sup>When Shelah was 30 years old, his son Eber was born. <sup>15</sup>After the birth of Eber, Shelah lived another 403 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>16</sup>When Eber was 34 years old, his son Peleg was born.

<sup>17</sup>After the birth of Peleg, Eber lived another 430 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>18</sup>When Peleg was 30 years old, his son Reu was born.

<sup>19</sup>After the birth of Reu, Peleg lived another 209 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>20</sup>When Reu was 32 years old, his son Serug was born.

<sup>21</sup>After the birth of Serug, Reu lived another 207 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>22</sup>When Serug was 30 years old, his son Nahor was born.

<sup>23</sup>After the birth of Nahor, Serug lived another 200 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>24</sup>When Nahor was 29 years old, his son Terah was born.

<sup>25</sup>After the birth of Terah, Nahor lived another 119 years and had other sons and daughters.

<sup>26</sup>When Terah was 70 years old, he became the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran.

### The Family of Terah

<sup>27</sup>This is the history of Terah's family. Terah was the father of Abram, Nahor, and Haran; and Haran had a son named Lot. <sup>28</sup>But while Haran was still young, he died in Ur of the Chaldeans, the place of his birth. He was survived by Terah, his father. <sup>29</sup>Meanwhile, Abram married Sarai, and his brother Nahor married Milcah, the daughter of their brother Haran. (Milcah had a sister named Iscah.) <sup>30</sup>Now Sarai was not able to have any children.

<sup>31</sup>Terah took his son Abram, his daughter-in-law Sarai, and his grandson Lot (his son Haran's child) and left Ur of the Chaldeans to go to the land of Canaan. But they stopped instead at the village of Haran and settled there.

<sup>32</sup>Terah lived for 205 years\* and died while still at Haran.

### The Call of Abram

**12** Then the LORD told Abram, "Leave your country, your relatives, and your father's house, and go to the land that I will show you. <sup>2</sup>I will cause you to become the father of a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and I will make you a blessing to others. <sup>3</sup>I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you. All the families of the earth will be blessed through you."

<sup>4</sup>So Abram departed as the LORD had instructed him, and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he left Haran. <sup>5</sup>He took his wife, Sarai, his nephew Lot, and all his wealth—his livestock and all the people who had joined his household at Haran—and finally arrived in Canaan. <sup>6</sup>Traveling through Canaan, they came to a place near Shechem and set up camp beside the oak at Moreh. At that time, the area was inhabited by Canaanites.

11:2 Hebrew *Shinar*. 11:9 *Babel* sounds like a Hebrew term that means "confusion." 11:12 Or *his son, the ancestor of Shelah, was born*; similarly in 11:14, 16, 18, 20, 22, 24. 11:12-13 Greek version reads <sup>12</sup>*When Arphaxad was 135 years old, his son Cainan was born*. <sup>13</sup>*After the birth of Cainan, Arphaxad lived another 430 years and had other sons and daughters, and then he died. When Cainan was 130 years old, his son Shelah was born. After the birth of Shelah, Cainan lived another 330 years and had other sons and daughters, and then he died.* 11:32 Some ancient versions read 145 years; compare 11:26; 12:4.

## DICTIONARY/CONCORDANCE

### A

**ABIDE(S)(ING)**, to remain, stay, or wait; *see OBEY or REMAIN*

**ABOMINATION(S)**, anything ritually or ethically abhorrent to God; *see SACRILEGIOUS*

**ABOUND(ED)(ING)**, to have more than an ample supply; *see INCREASE*

**ABSTAIN**, to refrain, keep away, or do without *a* from having sexual . . . Exod 19:15  
*a* from eating meat . . . Acts 15:20

**ABUNDANCE, ABUNDANT**, great quantity, affluence; more than ample  
*a* harvests of grain . . . Ps 4:7  
feed them from the *a* . . . Ps 36:8  
and bless its *a* crops . . . Ps 65:10  
a place of great *a* . . . Ps 66:12  
May there be *a* prosperity . . . Ps 72:7  
you will have *a* joy . . . John 16:24

**ACCEPTABLE**, well-pleasing, favorable, agreeable, welcome  
no more *a* than a human sacrifice . . . Isa 66:3  
Abel brought a more *a* . . . Heb 11:4

**ACCOUNT(ED)**, to reckon or compute; made right (with God); *see RIGHT*

**ACCURSED**, consigned to destruction; *see CURSE or CONDEMN*

**ACQUIT(TAL)(TED)**, to free from the penalty of a guilty action; (used theologically) to justify or make right with God

*a* the one who is innocent . . . 1 Kgs 8:32  
would be *a* by my judge . . . Job 23:7  
despises those who *a* the guilty . . . Prov 17:15  
*a* is not based on our good deeds . . . Rom 3:27

**ADMONISH(ED)**, to warn or give friendly advice; *see ENCOURAGE*

**ADMONITION**, counsel or warning against oversight; *see ENCOURAGEMENT*

**ADOPT(ED)(ING)**, to take another's child into one's own family

*a* as my own sons these two boys . . . Gen 48:5  
God's very own children, *a* into . . . Rom 8:15

**ADULTERER(S)(Y), ADULTEROUS**, prone to spiritual adultery or idolatry

The *a* waits for the twilight . . . Job 24:15  
in these *a* and sinful days . . . Mark 8:38  
idol worshipers, *a*, male prostitutes . . . 1 Cor 6:9

**ADULTERY**, unlawful sexual relations between a married and an unmarried person; symbolic of idolatry

Do not commit *a* . . . Exod 20:14  
*a* with her in his heart . . . Matt 5:28  
marries another commits *a* . . . Matt 19:9  
marries someone else commits *a* . . . Mark 10:11

caught in the act of *a* . . . John 8:3

*a* if she married another . . . Rom 7:3

those who commit *a* . . . Heb 13:4

all who commit *a* with her . . . Rev 2:22

**ADVERSARIES**, enemies, opponents

taunt of the enemy, that their *a* . . . Deut 32:27

I will beat down his *a* before him . . . Ps 89:23

**ADVERSITY**, misfortune, suffering, calamity

*a* for food and affliction for drink . . . Isa 30:20

**AFFLICT(ED)(ING)**, to oppress, trouble, mistreat; to humble, bring low

will *a* you with the boils of Egypt . . . Deut 28:27

gives justice to the *a* . . . Job 36:6

Don't forget your *a* people . . . Ps 74:19

*a* ones, who sit in a drunken . . . Isa 51:21

into captivity, *a* and enslaved . . . Lam 1:3

**AFFLICTION(S)**, great suffering that produces sorrow

Days of *a* have come upon me . . . Job 30:27

the tune "The Suffering of *A* . . . Ps 88:title

adversity for food and *a* for drink . . . Isa 30:20

*a* that come from the rod . . . Lam 3:1

**ALIEN(S)**, foreign or pagan; strangers, sojourners, foreigners; *see FOREIGN*

**ALIENATED**, to make enemies of; to cause a rift; estranged; *see SEPARATED*

**ALPHA**, first letter of Greek alphabet; figurative of beginning or first one

I am the *A* and the Omega . . . Rev 1:8

I am the *A* and the Omega . . . Rev 21:6

I am the *A* and the Omega, the First . . . Rev 22:13

**ALTAR(S)**, high place of worship on which sacrifices are offered or incense is burned

Noah built an *a* . . . Gen 8:20

Abram built an *a* there . . . Gen 12:7

There he built an *a* . . . Gen 13:18

and laid him on the *a* . . . Gen 22:9

Isaac built an *a* there . . . Gen 26:25

built an *a* and called it . . . Gen 33:20

Build *a* in the places . . . Exod 20:24

he built an *a* at the foot . . . Exod 24:4

build the *a*, not for burnt . . . Josh 22:26

David built an there . . . 2 Sam 24:25

the seraphim flew over to the *a* . . . Isa 6:6

the gift on the *a* . . . Matt 23:19

When you swear 'by the *a*,' . . . Matt 23:20

under the *a* the souls of all . . . Rev 6:9

**ANGEL(IC)(S)**, human or superhuman agent or messenger of God

I am sending my *a* before . . . Exod 23:20

Manoah asked the *a* . . . Judg 13:17

*a* came again to present . . . Job 2:1

the *a* of death wait for them . . . Job 33:22

a band of destroying *a* . . . Ps 78:49

highest *a* powers stand in awe . . . Ps 89:7

orders his **a** to protect you . . . Ps 91:11  
 armies of **a** who serve him . . . Ps 103:21  
 will punish the fallen **a** . . . Isa 24:21  
**a** of the Lord appeared to him . . . Matt 1:20  
 the harvesters are the **a** . . . Matt 13:39  
 with his **a** and will judge . . . Matt 16:27  
 They will be like the **a** . . . Matt 22:30  
 thousands of **a** to protect us . . . Matt 26:53  
 the **a** spoke to the women . . . Matt 28:5  
**a** said, "Don't be afraid . . . Luke 1:13  
**a** who told them Jesus is alive . . . Luke 24:23  
 She saw two white-robed **a** . . . John 20:12  
**a** of the Lord came at night . . . Acts 5:19  
 disguise himself as an **a** . . . 2 Cor 11:14  
 Even if an **a** comes . . . Gal 1:8  
 must worship **a** . . . Col 2:18  
 is far greater than the **a** . . . Heb 1:4  
 entertained **a** without realizing . . . Heb 13:2  
 spare even the **a** when they sinned  
 . . . 2 Pet 2:4  
**a** who did not stay within the limits . . . Jude 6  
 four **a** standing at the four corners . . . Rev 7:1  
 seven **a** with the seven trumpets . . . Rev 8:6  
 fought the dragon and his **a** . . . Rev 12:7  
 the **a** with the sickle . . . Rev 14:18  
 a mighty **a** picked up a boulder . . . Rev 18:21  
**a** threw him into the bottomless pit  
 . . . Rev 20:3  
 twelve gates guarded by twelve **a** . . . Rev 21:12  
 I fell down to worship the **a** . . . Rev 22:8

**ANGUISH(ED)**, great pain or suffering  
 How long must I struggle with **a** . . . Ps 13:2  
 you care about the **a** of my soul . . . Ps 31:7  
 My groans come from an **a** heart . . . Ps 38:8  
 My heart is in **a** . . . Ps 55:4  
 Jesus was in great **a** of spirit . . . John 13:21  
 When her child is born, her **a** . . . John 16:21  
 ground their teeth in **a** . . . Rev 16:10

**ANOINT(ED)(ING)**, pour oil upon; used for healing  
 or consecration to sacred duty; used for grooming  
 or burial; figurative for divine appointment  
 the might of his **a** . . . 1 Sam 2:10  
**A** him to be the leader . . . 1 Sam 9:16  
 which of his sons to **a** . . . 1 Sam 16:3  
 you killed the LORD's **a** . . . 2 Sam 1:16  
**a** Jehu . . . and **a** Elisha . . . 1 Kgs 19:16  
 David had been **a** king over . . . 1 Chr 14:8  
 love to your **a**, to David . . . Ps 18:50  
 LORD saves his **a** king . . . Ps 20:6  
**a** my head with oil . . . Ps 23:5  
 healed many sick people, **a** . . . Mark 6:13  
**a** my body for burial . . . Mark 14:8  
**a** my head, but she has **a** my feet . . . Luke 7:46  
 Jesus . . . whom you **a** . . . Acts 4:27

**ANTICHRIST(S)**, opponent of Christ; the  
 personification of evil  
 the **A** is coming . . . 1 Jn 2:18  
 are **a**, for they have denied . . . 1 Jn 2:22  
 is a deceiver and an **a** . . . 2 Jn 1:7

**APOSTLE(S), APOSTLESHIP**, messengers or "sent  
 ones"; generally but not exclusively applied to the  
 original twelve followers of Christ and to Paul  
 names of the twelve **a** . . . Matt 10:2  
 twelve of them to be **a** . . . Luke 6:13  
 an **a** to replace Judas . . . Acts 1:25  
**a** gave powerful witness . . . Acts 4:33  
 chosen by God to be an **a** . . . Rom 1:1

I am the least of all the **a** . . . 1 Cor 15:9  
 who were **a** before I was . . . Gal 1:17  
 on the foundation of the **a** . . . Eph 2:20  
**a**, the prophets, the evangelists . . . Eph 4:11

**APPEAR(ANCE)(ED)(S)**, to come out of hiding and  
 show up in public view; the outward or visible  
 aspect; to make one's presence known  
 so dry ground may **a** . . . Gen 1:9  
 Let bright lights **a** . . . Gen 1:14  
 mountain peaks began to **a** . . . Gen 8:5  
 God had **a** to him there at . . . Gen 35:7  
 LORD continued to **a** . . . 1 Sam 3:21  
 Don't judge by his **a** or height . . . 1 Sam 16:7  
 stand and face him when he **a** . . . Mal 3:2  
**a** changed so that his face . . . Matt 17:2  
 false prophets will **a** . . . Matt 24:11  
 an angel of the Lord **a** . . . Luke 1:11  
**a** and began talking with Jesus . . . Luke 9:30  
**a** of the earth and the sky . . . Luke 12:56  
 Jesus had **a** to them as they . . . Luke 24:35  
 he will simply **a** . . . John 7:27  
 Jesus **a** again to the disciples . . . John 21:1  
 decisions on the basis of **a** . . . 2 Cor 10:7  
 a slave and **a** in human form . . . Phil 2:7  
 modest in their **a** . . . 1 Tim 2:9  
 he **a** to set up his Kingdom . . . 2 Tim 4:1  
 such antichrists have **a** . . . 1 Jn 2:18

**ARK**, commonly, a portable wooden chest, box, or  
 coffer; specifically, of Noah, a ship the size of a light  
 cruiser; of the Covenant, a sacred housing for the  
 Law of Moses  
**A** of acacia wood—a sacred chest . . . Exod 25:10  
 Bezalel made the **A** out of acacia . . . Exod 37:1  
 tablets in the sacred chest—the **A** . . . Deut 10:2  
 priests carrying the **A** of the Covenant . . . Josh 3:3  
**A** of the LORD was carried . . . Josh 6:11  
 sons of Eli, helped carry the **A** of God . . . 1 Sam 4:4  
 placed the **A** of God on a new cart . . . 2 Sam 6:3  
 chest called the **A** of the Covenant . . . Heb 9:4  
 Noah built an **a** to save his family . . . Heb 11:7  
 Temple of God was opened and the **A**  
 . . . Rev 11:19

**ASCEND(ED)(ING)(S)**, to go or move up  
 God has **a** with a mighty shout . . . Ps 47:5  
 When you **a** to the heights . . . Ps 68:18  
 I will **a** to heaven . . . Isa 14:13  
 I am **a** to my Father . . . John 20:17  
 When he **a** to the heights . . . Eph 4:8  
 smoke from that city **a** . . . Rev 19:3

**ASHES**, burnt residue or remains of the dead, or  
 anything ruined; denotes grief, repentance, or  
 humiliation  
 I am but dust and **a** . . . Gen 18:27  
 put on sackcloth and **a** . . . Esth 4:1  
 as he sat among the **a** . . . Job 2:8  
 about as much value as **a** . . . Job 13:12  
 I have become as dust and **a** . . . Job 30:19  
 I sit in dust and **a** to show . . . Job 42:6  
**a** on their heads to show . . . Luke 10:13

**ASLEEP**, state of body rest; figurative for dull to  
 spiritual things; *see SLEEP*  
 Jonah was sound **a** . . . Jon 1:5  
 he fell **a**, and an angel . . . Matt 1:20  
 girl isn't dead; she's only **a** . . . Matt 9:24  
 disciples and found them **a** . . . Matt 26:40  
**a**, chained between two . . . Acts 12:6  
 be on your guard, not **a** . . . 1 Thes 5:6

**ASSURANCE, ASSURE(D)(S)**, to make certain or reassure; characterized by full conviction or confidence

I **a** you, the wicked cities . . . Matt 10:15  
I **a** you that some of you . . . Matt 16:28  
Don't drift away from the **a** . . . Col 1:23  
lives in you, and this is your **a** . . . 1 Cor 1:27  
Spirit gave you full **a** . . . 1 Thes 1:5  
faith that **a** our salvation . . . Heb 10:39  
confident **a** that what we hope . . . Heb 11:1

**ATONEMENT**, reconciliation; reparation for an offense; cleansing

young bull as an offering for the **a** . . . Exod 29:36  
your substitute, thus making **a** . . . Lev 1:4  
In this way, the priest will make **a** . . . Lev 4:20  
blood . . . that brings you **a** . . . Lev 17:11  
Day of **a**, when **a** will be made . . . Lev 23:28  
the Ark's cover, the place of **a** . . . Heb 9:5

**AWE(SOME)**, characterized by reverential fear

What an **a** place this is! . . . Gen 28:17  
**a** power, and terrifying acts . . . Deut 4:34  
be consumed by this **a** fire . . . Deut 5:25  
he is a great and **a** God . . . Deut 7:21  
they will stand in **a** of you . . . Deut 28:10  
with deepest **a** I will worship . . . Ps 5:7  
answer our prayers with **a** deeds . . . Ps 65:5  
God is **a** in his sanctuary . . . Ps 68:35  
angelic powers stand in **a** of God . . . Ps 89:7  
stand in **a** of the God of Israel . . . Isa 29:23  
with great wonder and **a** . . . Luke 5:26  
with holy fear and **a** . . . Heb 12:28

## B

**BACKSLIDER(S)**, one who turns back to sin

**B** get what they deserve . . . Prov 14:14

**BACKSLIDING(S)**, a moral lapse; *see FAITHLESS(NESS)*

**BALM**, a medicinal gum used for healing wounds  
spices, **b**, and myrrh from Gilead . . . Gen 37:25  
as gifts—**b**, honey, spices . . . Gen 43:11

**BAPTISM(S), BAPTIST, BAPTIZE(D), BAPTIZING**, a

Christian sacrament; a washing with water for  
cleansing from sin, linked with repentance and  
admission into the community of faith; figurative of  
an ordeal or initiation

I **b** with water . . . Matt 3:11  
Jesus went . . . to be **b** by John . . . Matt 3:13  
Did John's **b** come from . . . Matt 21:25  
**b** them in the name of . . . Matt 28:19  
Anyone who believes and is **b** . . . Mark 16:16  
for they had refused John's **b** . . . Luke 7:30  
a terrible **b** ahead of me . . . Luke 12:50  
John the **B** was **b** at . . . John 3:23  
will be **b** with the Holy Spirit . . . Acts 1:5  
turn to God, and be **b** . . . Acts 2:38  
Why can't I be **b** . . . Acts 8:36  
She was **b** along with other . . . Acts 16:15  
he knew only about John's **b** . . . Acts 18:25  
**b** to become one with Christ . . . Rom 6:3  
I did not **b** any of you except . . . 1 Cor 1:14  
all **b** in the cloud and the sea . . . 1 Cor 10:2  
**b** into Christ's body by one Spirit . . . 1 Cor 12:13  
**b** for those who are dead . . . 1 Cor 15:29  
one Lord, one faith, one **b** . . . Eph 4:5  
buried with Christ when you were **b** . . . Col 2:12  
further instruction about **b** . . . Heb 6:2

**BARREN**, unproductive, unfruitful, especially in  
childbearing

few children and **b** fields . . . Deut 28:18

**b** woman now has seven . . . 1 Sam 2:5

night be **b**. Let it have no joy . . . Job 3:7

away into a distant, **b** land . . . Isa 22:18

Her **b** wilderness will become . . . Isa 51:3

led us through the **b** wilderness . . . Jer 2:6

**BEAST**, devilish creature(s) ravishing the earth during  
the Tribulation

**b** that comes up out of the bottomless . . . Rev 11:7

**b** come up out of the earth . . . Rev 13:11

the mark of the **b** . . . Rev 16:2

woman sitting on a scarlet **b** . . . Rev 17:3

**BEAST(S)**, animals, as distinguished from plants or  
humans; a contemptible person

a strong **b** of burden . . . Gen 49:14

by the fangs of wild **b** . . . Deut 32:24

It is the king of **b** . . . Job 41:34

**BELIEVE(D)(R)(RS)(S), BELIEVING**, to trust in; to  
hold a firm conviction about

Abram **b** the LORD . . . Gen 15:6

they won't **b** me . . . Exod 3:13

Will they never **b** me . . . Num 14:11

they did not **b** God or trust him . . . Ps 78:22

Only simpletons **b** everything . . . Prov 14:15

Whoever **b** need never run away . . . Isa 28:16

know me, **b** in me, and understand . . . Isa 43:10

What you have **b** has happened . . . Matt 8:13

If another **b** sins against you . . . Matt 18:15

I do **b**, but help me . . . Mark 9:24

prevents them from **b** and . . . Luke 8:12

If I tell you, you won't **b** me . . . Luke 22:67

who **b** him and accepted him . . . John 1:12

who **b** in him will not perish . . . John 3:16

we **b** that you came from God . . . John 16:30

I won't **b** it unless I see . . . John 20:25

by **b** in him you will have life . . . John 20:31

among the community of **b** . . . John 21:23

saving everyone who **b**—Jews . . . Rom 1:16

Instead of **b** what they knew . . . Rom 1:25

Abraham **b** God, so God . . . Rom 4:3

it is by **b** in your heart that you . . . Rom 10:10

If you do anything you **b** is not . . . Rom 14:23

must **b** that there is a God . . . Heb 11:6

even the demons **b** this . . . Jas 2:19

**BIND(ING)**, fasten together; *see BOUND*

permanent and **b** contract . . . Josh 24:25

heals the brokenhearted, **b** up . . . Ps 147:3

God will break the chains that **b** . . . Isa 9:4

**b** up your injury . . . Jer 30:13

**B** him hand and foot . . . Matt 22:13

**BIRTHRIGHT**, right of firstborn, especially to an  
inheritance

trade me your **b** for it . . . Gen 25:31

taking my **b** and now . . . Gen 27:36

his **b** as the oldest son . . . Heb 12:16

**BLAMELESS**, innocent; without guilt or censure  
the only **b** man living . . . Gen 6:9

**b**, a man of complete integrity . . . Job 1:1

**b** lives and do what is right . . . Ps 15:2

you may live pure and **b** . . . Phil 1:10

you are holy and **b** . . . Col 1:22

kept **b** until that day . . . 1 Thes 5:23

holy and **b**, unstained by sin . . . Heb 7:26

**BLASPHEME(D)(R)(S)**, to dishonor or revile God

Do not **b** God or curse . . . Exod 22:28

Take the **b** outside the . . . Lev 24:14

to despise and **b** him . . . 2 Sam 12:14