

The Bible Ark Bible Study Program

Genesis – Introduction to the Pentateuch from the Scofield Study Bible

In the study today I will start out is a little about the love of God and then be reading the introduction for the books of the Pentateuch from the Old Scofield Study Bible. As with the previously covered sections, I will also be making this section available to you as a download from my Website as a PDF document.

Shall we look to the Lord in prayer.

Heavenly father, thank you for your excellent Word and the way that you reveal yourself to us and the way that you reveal Jesus to us through the Word of God. Thank you for your great love for us and for your faithfulness towards all that are willing to turn their hearts toward you! Bless us now Father that we would hear from you and your perfect Word, that we would learn and understand the truth of your Word, and that we would come to know of your perfect love for us through Jesus Christ the only begotten son of God.

We pray in Jesus's name. Amen!

The Love of God is all Important

In the first ten studies where we laid down an introduction to the Bible and to this Bible study program, I was completely consumed with simply getting this program up and running. It has been a great challenge, yet God has greatly blessed. Now that the program is up and running, it is time to focus more carefully on what it is all about: the love of God. That is the focus of my entire ministry, the love of God. Certainly, this Bible study program should reflect the same focus. Therefore, I believe that I should take the time today to give you a brief explanation of the purpose behind my ministry and how this Bible study program fits into that purpose.

I am a fallen man with the sinful nature that I inherited from Adam, yet I have been redeemed in Jesus Christ. Nevertheless, I still have that old sinful nature and I am still traveling down into that valley of death. Some day I will die and return to the dust of the Earth, just as every other human. That is the one possession that each and every one of us shares in this world. We will all face death someday.

You might say to me, Oh no! What about those that are caught up into Heaven when Christ calls His church out of the world? My answer is, Yes, but how does one know that they will be in that company of souls that goes straight from this life on to the next, without passing through the doorway of death? The fact is that no one knows their own fate.

Or you might say to me, Oh no! Science is going to provide a way for us to perpetually extend our lives and/or cryogenically freeze our brains until man solves the problem with death. My answer to that is, God does not agree with that position. The Bible states the opposite. The Bible says that Jesus is the only way to eternal life. I believe the Bible! I do not believe the lies of Satan, and that is exactly what that is ... the lie of Satan. The only promise that can be derived from that lie, is that you will never be rid of your sin and you will never experience the love of God.

In the Bible, God is telling us about the love of Christ, and He is showing to us that Jesus truly is the only solution to our problem with death. God is presenting to us how greatly He loves us, by providing to us a means to be free from death and to be free from sin, through the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

However, as a human minister of God, I am not able to love each and every one of you as Jesus Christ loves you. It is impossible for me to love each one of you as Christ loves you. In fact, I do not even understand how much He loves each one of you listening to me at this moment. God's love for you and I is infinite. There are no bounds and limits to love that God has for you and I. Therefore, I can ever hope to communicate that exceedingly great love to you? It does not seem like there is a way to really do it. Yet God is providing a means for Him to paint a most lovely picture of His love through my ministry.

God is using my own sacrifice to my one dear friend to show in human terms how greatly He loves you, Bee. I am not sure that matters if I am successful in completing this circumnavigation of the Earth or not. If I die in my attempt, then I prove that I truly do love you to my very death. I show to you that I love you more than life itself. Yet if God does make it possible for me to complete my errand, then it not only proves the love that God has given me by which to love you, but it proves in a very direct way His love for you and for me.

In the midst of all these events and trials, God is and will continue to paint a picture of that exceedingly great love that Jesus has for you and I and all those that are a witness to these things. How many miracles will God perform in and through this story? How many miracles has He already performed? It is more than you could imagine. It is a miracle that you are hearing me speak these words to you at this very moment, is it not? When I pour out my soul unto you, in obedience to my Lord and Savior, is it not an example of that pure love of God? ... that God the Father sent His only begotten Son into the world to die on a cross for sin of the world?

Every passing day that I continue working through all the obstacles and hardships towards that ultimate goal, it shows forth in very tangible and human terms this great love of God. The closer I get to my goal, the more it shows my own love and devotion, and in an even greater way it demonstrates God's love, simply because He keeps providing a way for me to progress towards that goal. As a result, every person that sees these things as they happen is able to see this great love of God unfold. As they do, they will begin to see how God works to accomplish the same things in their very own lives. Their eyes will be opened to understand how God not only loves you and I, but that He loves them also. They will see that God has a plan and a purpose for all of us and that the reason for it is that He wants each and every one of us to experience that overwhelming love that Jesus has for us ... all of us!

In all of this God is glorified. When we open our hearts to understand and to receive the love of God, we are showing forth His worthiness. We are recognizing Him as God. We are acknowledging that His Word is true and that God is righteous. We are witnessing to everyone around us that we believe God. But it does not stop there! When we respond to the love of God then He simply loves us even more, or to be more accurate ... it opens up our heart to receive more of God's love. The more we love God the more love He pours into our hearts, and with the more love that He pours into our hearts the bigger He makes our hearts.

It never ends. The more we love God the more we Grow in God's love, and the more we learn to love those things and those people that God loves. Howbeit, it is important to understand that the love that I am talking about God's perfect love, not the love of the world. There is a difference. Two things could hardly be any more different from one another as the love of the world and the love of God.

The love of the world is covetous; it wants to possess; it wants to consume; it wants to take.

The love of God wants to give; it wants to build up; it wants to sacrifice; it wants to grow; it wants to nurture.

The love of the world can often look like the love of God on the surface. Yet not matter how beautiful it looks on the outside, what begins in sin will, at length, be manifest in sin, and it will bring forth death.

Moreover, the love of God comes from God and God alone. You and I cannot love anyone or anything with the love of God, unless God gives you that love. The love of God is a mystery to those who do not know God.

Therefore, as we are beginning to get into the Bible itself. I am anxious to show to all of you from the Word of God how He loves us, and how great His love for us is. The more that we learn about God's love the more we will be blessed with His love.

Unfortunately, when we engrossed with these in-depth Bible studies when men bring to the table significant theological content, it is easy for us to get wrapped around the axle with facts, and we lay to rest the more important aspects of God and His beautiful Word.

I believe that is one of the reasons why God chose me for this purpose. I can certainly be technical, and I can delve into facts much like a theologian can, but I am not a theologian. I am a fisherman ... not a very good one to be sure. However, I am certainly much more of a fisherman that I could ever be a theologian.

Regardless, we should probably get on with the program. I would like to read you the introduction that Dr. Scofield has given us for the Pentateuch, the first five books of the Bible, the books of Moses. However, before I read that introduction to you, I do want to follow up with respect yesterday's study by stating a few comments.

Is New Scofield Bible Intro Different from the Old Scofield Bible

All along we have been looking at the Old Scofield Study Bible, primarily. I thought it would be good to quickly address what the New Scofield Study Bible has for introductory material. It is interesting; because, if you boil it all down to most fundamental pieces of information there is not very much that is different between the 1917 revision of the Old Scofield Study Bible and the New Scofield Bible. However, the way that the information is presented is significantly different.

In the Old Scofield Bible we have:

- The Introduction,
- The Preface to the 1917 Revision, and
- "A Panoramic View of the Bible"

In the New Scofield Bible we have:

- An Introduction (that reads quite differently),
With the following sub-sections: History of the Scofield Bible, Philosophy of the Scofield Bible; and the 2003 Edition (if you have that most recent revision). There are a few brief (but not trivial) points that are included from the 1917 Introduction.
- Then there is a section titled, "How to use This Study Bible," which reads very much the same as the Introduction from the Old Scofield Bible.
- Finally, there is a section titled, "The Overall Plan of the Bible," which is a somewhat restructured version of "A Panoramic View of the Bible"

The new version is not quite as concise, but it is a little bit cleaner for the most part. There are a few points that have been removed or significantly reworded in light of the fact that it has been over a hundred years since the Old Scofield Bible was published, and that makes perfect sense. There are a couple of other things that have been changed, such as the book of Lamentations is now listed with the rest of the prophetic books, instead of the poetic books. It now conforms to convention, essentially. This is not something that is very important in my eyes, but as I said, I am not a theologian.

The bottom line is that upon a cursory review between the two books, I really do not see anything to be concerned about. I know that some persons get rather passionate about the difference between the two, but I honestly do not see what the fuss is about. Let me say it again, "What does the Bible say?"

We can get into a lot of discussion and debate about Dr. McGee and Dr. Scofield and their teachings, but after all they are just as human as you and I. God used them both to teach and preach the Word of God, and God still uses them for that purpose. However, they are neither one of them "The Very Word of God." Only Jesus is "The Very Word of God," and only the Spirit of God can teach us the truth of the Word. We do well to read the best Bible translation that we can and to learn from the best teachers, but we will never get anywhere unless we are trusting in the Spirit of God and inclining our hearts to God in prayer.

With that let me now read to you this introduction to the books of the Pentateuch from the Old Scofield Bible.

Introduction to the Pentateuch from the Old Scofield Bible

You can download this document from my [Website](#).

THE PENTATEUCH

THE five books ascribed to Moses have a peculiar place in the structure of the Bible, and an order which is undeniably the order of the experience of the people of God in all ages. Genesis is the book of origins of the beginning of life, and of ruin through sin. Its first word, "In the beginning God," is in striking contrast with the end, "In a coffin in Egypt." Exodus is the book of redemption, the first need of a ruined race. Leviticus is the book of worship and communion, the proper exercise of the redeemed. Numbers speaks of the experiences of a pilgrim people, the redeemed passing through a hostile scene to a promised inheritance. Deuteronomy, retrospective and prospective, is a book of instruction for the redeemed about to enter that inheritance. That Babylonian and Assyrian monuments contain records bearing a grotesque resemblance to the majestic account of the creation and of the Flood is true, as also that these antedate Moses. But this confirms rather than invalidates the inspiration of the Mosaic account. Some tradition of creation and the Flood would inevitably be handed down in the ancient

cradle of the race. Such a tradition, following the order of all tradition, would take on grotesque and mythological features, and these abound in the Babylonian records. Of necessity, therefore, the first task of inspiration would be to supplant the often absurd and childish tradition with a revelation of the true history, and such a history we find in words of matchless grandeur, and in an order which, rightly understood, is absolutely scientific. In the ^aPentateuch, therefore, we have a true and logical introduction to the entire Bible; and, in type, an epitome of the divine revelation.

a) Cf. Mt. 8. 4 ; 19 , 8 ; Mk . 12. 26 ; Lk . 5. 14 ; 16. 29-31 ; John 3. 14 ; 5. 45 , 46 ; 7. 19 .

Join us again on Monday as we take a look at the introductory comments to the book of Genesis.

Closing Remarks

For those of you listening on YouTube, please note that there a copy of the notes for this program that is available as a downloadable PDF document. You can also download an MP3 file of this program and for the corresponding Thru the Bible program from my [Website](http://Dalet.us). Just visit Dalet.us for more information.

Please understand that this program, the Bible Ark, is meant to be a complement to the Thru the Bible Bible Study program, by Dr. J. Vernon McGee. It is in not meant to be a replacement.

My hope and my prayer is that you will sit down with me with your Bible open and that you will read the Bible with me as I speak. Then go listen to the Thru the Bible broadcast. If you follow that method, you will grow in your understanding of the Word of God in ways you never dreamed possible.

You can find out everything that you need to know about the Thru the Bible program by visiting the ttb.org Website. You can also download the Thru the Bible app to your smartphone. All of the TTB broadcasts are available free of charge from many different sources. You can access the broadcasts from the TTB Website, from the TTB app, and from many other sources, including Podcast, YouTube, or from terrestrial radio broadcasts. The TTB audio broadcast is available in over 120 languages, so if you speak a different language as your heart language, they probably have a broadcast of TTB in your mother tongue. Just go to ttb.org for more info.

Dale Trussell, April 15th, 2021