

# OLD TESTAMENT CHALLENGE

“Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path.” Ps. 119:105

## Week of September 21, 2009

**MONDAY** Genesis 1; Psalm 1  
**TUESDAY** Genesis 2-3  
**WEDNESDAY** Genesis 4; Psalm 2  
**THURSDAY** Genesis 5-6  
**FRIDAY** Genesis 7-8; Psalm 3  
**WEEKEND** Genesis 9-11; Psalm 4

### Questions For Reflection

- **Monday – God’s Good Creation**
  - What does the passage “Let us make man in our own image; after our own likeness” say about the unique relationship God desired to have between humankind and himself?
  - What are the implications for how we should care for God’s creation?
- **Tuesday – God’s Breath of Life and the Fall of Humanity**
  - What clue about our need for community is contained in Gen 2:18?
  - How did the serpent twist God’s Word in Gen 3:1 and 4 (Compare Gen 2:16-17)
  - In spite of the curses, How did God show grace after the fall? What does this tell you about Him?
- **Wednesday – Sin Spreads to the Family**
  - In Gen 4, sin spreads from the individual to the family. How are families you know still experiencing the fallout from sin today?
  - What insights about sin’s effects do you get from Gen 4:7?
- **Thursday – Sin Spreads Worldwide**
  - What was true about Noah that mad him the exception to the rest of the world?
  - What does it tell you about God’s Character that so many years went by before he judged sin? What application does that have to our own lives when it comes to reflecting God’s love toward others?
- **Friday – The Flood**
  - What do you think might be the significance of who closed the ark (Gen 7:16)? Does this teach you anything about God?
  - What do you learn from these New Testament passages that comment on Noah and the Flood: Hebrews 11:7, 1 Peter 3:18-22, 2 Peter 2:5, and Matthew 24:37-39
- **Weekend – God’s Covenant; Tower of Babel**
  - Compare Isaiah 14:12-15 and Gen 11. What sins were being committed by the people who built this monument?
  - How does such pride and rejection of God’s rule show up in our day? In what ways are you tempted to build your own monument to “Almighty Me”?

## Week of September 28, 2009

**MONDAY** Genesis 12-15; Psalm 5  
**TUESDAY** Genesis 16-18  
**WEDNESDAY** Genesis 19-21; Psalm 6  
**THURSDAY** Genesis 22-24  
**FRIDAY** Genesis 25-26; Psalm 7  
**WEEKEND** Genesis 27-31; Psalm 8

### Questions For Reflection

- **Monday – God’s Covenant with Abraham**
  - Though Abram was “chosen” out of the nations, who else did God want to bless through his offspring, (Gen 12:2-3)? Compare this Old Testament Great Commission to the New Testament version in Matt. 28:18-20.
  - How does experiencing God’s favor inspire us to reach out to others with that love? Why do we sometimes lose concern for the lost?
- **Tuesday – Ishmael Born, Sarai Languishes – and Laughs**
  - Archeology suggests that Sarai’s suggestion in Gen 16:2 was a common practice in secular culture – the results were disastrous. How do we also sometimes miss God’s best, rationalizing that “everybody’s doing it”?
  - What spiritual parallel to this story is made in Gal 4:21-31?
- **Wednesday – Destruction and Birth**
  - What does Gen 19:6-8, 16, 26 and 31-38 tell you about the corrupting influence of this culture on Lot and his family?
  - Based on what you have seen of Abraham and Sarah’s maturity and faithfulness, what is the significance of the word “gracious” in Gen 21:1? What do you learn about God from this passage?
- **Thursday – Isaac gets life – and Later a Wife**
  - What parallels in language and imagery do you see between the sacrifice of Isaac and Jesus in Hebrews 11:17-19; John 3:16, and Romans 8:32?
- **Friday – Esau Sells His Birthright**
  - Malachi 1:2-5 harks back to God’s kindness to Jacob over Esau as a warning not to be smug. Have you ever felt spiritually complacent because you know God loves you? How can that be avoided?
  - What additional comments on Esau’s foolishness do you find in Hebrews 12:16-17?
- **Weekend – Jacob’s Dream and Double-cross; Jacob Flees**
  - How did Jesus use the story of Jacob’s dream (Gen 28:10-19) to describe his own role as a “bridge” between God and humans (John 1:50-51)?