

# ABC's of SALVATION

by

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## CHAPTER NINETEEN

### SATAN'S HATRED OF GENESIS

No other book in the Bible has been subjected to the fiery darts of the wicked one like the book of Genesis. There is a reason. When I was a boy, living on the Mason and Dixon Line, there was much trouble for a few years in the tobacco fields. There was a group of desperadoes known as "The Night Riders" who would sally forth under cover of darkness and destroy the tobacco beds. This was their method of destruction of the tobacco crop. It was so much easier to destroy the plants in the bed than later in the fields.

Genesis means "The Book of Beginnings." Here we find the great foundation doctrines, in germ, which are later unfolded in the Word of God. Destroy faith in this foundation book and faith is destroyed in all the balance of the Bible. If you doubt this statement, ask the high school and college students of today concerning their belief in the Genesis account of creation. The great majority of them will tell you that it is myth or fiction. In much of the so-called religious world you will get the same answer.

A few years ago a questionnaire was sent out to 700 ministers. Of this group, 500 were settled pastors while 200 were yet students in different theological seminaries. On the question "Do you believe in the Genesis account of creation?" 47 per cent of the pastors said, "Yes," 5 per cent were uncertain, while 48 per cent said, "No." But when it came to the students yet in the seminaries, 5 per cent said, "Yes," 6 per cent said, "Uncertain," and 89 per cent said, "No."

Thus you see the devil and his "night-riders" are attempting to destroy faith in the "germ-plot" of the Bible. To do this makes it easy to destroy faith in the balance of the Word of God.

Let us notice some of the great germ truths of the Book of Genesis.

#### I. Theology—the Science of God

There are at least five Hebrew names of Deity in this book. In its first verse we read, "**In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.**" The Hebrew word for God is *Elohim*. The latter is a "uni-plural" noun while the verb "created" is singular. Here we find plurality acting as one—a clear intimation of the Trinity. The word also means "*The Strong*" or "*All Powerful One*."

Some time ago a member of the church of which I was then pastor handed me a textbook on history, used in a leading university where she was then a student. This textbook stated, "The Jews' first conception of God was that of a tribal god, but as they emerged from savagery into civilization, their conception of God grew until they conceived Him to be an all powerful Deity."

The author who made that statement never studied the etymology of the name of God as it first occurs in the book of Genesis or he would never have allowed that statement to appear in print.

Destroy the testimony of Genesis concerning God and there is no resting place save the restlessness of agnosticism. Men who doubt the authenticity of Genesis may retain a form of religion but they are well on the way to complete infidelity.

## **II. Cosmogony—the Science of the Universe**

We are told that the sun is a million times larger than the earth and more than 92 millions of miles away, yet the moment it appears over the eastern horizon, its light is seen, its heat is felt, and its health rays invigorate.

We look into the heavens at night and see the milky way, said to be a circular disk—10 million light years in diameter and containing 200 billions of stars of which our solar system is only a galaxy, all of which revolve around some center.

We turn from the telescopic heavens to the microscopic atoms and electrons and the hallmark of the design of the Creator is still seen. Tell me to believe that all this came into being by mere chance, and you ask me to believe the unbelievable.

The simple and sublime first verse of Genesis says, "**In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth.**"

Simple, yes, but satisfying. Reject this simple statement and you are face to face with the impossible. Genesis is the germ plot of cosmogony.

## **III. Anthropology—the Science of Man**

Genesis teaches that man was created by the direct act of God, given dominion over all beneath him, and was responsible to God—his Creator. Deny this and you have to turn to brute ancestry. Accept the latter and immediately you are confronted by insurmountable chasms.

When did the inanimate become animate? From whence came life? When did plant life become animal? Why do we not see the process still continuing? Why cannot man produce life in the laboratories today? There is no end to the questions which immediately arise.

Genesis gives the only satisfactory account of the origin of man. It contains the germ plot of anthropology. Destroy belief in this simple record and you have nothing upon which to rest save the disproved and impossible theory of evolution.

#### IV. Sociology—the Science of Society

Where did society begin? If evolution be true, pray tell me at what point in the world's history did society begin? Then, too, after reaching the pinnacle, why did society turn and butcher ten millions of men in the First World War then plan immediately and enter another World War? Why did society not learn a lesson from the First World War, if it is always in the ascendancy—ever and ever upward?

Genesis reveals the first unit of society—the family based upon the marriage relationship. What is a nation? Is it not multiplied families, recognizing their responsibility to society? Deny the sacredness of this first unit of society, as revealed in the book of Genesis, and you have a spurious society which is responsible for the ills and wars of this present generation.

Today this basic principle of society as laid down by God—the sanctity of the marriage relationship—is being flouted by those in highest political and social positions, with the resultant crime wave such as the world has never seen before. If the foundations be destroyed, who can survive? We have sown the wind—the whirlwind is upon the world.

#### V. Ethnology—the Science of the Races

In the first verse of Genesis 11 it is written, “**The whole earth was of one language, and of one speech.**” There is not a philologist in the world but who will tell you of the similarity of root words in languages. When did the break come? Why did it come? Genesis 9, 10, and 11 will give the record.

God fixed the tableland of Armenia as the starting place for the race after the flood. The very nature of the land made it easy for the race to fulfill His demand to “**replenish the earth.**” But, instead, the race resolved to stay together.

The rich, alluvial plains of Shinar seemed fitted for this purpose. If permanency were to prevail the tent must give way to something more substantial. Man's ingenuity brought brick, brick brought forth Babel, Babel brought forth judgment. The racial animosities of today find their foundation in the rebellion of Genesis 11.

Again we say, reject the simple statements of the book of Genesis and you are face to face with insurmountable questions.

#### VI. Hamartiology—the Science of Sin

You may belong to some group of people who deny the fact of sin, but your denial makes it none the less true. There is a universal consciousness of sin. This is shown by the fact that man tries to keep God out of his thoughts. Something is wrong with the child that cannot think about its parents in comfort. There is a moral disease gnawing at the race. What is it? It is sin.

Everywhere you look the race bears the malefactor aspect.

The lock on your doors, the policeman on your sidewalk, the penitentiaries that house the criminals, and the courts that try them are all mute evidences of the malefactor aspect of the race.

Sir Robert Anderson, the great English barrister, once said, “Society, even in the greatest centers of our civilization, is all too like the slave ship, where, with sounds of music, laughter, and revelry on the upper deck, there mingles the groans of untold misery battened down below.”

With all man’s boasted progress we are faced with crime and destruction on every hand such as the world has never seen. Why is human blood so cheap—cheaper than ever before? When did sin begin? Genesis gives the only answer.

Reject the Genesis account of sin, and every evolutionist should hang his head in shame at the miserable failure of man. Genesis contains the true account of the beginning of sin.

## VII. Soteriology—the Science of Salvation

**“Where sin abounded, grace did much more abound”** (Romans 5:20).

In whispers, symbols and shadows, Genesis teaches us that salvation for lost man must come from God.

In germ truth, it teaches that truth which Jonah heralded from his submarine imprisonment; namely, **“Salvation is of the Lord.”** This germ truth is seen in the first question asked by God when He said to sinning man, **“Where art thou?”** and finds its full fruit in the words of Him who said, **“The Son of Man is come to seek and to save that which was lost”** (Luke 19:10).

The first act of God following this first question portrays the plan of salvation. God made coats of skins for coverings for the sinning pair from slain animals. These coverings covered their nakedness—a type of the covering for sins. Thus in germ is found the truth which runs from this first book to the final one, **“Without shedding of blood is no remission”** (Hebrews 9:22).

Then, too, in Genesis 3:15 is found the first promise of a Person—the seed of the woman, who was to have victory over the seed of the serpent.

So the first question, the first act, and the first promise of God contain the germ truth of the finished statement by John the Baptist, four millenniums later, when he said, on the banks of the Jordan when pointing to the virgin-born Son, **“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world!”** (John 1:29). Do not allow the enemy of your soul to undermine your faith in the authenticity and authority of the book of Genesis!

Mid the storms of doubts and unbelief, we fear,  
Stands a Book eternal that the saints hold dear;  
Through the restless ages,  
It remains the same,  
‘Tis the Book of God—the Bible is its name.

The Old Book and the Old Faith are the rocks that stand,  
The Old Book and the Old Faith—the bulwarks of the land.  
Through storm and stress, they stand the test,  
In every clime and nation blest;  
The Old Book and the Old Faith—the hope of every land.

~ end of chapter 19 ~

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