



Biblical Literacy

Scripture • Substance • Spiritual Passion

Lesson 1.2

Old Testament Survey: Genesis - Authorship Issues, Part 2

Outline for Class

- Welcome
- Theme Today
In 2003, John Webster, a Professor of Systematic Theology at the University of Aberdeen, published a book entitled, Holy Scripture. In the book, he asks the question whether in the 21st century one may speak of Scripture as "Holy" with an eye toward both good religious practice and good intellectual inquiry.² We agree with Webster's conclusion that it is not only proper to speak of Scripture as "Holy," but it is also important to understand why we say so.
- Prayer for Wisdom
- Video (35 minutes)
- Points for Home

Points for Home

- ❖ "And the LORD said to Moses, "Write these words..." (Ex. 34:27).
God made man. He made man in his image. But God did not stop there. Even after man is removed from the Garden, God continues to communicate to man. God set up prophets and had those prophets write as per God's instructions. These were words that God has provided as a God who communicates. We may not know exactly all the words Moses wrote, but we know that the entirety of Scripture are words that God instructed to have written for the benefit of humanity – including you and me. Let us commit to study anew what God has instructed written for our growth.
- ❖ "I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers" (Dt. 18:18).
Moses knew as he wrote what he heard from the LORD that his words were not the final words of God to man. Moses wrote of one who would follow him, a prophet from among the Hebrew descendants. That ultimate prophet was Jesus. Jesus – the Word of God, flesh, dwelling among us (Jn 1:14). In Moses we have the law, but in Christ we have God's grace and truth (Jn 1:17). As we continue our study of Moses and the Old Testament, let us do so with an eye toward its fulfillment in Christ. For as the New Testament book of Hebrews begins: "Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son."
- ❖ "In the beginning, God created..." (Gen. 1:1).
God stands over creation. He is not a part of it. Its laws do not control him. He is not subject to the labor of working the earth. He is not in competition with other gods. God is all-powerful, loving, and compassionate. He has made us in his image and seeks relationship with us. This is not out of his need for us. It is out of his giving love. Let us commit to learning of God, of his work, and how we should serve and relate to him each day of our lives.

Discussion Questions:

- ◆ What questions were raised in this class that causes you to challenge some of the assumptions you've had in the past?
- ◆ What tools or thoughts did you gain to help you move forward in a deeper understanding of scripture?

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