



## The Bible in Three Pages

A brief summary by 'theanswerer'

Page one of the Bible begins with the record of **how God created this world**. "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth."(Genesis 1:1) 'theanswerer' believes this is true. 'The heavens', means this galaxy - *The Milky Way* - and all galaxies. Ours (The Milky Way) contains 400,000,000,000 stars (suns) and our Sun has its own 'Solar system' of orbiting planets including 'earth' which has life, water, air plants animals and people. Quite unique (very special). Life cannot exist without water and sunlight. Note well: No planets crash into each other, even though 4 billion (400,000,000,000) stars are in it! That is pretty Cool! And, our galaxy goes around every 200 million. years.(200,000,000..Phew!)

God created humans too - a man and a woman, and provided a lovely garden with food to eat. God told the humans, **Adam and Eve**, "to eat any fruit they liked, but not the fruit from one special tree...the tree of the knowledge of good and evil."(Gen.2: 15-17) But they did and God was angry and sorry for them. God sent them out of that garden but told the woman: " *...one of your seed (your offspring - a human) will bruise (kick) Satan's head.*" (Gen.3:15-16) (*Satan had deceived them into eating the forbidden fruit.*) That is the first and a very important prophecy. (Gen 3:15). Prophecy is the written telling of what will happen in the future ... and the Bible has never been wrong with its prophecies. More on that later.

Adam and Eve had children and many years later the population had expanded very much. But: "*...evil beings from the spirit world...*" (Gen.6:4) came to earth and saw how beautiful the women were and got sexually involved with them and had children. The children were big, a bit like giants and God was not happy with that at all. People got to behaving badly and selfishly - in fact it got so bad that: "*...God was sorry that He had made man, it broke his heart.*" (Gen.6:5-7) Then came God's next move-flood the earth and wipe out (kill) every wicked person. God had Noah make a large boat, called the 'Ark' and it was big. **Noah and his three sons & their wives** got into the Ark before the flood came, along with a male & female of every animal that breathed, and they survived the flood, because they were all good in God's eyes. (Genesis Chapter 6 to 9). The flood water lasted a year then went away and humanity and the animals started again. God told them to: "Be fruitful and increase in number and fill the earth." (Gen.9:1 NIV)

Hundreds of years later God noticed Abram. Abram believed that there was a God somewhere and acted like God was somewhere - so God spoke to him and told him: "*You will become the father of a great nation and your offspring (children) will number like the sands of the seashore or the stars in the sky.*" Also: "*I will bless those who bless you - and curse those who curse you.*" (Gen.12:1-3) Abram (changed later to Abraham) had two sons - **Ishmael** (ancestor to Muslims) and **Isaac** - who's children became the nation of Israel much later. Isaac's son, **Jacob**, became the father of 12 sons and they became the 12 tribes of Israel (Jews) they and went to live in Canaan. (Israel)

In 700 BC (**Before Christ**, the years before Jesus was born) the prophet Isaiah wrote of the 'Messiah' (God's chosen one). "A son will be born to a virgin." (Isa.9:6-7) and the suffering, for us, of God's chosen one in Isaiah Chapter 53 are just two of the 300 references to God's chosen one – 'The Messiah' and his coming. This 'Messiah' is Jesus, whom we speak of today as God's Son.

**King David** was very special to God, even though David was not perfect. From his family tribe came Mary & Joseph who became the earthly parents of Jesus - 'The Messiah.' How the angel Gabriel came to Mary to tell her that she had been chosen by God to carry the baby Jesus is in (Luke Ch.1:26-38). Earlier Mary's fiancé, Joseph, was told by an angel how Mary would become pregnant - by a miracle from God ... not by Joseph. (Matt.1:18-25) (*Isaiah's prophecy come true 700 years later*).

The place of the birth of **Jesus** was prophesied too by the prophet Micah. (Mic. 5:2) It was Bethlehem and it happened exactly as it was prophesied. King Herod was an awful king, and he heard from the 'Wise men' that a new king had been born. Herod wanted no king to replace him ... so he had had every child under two years old in and around Bethlehem, murdered. But God knew about this and an angel came at night and told Joseph to take Mary and Jesus to Egypt *tonight!* (Matt.2:7-15) Some task in those days! But Joseph did as he was told and two more prophecies were fulfilled: One: Jesus went to Egypt and returned. (Mt.2:15 & Hosea 11:1) and two...the weeping mothers of the children Herod had ordered killed. (Jeremiah 31:15) Herod was horrible, about the worst king in history. Joseph spent several years in Egypt and came back when an angel told him to, as Herod was now dead, so **Joseph and Mary** returned and settled in Nazareth. Jesus grew up there with brothers and sisters. (Matt.2:19-23)

When Jesus got to 30 years old, '**John the Baptist**' had been telling people of the 'Messiah' who was soon to come. He met Jesus and baptised him. At the moment of his baptism the "*Spirit of God descended on Jesus like a dove*" and a voice from heaven said: "*This is my beloved Son, and I am wonderfully pleased with him.*" (Matthew 3:1-17). This began the 3 years of the Jesus' ministry on this earth, written down in the Bible by four different writers: Matthew, Mark, Luke and John.

Jesus chose 12 men to be his '**Disciples**' and to teach them all about God. *Ordinary men ... no Professors, 'Teachers of the Law', Scribes or 'Big people'.* Jesus could tell what was in the hearts of people so he chose good men. (Matt.4:18-22) From these 12 disciples has come 2,000,000,000 Christians. Jesus showed God's power by healing the lame, the sick, blind and driving out demons (evil spirits). He also told the disciples that later: "*... I will be brutally hurt and killed, but I will rise to life on the third day.*" *WOW! That would be hard to understand! NOBODY HAD EVER SAID THAT...OR DONE THAT, BEFORE!* (That is all in Matt. Ch. 26 to 28.) It all did happen. Just before He died by crucifixion, (Matt.27:50-53) Jesus loudly cried out: "*It is finished...*" and Satan got the bruised head mentioned in Gen.3:15. How? The veil (a very thick curtain) that separated everyone from 'The Most Holy Place' in the **Temple**, except the High Priest once a year, was "... rent in two..."(torn from top to bottom) (Mark 15:33-39). The 'Most Holy Place' was now open to everyone because Jesus had paid the debt of our sins on the cross. *Humans could now talk (pray) directly to God, and ask for and receive forgiveness ... and/or protection from Satan's evil works.* The 'Most Holy Place' was where God used to accept the blood sacrifice for the people's *sins was now not needed!* Because of Jesus' sacrifice once for all!

The disciples ... and all who believe in Jesus no longer need to make a real blood **sacrifice** for their sins. *Jesus paid it all because we could never be good enough by our own efforts.*

After that killing by crucifixion, Jesus did 'rise to life again' fulfilling His own prophecy. The guards at his tomb were bribed (*that is an old activity that still goes on today*) to say that his disciples came and took him away while they slept. (Matt.28:11-15) Later over 500 people saw him alive too.

(It needs to be said here that of all books of the main religions: Christianity, Islam, Buddhists, Hindu's, Sikhs and all others - the only one that writes down the future - **Prophecy** - is the Bible, and it comes true too. Please - check it out for yourself to see if I am wrong.)

The first five chapters of Acts (The Acts of the Apostles) tells of the triumph, the tragedy of the 12 disciples ... and the wise words of Gamaliel. He was an expert on religious law made a very powerful statement (about Peter and John who were on trial), part of which was:(v.35) "If what these men say is true, we may find ourselves fighting even against God" (Acts 5:17-42) *Powerful words about God at work in this world, through His **Holy Spirit**.*

And Jesus also said that: "*I will come again (to the earth) in the clouds with great glory and with the trumpet call of the angel of God.*" That is called *The Second Coming*. (Matt.24:1-31). There will be "... a New Heaven and a New Earth where God reigns supreme ... with no pain, crying or death ... God will wipe all tears from their eyes." (Revelation Ch.21 & 22) *That is John writing. John was the only Disciple to survive to old age. The other eleven were killed in various ways. John saw all that and much more, in a vision given to him from God. It is all in the book, **Revelation**.*

*This writer is looking forward to being in **heaven** where God and Jesus are - and all the good things Jesus has prepared. (See John 14:1-4) Jesus told his disciples that "I go to prepare a place for you and I'll come again to get you - so you can be where I am."* That includes all those who believe in Jesus too.

### **I hope to see you there.**

**An extra note:** *You my friend, reader, you may be Christian, Bhuddist, Muslim, Sikh or Hindu, etc. I do not know you, but you have read what I write and what I believe and what I have experienced, the good and the bad.*

*You may be interested in having a Bible if you do not have one. The Bible in the world's bestselling book and has been so for years. At no cost (this is a free offer) I will do my best to get one to you - anywhere in the world. Christianity has people in every country including missionaries. There is an email address on the website so you can send me a **request for a Bible**. Or look up a friend of mine's website - a very helpful website indeed: <http://www.mylanguage.net.au/bibleonline/engoo>*