



## In the Beginning ... What can we Learn from a Genealogy?

NorthRidge Church

Dr. M. David Myers

March 14, 2021

*When God created mankind, he made them in the likeness of God. He created them male and female and blessed them. And he named them "Mankind" when they were created. – Genesis 5:1-2*

When we come to Genesis 5, what do we find? We find 10 generations covering a period of 1,656 years, the time from Creation to the Flood. It is a record of 10 men who lived by faith in a time of increasing unbelief and widespread secularism. These ten men stand before us as giants of the faith, men who refused to follow the prevailing cultural trends of their day. In a world rushing headlong toward judgment, they followed the way of the Lord.

- We learn a lot from our past ... if we will just listen.
- "What has been will be again" ... generations and empires have repeated the cycle of success only to fall; we live in a land that is on its way toward the fall, can we rise again?

### I. The Context of Genesis 5 ...

- The Repeated Phrase, " \_\_\_\_\_ " (4, 8, 11, 14)
- The \_\_\_\_\_ of the Patriarchs

### II. The Significant Men of Biblical History ... (Genesis 5)

- \_\_\_\_\_ (1-5)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (21-24)
- \_\_\_\_\_ (28-31)

## What Should We Learn?

1. \_\_\_\_\_ Matter to God.
2. \_\_\_\_\_ still Reigns Today.
3. God still Honors those who \_\_\_\_\_.

## Truth for Life

For the week of March 14, 2021

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. What lesson have you learned in life that you will never forget? How did you learn that lesson? Who taught it to you? What was your ultimate takeaway? If this lesson was from a bad choice, how likely are you to make that choice again? Why or why not?

2. Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 and pay careful attention to vs. 6. This verse states; "Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted." To what end were they our examples, or for what purpose?

As we think about this passage, vs. 12 that states, "Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall." Have you ever had someone to warn you about a step you were about to take and your response was "I'll be ok. I won't mess up." How was your response similar to the statement in vs. 12? Was the step you took (anyway) a mistake? Was it not pride that refused to listen to a warning from a friend? How do prideful steps tend to end up?

3. Read the following verses.

Proverbs 11:2      Proverbs 29:23      James 4:1-10      Proverbs 13:10  
Jeremiah 9:23-24      Luke 18:9-17      Ecclesiastes 7:8      Isaiah 14:12-15

What do we learn about pride and decision making? About listening to advice? About learning from others or our past? About wisdom vs. pride?

Read Daniel 5:13-31. This is a story about the king, Belshazzar. At the heart of the story, what was Belshazzar's biggest problem? What should he have learned from Nebuchadnezzar? (Daniel 4:19-37) Why didn't he learn it? What could we learn from Belshazzar?

4. Here are some more challenging questions that will be great to ponder among your small group.
  - a. For the past 40 years, Christian authors have promoted the need to build your self-esteem. Is this supported in the Bible? Isn't self-esteem directly opposed to biblical humility?
  - b. Discuss the implications of the truth that pride is at the root of all sins. How does this truth help us fight selfishness, greed, lust, anger, jealousy, and other deeds of the flesh?
  - c. Andrew Murray (Humility [CLC], pp. 40, 43) states, "The chief mark of counterfeit holiness is its lack of humility.... There is no pride so dangerous, because none so subtle and insidious, as the pride of holiness." Discuss these statements.



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- The **Life Span** of the Patriarchs

### II. The Significant Men of Biblical History ... (Genesis 5)

- **Adam** (1-5)
- **Enoch** (21-24)
- **Lamech** (28-31)

## What Should We Learn?

1. **People** Matter to God.
2. **Death** still Reigns Today.
3. God still Honors those who **Live by Faith**.

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