

When the Storms of Life Hit Hard

Selected Scripture

When the storms of life hit hard, stand fast and move forward. There are five biblical responses to help us do this.

1A. Quiet your heart with God's complete sovereignty (Psalm 46).

We know God's sovereignty is complete & exhaustive. And He is everywhere and in control of all things (Ps 103:19; 33:10-11; Ecc 7:13-14; Isa. 46:10).

2A. Admit, Acquiesce, and Adore the wisdom of God (Rom. 11:33-36; Job 12:13; Prov. 3:5-6).

The Lord is Sovereign & all-wise! So we state it, surrender to it, and savor it! It is another way to say trust the Lord for His wise goodness. The Lord has a plan.

3A. Never forget, believer, that the Lord will use everything in the universe to bless you (Rom. 8:28).

The Lord will cause the all elements of the macro & micro universe to do good to you! He will direct the secular & sacred to bless you for your good (Rom. 8:29)!

4A. Outfight your wrong thinking with Truth (Philipp. 4:8; 1 Peter 1:13; Jon 17:17).

Gird your mind & heart with truth! Read the word! Mediate on the Word! Memorize the Word! Pray through the Word. Put an applicable verse on your mirror or computer!

5A. Narrow your focus to knowing Christ! (Philipp. 1:18; 3:8-10; Heb. 4:14-16)

Our life statement & goal should be to know Christ especially when the storm winds hit with devastating fury! Our true north through the swirling tornado of difficulties is holy intimacy to Christ Jesus!

The Genesis Commission

Introduction

There are 4 approaches to take to Genesis that will help us do the Word so we become more like Jesus Christ!

1A. The 1st Approach: Since the book of Genesis is Scripture, we surrender to it as such.

1B. All Scripture is produced by God and Genesis is Scripture; so we trust it over all other authorities (2 Tim. 3:16-17).

2B. Therefore, though we appreciate general revelation, we do not elevate it to the same level of Special revelation.

2A. The 2nd Approach: We must understand that though Genesis is descriptive in its form, it does have a prescriptive function.

1B. Hermeneutically, to understand and apply Scripture accurately, the nature of descriptive texts and prescriptive texts must be clearly understood.

2B. However, all descriptive texts have a God-intended theological focus for application built upon divine authority & accuracy (2 Tim. 3:16).

Genesis Basics

3A. The 3rd Approach: Follow the God-intended outline to the book.

- 1B. The Hebrew Bible uses different literary features to mark off new units of thoughts.
- 2B. The Hebrew Bible will use: shifts w/ people, places, time, repeated phrases, introductory phrases (Jud. 3:7, 21; 4:1; Eccles)
- 3B. The book of Genesis employs the basic phrase “the generations of” 10x’s (2:4; 5:1; 6:9;10:1;11:10; 11:27; 25:12; 25:19; 36:1, 37:2).

4A. The 4th Approach: Keep in mind the central theme.

- 1B. Books of the Bible do have a central or dominant theme.
- 2B. What is the theme of Genesis?:
- 3B. What was the historical context?

Author: Moses (1 Kings 2:3; Nehemiah 13:1; Mark 12:26; Luke 24:27, 44)

Title: The first phrase in the Hebrew text of 1:1 is *bereshith* ("in [the] beginning"), which is also the Hebrew title of the book (books in ancient times customarily were named after their first word or two). The English title, Genesis, is Greek in origin and comes from the word *geneseos*, which appears in the pre-Christian Greek translation (Septuagint) of 2:4; 5:1. (<https://www.biblestudytools.com/genesis/>)

Date written: Genesis was written after the Exodus (ca. 1445 BC), but before Moses’ death (ca 1405 BC).

Outline:

1:1-2:3	preface
2:4-4:46	generations of heaven & earth
5:1-6:8	generations of Adam
6:9-9:29	generations of Noah
10:1-11:9	generations of the sons of Noah
11:10-11:26	generations of Shem
11:27-25:11	generations of Terah
25:12-18	generations of Ishmael
25:19-35:29	generations of Isaac
36:1-37:1	generations of Esau
37:2-50:26	generations of Jacob