

The
Holy
Bible



Revive Our Hearts™

NOTETAKING
BIBLE



With Prayers and Encouragement
from Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth



CHRISTIAN
STANDARD
BIBLE®

HOLMAN®
BIBLES



Dear friend and fellow Bible reader,

It proved to be one of the most meaningful gifts I've ever received. A friend sent me a copy of the newly-released CSB (Christian Standard Bible) *Notetaking Bible*. I already owned scores of other Bibles in multiple translations, many of which I had read from cover to cover over the years. But I had no idea how precious this particular Bible would become to me.

For starters, I wanted to become familiar with the Christian Standard Bible, thinking that after one read-through, I would return to the translation I had relied on for a dozen years or more. In the process, I grew to appreciate the accessibility and clarity of the CSB and eventually decided to continue using it as my primary go-to Bible for study and teaching.

Beginning the Journey

On January 1, 2018, I opened my new Bible to Genesis 1, ready to start reading from beginning to end, as I have often done at the beginning to end of a new year. This time, however, I set out to journal my reflections on the Scriptures, one chapter, one page after another.

For as long as I can remember, I've made notes while reading my Bible; a shelf in my library is filled with well-worn journals and notebooks containing those entries. But I had never journaled through the entire Bible, and I had not written extensive notes in the actual pages of a Bible, given the limited space available. In fact, for some years, I'd captured most of my notes and reflections about Scripture on my laptop or phone, rather than on paper. (Does anyone write anything by hand anymore?) But now, holding a Bible intentionally designed for the reader to write notes next to the sacred text, I determined to strike out and try something new.

As a longtime student of the Bible and frequent notetaker, you might think I simply put pen to paper and began to write. But with the first chapter of Genesis before me, next to line after line after line of blank space ready to be filled with my most godward thoughts, I'll admit to being a bit intimidated. Staring at the fresh, unmarked page, I remember thinking, *How do I go about this? What should I write?*





Unlike other writing I've done as an author, I didn't go into it thinking anyone would ever read the words I was setting down. I wasn't concerned about fleshing out every idea or producing well-crafted sentences. My objective was simply to spend time with the Lord in His Word, to "grow in the grace and knowledge of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ" (2 Pet. 3:18), and to become more like Him by beholding Him (see 2 Cor. 3:18).

And so, my adventure began.

Searching for Treasure

As I inclined my ear and heart to the Lord, reading one passage after another and asking Him to speak to me through the text, familiar rhythms began to develop. I lingered in each chapter, the eyes of my heart wide open, seeking to understand and digest what I was reading. I found joy in grappling with the meaning and significance of even those passages that are the most difficult to understand.

Trusting the Spirit to illuminate the Scriptures to me, I then recorded responses from my heart to His—wonder and worship, praise and gratitude, affection and aspiration, agreement and submission, confession and repentance, "Yes, Lord" and "O Lord."

Those countless hours spent poring over God's Word, pen in hand, asking Him to help me make sense of what I was reading, letting Him mold my heart to His—this became my "happy place." Again and again, I emerged from that place more in love with Him, longing to serve Him and others well, and eager to share what I was learning and experiencing.

I'd started out seeking for treasure, and—wow—I had found it!

Almost exactly five years (and some 700,000 handwritten words) later, on January 12, 2023, every page of my now-nearly-tattered Notetaking Bible filled, I came to the final verse: "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with everyone. Amen" (Rev. 22:21). Here are my concluding words:

This closing verse of the New Testament is heaven's answer to the curse





found in the last verse of the Old Testament (Mal. 4:6). The grace of God has come to earth in the person of Christ—bringing salvation for all who repent and believe, overcoming sin’s dreadful curse. How great is our God. We worship You. May we walk in that grace through every step of our pilgrimage on this planet until we see You. Amen and Amen.

Your Invitation

What an amazing journey this was for me—and still is today, as I continue to steep in God’s Word, line upon line, day after day. So rich. Encouraging. Practical. Life-giving and life-transforming.

But here’s what I want you to know: This journey, this happy place, is not just for Bible teachers, authors, or lifelong students of God’s Word. Wherever you may be in your spiritual pilgrimage, *it is available for you*. And it is my sincere hope that the Bible you hold in your hands will lead you to take the next step yourself, knowing it will become a means of fresh growth in your walk with Christ, the living Word.

Scripture-Based Prayers

Interspersed through the pages of this Bible, you’ll find over 150 written prayers that were birthed out of my personal meditation on various passages. I hope you’ll make those prayers your prayers. Even more, I hope you’ll use some of the journaling space to compose new prayers from your own heart. As you do, you’ll be drawn into deeper communion with the Lord as you allow Him to knit your will more completely with His Word.

Leaving a Legacy

It is also my hope that this Bible will become a legacy gift that you can one day pass on to someone else: a child or grandchild or perhaps a younger friend that you’ve mentored or disciplined. As you meditate on the Word, you may even want to highlight certain verses and write prayers personalized for the person you anticipate someday owning this Bible.

This record of this season of your journey with the Lord will no doubt become a treasured possession and will inspire someone else to know and love His Word as you have done.





Reviving the Heart

When I first began journaling through the Bible at the outset of 2018, I had no idea what would transpire—in our world and in my life—over the next five years, before I got to Revelation 22.

During that time, our world was rocked by the COVID pandemic and my precious husband walked through two unrelated cancers. Two radically different American Presidents occupied the White House, and the U.S. Supreme Court handed down a number of landmark rulings that drastically altered the cultural landscape in this country. The United States was battered with record-breaking inflation, off-the-chart crime, racial tensions, incivility, anger, depression, fear—you name it.

But through it all, the Word of God provided an unchanging bedrock for my heart. Every hour spent soaking in this Book was steadying, stabilizing, strengthening, and sustaining to my soul. Time and again, my weary, flagging heart was revived. I believe you will discover the same to be true as you journey (and journal) through His Word.

My Prayer for You

After I finished journaling through the *CSB Notetaking Bible*, I gave a young friend a copy of her own for her twelfth birthday. Here's part of what I wrote to this sweet girl in a letter accompanying the Bible:

God promises a blessing to those who read His Word (Rev. 1:3). As you read, ask God to give you understanding. Ask Him to reveal Himself, His heart, and His ways to you. He will do just that!

I hope you will use this special edition of the Bible to write (or draw) things that stand out to you as you read—for example, observations about the passage, key thoughts or words from each chapter, a summary of each chapter, things you learn, things you want to be sure to remember, prayers, praise....





I pray this Bible will be a record of your journey with the Lord over these next years. (I still have Bibles I used when I was your age. It is a joy to look back over them all these years later.) I look forward to seeing how God continues to work in and through your life as you seek Him in His Word.

And I desire the same for you. My prayer is that the divinely-inspired words on each page of this Bible would become inscribed in your heart, that they would change you and make you more like Jesus, and that the resulting fruit and fragrance in your life would draw those around you to Him.

There truly is nothing more satisfying than sitting before the Lord with an open Bible and a searching heart, studying His ways, savoring His beauty, being sanctified by His Spirit, and then sharing His transforming Word and grace with others.

May God bless you as you read (and as you write!).

Nancy DeMoss Wolgemuth



THE
OLD TESTAMENT

The Creation

1 In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.
² Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness covered the surface of the watery depths, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the surface of the waters.³ Then God said, "Let there be light," and there was light.⁴ God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness.⁵ God called the light "day," and the darkness he called "night." There was an evening, and there was a morning: one day.

⁶ Then God said, "Let there be an expanse between the waters, separating water from water."⁷ So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above the expanse. And it was so.⁸ God called the expanse "sky." Evening came and then morning: the second day.

⁹ Then God said, "Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place, and let the dry land appear." And it was so.¹⁰ God called the dry land "earth," and the gathering of the water he called "seas." And God saw that it was good.¹¹ Then God said, "Let the earth produce vegetation: seed-bearing plants and fruit trees on the earth bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds." And it was so.¹² The earth produced vegetation: seed-bearing plants according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.¹³ Evening came and then morning: the third day.

¹⁴ Then God said, "Let there be lights in the expanse of the sky to separate the day from the night. They will serve as signs for seasons and for days and years.¹⁵ They will be lights in the expanse of the sky to provide light on the earth." And it was so.¹⁶ God made the two great lights — the greater light to rule over the day and the lesser light to rule over the night — as well as the stars.¹⁷ God placed them in the expanse of the sky to provide light on the earth,¹⁸ to rule the day and the night, and to separate light from darkness. And God saw that it was good.¹⁹ Evening came and then morning: the fourth day.

²⁰ Then God said, "Let the water swarm with living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the expanse of the sky."²¹ So God created the large sea-creatures and every living creature that moves and swarms in the water, according to their kinds. He also created every winged creature according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.²² God blessed them: "Be fruitful, multiply, and fill the waters of the seas, and let the birds multiply on the earth."²³ Evening came and then morning: the fifth day.

²⁴ Then God said, "Let the earth produce living creatures according to their kinds: livestock, creatures that crawl, and the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds." And it was so.²⁵ So God made the wildlife of the earth according to their kinds, the livestock according to their kinds, and all the creatures that crawl on the ground according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good.

²⁶ Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, according to our likeness. They will rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, the livestock, the whole earth, and the creatures that crawl on the earth."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image;
he created him in the image of God;
he created them male and female.

²⁸ God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful, multiply, fill the earth, and subdue it. Rule the fish of the sea, the birds of the sky, and every creature that crawls on the earth."²⁹ God also said, "Look, I have given you every seed-bearing plant on the surface of the entire earth and every tree whose fruit contains seed. This will be food for you,³⁰ for all the wildlife of the earth, for every bird of the sky, and for every creature that crawls on the earth — everything having the breath of life in it — I have given every green plant for food." And it was so.³¹ God saw all that he had made, and it was very good indeed. Evening came and then morning: the sixth day.

O Lord,

as I read and meditate on Your Word, I long for the hovering, creating, ordering, illuminating work of Your Spirit in my heart. When You speak, may I respond with a wholehearted "Yes, Lord!" Do Your "good" work in and through my life—bringing flourishing, beauty, and growth. All for the glory and fame of Your name in this world. Amen.



GEN 1:1–28

2 So the heavens and the earth and everything in them were completed. ² On the seventh day God had completed his work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all his work that he had done. ³ God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy, for on it he rested from all his work of creation.

Man and Woman in the Garden

⁴ These are the records of the heavens and the earth, concerning their creation. At the time that the LORD God made the earth and the heavens, ⁵ no shrub of the field had yet grown on the land, and no plant of the field had yet sprouted, for the LORD God had not made it rain on the land, and there was no man to work the ground. ⁶ But mist would come up from the earth and water all the ground. ⁷ Then the LORD God formed the man out of the dust from the ground and breathed the breath of life into his nostrils, and the man became a living being.

⁸ The LORD God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he placed the man he had formed. ⁹ The LORD God caused to grow out of the ground every tree pleasing in appearance and good for food, including the tree of life in the middle of the garden, as well as the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.

¹⁰ A river went out from Eden to water the garden. From there it divided and became the source of four rivers. ¹¹ The name of the first is Pishon, which flows through the entire land of Havilah, where there is gold. ¹² Gold from that land is pure; bdellium and onyx are also there. ¹³ The name of the second river is Gihon, which flows through the entire land of Cush. ¹⁴ The name of the third river is Tigris, which runs east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

¹⁵ The LORD God took the man and placed him in the garden of Eden to work it and watch over it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, "You are free to eat from any tree of the garden, ¹⁷ but you must not eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, for on the day you eat from it, you will certainly die." ¹⁸ Then the LORD God said, "It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper corresponding to him." ¹⁹ The LORD God formed out of the ground every wild animal and every bird of the sky, and brought each to the man to see what he would call it. And whatever the man called a living creature, that was its name. ²⁰ The man gave names to all the livestock, to the birds of the sky, and to every wild animal; but for the man no helper was found corresponding to him. ²¹ So the LORD God caused a deep sleep to come over the man, and he slept. God took one of his ribs and closed the flesh at that place. ²² Then the LORD God made the rib he had taken from the man into a woman and brought her to the man. ²³ And the man said:

This one, at last, is bone of my bone
and flesh of my flesh;
this one will be called "woman,"
for she was taken from man.

²⁴ This is why a man leaves his father and mother and bonds with his wife, and they become one flesh. ²⁵ Both the man and his wife were naked, yet felt no shame.

The Temptation and the Fall

3 Now the serpent was the most cunning of all the wild animals that the LORD God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You can't eat from any tree in the garden?'"

² The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit from the trees in the garden. ³ But about the fruit of the tree in the middle of the garden, God said, 'You must not eat it or touch it, or you will die.'"

⁴ "No! You will certainly not die," the serpent said to the woman. ⁵ "In fact, God knows that when you eat it your eyes will be opened and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." ⁶ The woman saw that the tree was good for food and delightful to look at, and that it was desirable for obtaining wisdom. So she took some of its fruit and ate it; she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were

opened, and they knew they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves.

Sin's Consequences

⁸ Then the man and his wife heard the sound of the LORD God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and they hid from the LORD God among the trees of the garden. ⁹ So the LORD God called out to the man and said to him, "Where are you?"

¹⁰ And he said, "I heard you in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked, so I hid."

¹¹ Then he asked, "Who told you that you were naked? Did you eat from the tree that I commanded you not to eat from?"

¹² The man replied, "The woman you gave to be with me — she gave me some fruit from the tree, and I ate."

¹³ So the LORD God asked the woman, "What have you done?"

And the woman said, "The serpent deceived me, and I ate."

¹⁴ So the LORD God said to the serpent:

Because you have done this,
you are cursed more than any livestock
and more than any wild animal.
You will move on your belly
and eat dust all the days of your life.

¹⁵ I will put hostility between you and the woman,
and between your offspring and her offspring.
He will strike your head,
and you will strike his heel.

¹⁶ He said to the woman:

I will intensify your labor pains;
you will bear children with painful effort.
Your desire will be for your husband,
yet he will rule over you.

¹⁷ And he said to the man, "Because you listened to your wife and ate from the tree about which I commanded you, 'Do not eat from it':

The ground is cursed because of you.
You will eat from it by means of painful labor
all the days of your life.

¹⁸ It will produce thorns and thistles for you,
and you will eat the plants of the field.

¹⁹ You will eat bread by the sweat of your brow
until you return to the ground,
since you were taken from it.
For you are dust,
and you will return to dust."

²⁰ The man named his wife Eve because she was the mother of all the living. ²¹ The LORD God made clothing from skins for the man and his wife, and he clothed them.

²² The LORD God said, "Since the man has become like one of us, knowing good and evil, he must not reach out, take from the tree of life, eat, and live forever."²³ So the LORD God sent him away from the garden of Eden to work the ground from which he was taken. ²⁴ He drove the man out and stationed the cherubim and the flaming, whirling sword east of the garden of Eden to guard the way to the tree of life.

Cain Murders Abel

4 The man was intimate with his wife Eve, and she conceived and gave birth to Cain. She said, "I have had a male child with the LORD's help."² She also gave birth to his brother Abel. Now Abel became a shepherd of flocks, but Cain worked the ground. ³ In the course of time Cain presented some of the land's produce as an offering to the LORD. ⁴ And Abel also presented

an offering — some of the firstborn of his flock and their fat portions. The LORD had regard for Abel and his offering, ⁵ but he did not have regard for Cain and his offering. Cain was furious, and he looked despondent.

⁶ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Why are you furious? And why do you look despondent? ⁷ If you do what is right, won't you be accepted? But if you do not do what is right, sin is crouching at the door. Its desire is for you, but you must rule over it."

⁸ Cain said to his brother Abel, "Let's go out to the field." And while they were in the field, Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him.

⁹ Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is your brother Abel?"

"I don't know," he replied. "Am I my brother's guardian?"

¹⁰ Then he said, "What have you done? Your brother's blood cries out to me from the ground! ¹¹ So now you are cursed, alienated from the ground that opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood you have shed. ¹² If you work the ground, it will never again give you its yield. You will be a restless wanderer on the earth."

¹³ But Cain answered the LORD, "My punishment is too great to bear! ¹⁴ Since you are banishing me today from the face of the earth, and I must hide from your presence and become a restless wanderer on the earth, whoever finds me will kill me."

¹⁵ Then the LORD replied to him, "In that case, whoever kills Cain will suffer vengeance seven times over." And he placed a mark on Cain so that whoever found him would not kill him. ¹⁶ Then Cain went out from the LORD's presence and lived in the land of Nod, east of Eden.

The Line of Cain

¹⁷ Cain was intimate with his wife, and she conceived and gave birth to Enoch. Then Cain became the builder of a city, and he named the city Enoch after his son. ¹⁸ Irad was born to Enoch, Irad fathered Mehujael, Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. ¹⁹ Lamech took two wives for himself, one named Adah and the other named Zillah. ²⁰ Adah bore Jabal; he was the first of the nomadic herdsmen. ²¹ His brother was named Jubal; he was the first of all who play the lyre and the flute. ²² Zillah bore Tubal-cain, who made all kinds of bronze and iron tools. Tubal-cain's sister was Naamah.

²³ Lamech said to his wives:

Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;
wives of Lamech, pay attention to my words.
For I killed a man for wounding me,
a young man for striking me.

²⁴ If Cain is to be avenged seven times over,
then for Lamech it will be seventy-seven times!

²⁵ Adam was intimate with his wife again, and she gave birth to a son and named him Seth, for she said, "God has given me another offspring in place of Abel, since Cain killed him." ²⁶ A son was born to Seth also, and he named him Enosh. At that time people began to call on the name of the LORD.

The Line of Seth

5 This is the document containing the family records of Adam. On the day that God created man, he made him in the likeness of God; ² he created them male and female. When they were created, he blessed them and called them mankind.

³ Adam was 130 years old when he fathered a son in his likeness, according to his image, and named him Seth. ⁴ Adam lived 800 years after he fathered Seth, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ⁵ So Adam's life lasted 930 years; then he died.

⁶ Seth was 105 years old when he fathered Enosh. ⁷ Seth lived 807 years after he fathered Enosh, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ⁸ So Seth's life lasted 912 years; then he died.

⁹ Enosh was 90 years old when he fathered Kenan. ¹⁰ Enosh lived 815 years after he fathered Kenan, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ¹¹ So Enosh's life lasted 905 years; then he died.

¹² Kenan was 70 years old when he fathered Mahalalel. ¹³ Kenan lived 840 years after he fathered Mahalalel, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ¹⁴ So Kenan's life lasted 910 years; then he died.

¹⁵ Mahalalel was 65 years old when he fathered Jared. ¹⁶ Mahalalel lived 830 years after he fathered Jared, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ¹⁷ So Mahalalel's life lasted 895 years; then he died.

¹⁸ Jared was 162 years old when he fathered Enoch. ¹⁹ Jared lived 800 years after he fathered Enoch, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ²⁰ So Jared's life lasted 962 years; then he died.

²¹ Enoch was 65 years old when he fathered Methuselah. ²² And after he fathered Methuselah, Enoch walked with God 300 years and fathered other sons and daughters. ²³ So Enoch's life lasted 365 years. ²⁴ Enoch walked with God; then he was not there because God took him.

²⁵ Methuselah was 187 years old when he fathered Lamech. ²⁶ Methuselah lived 782 years after he fathered Lamech, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ²⁷ So Methuselah's life lasted 969 years; then he died.

²⁸ Lamech was 182 years old when he fathered a son. ²⁹ And he named him Noah, saying, "This one will bring us relief from the agonizing labor of our hands, caused by the ground the LORD has cursed." ³⁰ Lamech lived 595 years after he fathered Noah, and he fathered other sons and daughters. ³¹ So Lamech's life lasted 777 years; then he died.

³² Noah was 500 years old, and he fathered Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

Sons of God and Daughters of Mankind

6 When mankind began to multiply on the earth and daughters were born to them, ² the sons of God saw that the daughters of mankind were beautiful, and they took any they chose as wives for themselves. ³ And the LORD said, "My Spirit will not remain with mankind forever, because they are corrupt. Their days will be 120 years." ⁴ The Nephilim were on the earth both in those days and afterward, when the sons of God came to the daughters of mankind, who bore children to them. They were the powerful men of old, the famous men.

Judgment Decreed

⁵ When the LORD saw that human wickedness was widespread on the earth and that every inclination of the human mind was nothing but evil all the time, ⁶ the LORD regretted that he had made man on the earth, and he was deeply grieved. ⁷ Then the LORD said, "I will wipe mankind, whom I created, off the face of the earth, together with the animals, creatures that crawl, and birds of the sky — for I regret that I made them." ⁸ Noah, however, found favor with the LORD.

God Warns Noah

⁹ These are the family records of Noah. Noah was a righteous man, blameless among his contemporaries; Noah walked with God. ¹⁰ And Noah fathered three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

¹¹ Now the earth was corrupt in God's sight, and the earth was filled with wickedness. ¹² God saw how corrupt the earth was, for every creature had corrupted its way on the earth. ¹³ Then God said to Noah, "I have decided to put an end to every creature, for the earth is filled with wickedness because of them; therefore I am going to destroy them along with the earth.

¹⁴ "Make yourself an ark of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and cover it with pitch inside and outside. ¹⁵ This is how you are to make it: The ark will be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high. ¹⁶ You are to make a roof, finishing the sides of the ark to within eighteen inches of the roof. You are to put a door in the side of the ark. Make it with lower, middle, and upper decks.

¹⁷ "Understand that I am bringing a flood — floodwaters on the earth to destroy every creature under heaven with the breath of life in it. Everything on earth will perish. ¹⁸ But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark with your sons, your wife, and your sons' wives. ¹⁹ You are also to bring into the ark two of all the living creatures, male and female, to

keep them alive with you. ²⁰ Two of everything — from the birds according to their kinds, from the livestock according to their kinds, and from the animals that crawl on the ground according to their kinds — will come to you so that you can keep them alive. ²¹ Take with you every kind of food that is eaten; gather it as food for you and for them.” ²² And Noah did this. He did everything that God had commanded him.

Entering the Ark

7 Then the LORD said to Noah, “Enter the ark, you and all your household, for I have seen that you alone are righteous before me in this generation. ² You are to take with you seven pairs, a male and its female, of all the clean animals, and two of the animals that are not clean, a male and its female, ³ and seven pairs, male and female, of the birds of the sky — in order to keep offspring alive throughout the earth. ⁴ Seven days from now I will make it rain on the earth forty days and forty nights, and every living thing I have made I will wipe off the face of the earth.” ⁵ And Noah did everything that the LORD commanded him.

⁶ Noah was six hundred years old when the flood came and water covered the earth. ⁷ So Noah, his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives entered the ark because of the floodwaters. ⁸ From the animals that are clean, and from the animals that are not clean, and from the birds and every creature that crawls on the ground, ⁹ two of each, male and female, came to Noah and entered the ark, just as God had commanded him. ¹⁰ Seven days later the floodwaters came on the earth.

The Flood

¹¹ In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day all the sources of the vast watery depths burst open, the floodgates of the sky were opened, ¹² and the rain fell on the earth forty days and forty nights. ¹³ On that same day Noah and his three sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth, entered the ark, along with Noah’s wife and his three sons’ wives. ¹⁴ They entered it with all the wildlife according to their kinds, all livestock according to their kinds, all the creatures that crawl on the earth according to their kinds, every flying creature — all the birds and every winged creature — according to their kinds. ¹⁵ Two of every creature that has the breath of life in it came to Noah and entered the ark. ¹⁶ Those that entered, male and female of every creature, entered just as God had commanded him. Then the LORD shut him in.

¹⁷ The flood continued for forty days on the earth; the water increased and lifted up the ark so that it rose above the earth. ¹⁸ The water surged and increased greatly on the earth, and the ark floated on the surface of the water. ¹⁹ Then the water surged even higher on the earth, and all the high mountains under the whole sky were covered. ²⁰ The mountains were covered as the water surged above them more than twenty feet. ²¹ Every creature perished — those that crawl on the earth, birds, livestock, wildlife, and those that swarm on the earth, as well as all mankind. ²² Everything with the breath of the spirit of life in its nostrils — everything on dry land died. ²³ He wiped out every living thing that was on the face of the earth, from mankind to livestock, to creatures that crawl, to the birds of the sky, and they were wiped off the earth. Only Noah was left, and those that were with him in the ark. ²⁴ And the water surged on the earth 150 days.

The Flood Recedes

8 God remembered Noah, as well as all the wildlife and all the livestock that were with him in the ark. God caused a wind to pass over the earth, and the water began to subside. ² The sources of the watery depths and the floodgates of the sky were closed, and the rain from the sky stopped. ³ The water steadily receded from the earth, and by the end of 150 days the water had decreased significantly. ⁴ The ark came to rest in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on the mountains of Ararat.

⁵ The water continued to recede until the tenth month; in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, the tops of the mountains were visible. ⁶ After forty days Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made, ⁷ and he

O Lord, some say they could never believe in a God who would bring about such catastrophic loss of life. But if we really understood how holy You are, how sinful humanity is, how longsuffering and patient You are, and the provision You have made through Christ, for mankind to be rescued from Your judgment and wrath, we would bow in worship, wonder, and profound gratitude. I stand amazed that You have shown mercy to anyone, to me. I want to spend my life urging others to receive Your grace and be saved before it is eternally too late.

Amen.



GEN 7:16–24

sent out a raven. It went back and forth until the water had dried up from the earth.⁸ Then he sent out a dove to see whether the water on the earth's surface had gone down,⁹ but the dove found no resting place for its foot. It returned to him in the ark because water covered the surface of the whole earth. He reached out and brought it into the ark to himself.¹⁰ So Noah waited seven more days and sent out the dove from the ark again.¹¹ When the dove came to him at evening, there was a plucked olive leaf in its beak. So Noah knew that the water on the earth's surface had gone down.¹² After he had waited another seven days, he sent out the dove, but it did not return to him again.¹³ In the six hundred first year, in the first month, on the first day of the month, the water that had covered the earth was dried up. Then Noah removed the ark's cover and saw that the surface of the ground was drying.¹⁴ By the twenty-seventh day of the second month, the earth was dry.

The LORD's Promise

¹⁵ Then God spoke to Noah, ¹⁶ "Come out of the ark, you, your wife, your sons, and your sons' wives with you. ¹⁷ Bring out all the living creatures that are with you — birds, livestock, those that crawl on the earth — and they will spread over the earth and be fruitful and multiply on the earth." ¹⁸ So Noah, along with his sons, his wife, and his sons' wives, came out. ¹⁹ All the animals, all the creatures that crawl, and all the flying creatures — everything that moves on the earth — came out of the ark by their families.

²⁰ Then Noah built an altar to the LORD. He took some of every kind of clean animal and every kind of clean bird and offered burnt offerings on the altar. ²¹ When the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, he said to himself, "I will never again curse the ground because of human beings, even though the inclination of the human heart is evil from youth onward. And I will never again strike down every living thing as I have done.

²² As long as the earth endures,
seedtime and harvest, cold and heat,
summer and winter, and day and night
will not cease."

God's Covenant with Noah

9 God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth. ² The fear and terror of you will be in every living creature on the earth, every bird of the sky, every creature that crawls on the ground, and all the fish of the sea. They are placed under your authority. ³ Every creature that lives and moves will be food for you; as I gave the green plants, I have given you everything. ⁴ However, you must not eat meat with its lifeblood in it. ⁵ And I will require a penalty for your lifeblood; I will require it from any animal and from any human; if someone murders a fellow human, I will require that person's life.

⁶ Whoever sheds human blood,
by humans his blood will be shed,
for God made humans in his image.

⁷ But you, be fruitful and multiply; spread out over the earth and multiply on it."

⁸ Then God said to Noah and his sons with him, ⁹ "Understand that I am establishing my covenant with you and your descendants after you, ¹⁰ and with every living creature that is with you — birds, livestock, and all wild-life of the earth that are with you — all the animals of the earth that came out of the ark. ¹¹ I establish my covenant with you that never again will every creature be wiped out by floodwaters; there will never again be a flood to destroy the earth."

¹² And God said, "This is the sign of the covenant I am making between me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all future generations: ¹³ I have placed my bow in the clouds, and it will be a sign of the covenant between me and the earth. ¹⁴ Whenever I form clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds, ¹⁵ I will remember my covenant between me and you and all the living creatures: water will never again become a flood to destroy every creature. ¹⁶ The bow will be in the clouds, and

I will look at it and remember the permanent covenant between God and all the living creatures on earth.”¹⁷ God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have established between me and every creature on earth.”

Prophecies about Noah's Family

¹⁸Noah's sons who came out of the ark were Shem, Ham, and Japheth. Ham was the father of Canaan. ¹⁹These three were Noah's sons, and from them the whole earth was populated.

²⁰Noah, as a man of the soil, began by planting a vineyard. ²¹He drank some of the wine, became drunk, and uncovered himself inside his tent.

²²Ham, the father of Canaan, saw his father naked and told his two brothers outside. ²³Then Shem and Japheth took a cloak and placed it over both their shoulders, and walking backward, they covered their father's nakedness. Their faces were turned away, and they did not see their father naked.

²⁴When Noah awoke from his drinking and learned what his youngest son had done to him, ²⁵he said:

Canaan is cursed.

He will be the lowest of slaves to his brothers.

²⁶He also said:

Blessed be the LORD, the God of Shem;

Let Canaan be Shem's slave.

²⁷Let God extend Japheth;

let Japheth dwell in the tents of Shem;

let Canaan be Shem's slave.

²⁸Now Noah lived 350 years after the flood. ²⁹So Noah's life lasted 950 years; then he died.

The Table of Nations

10 These are the family records of Noah's sons, Shem, Ham, and Japheth. They also had sons after the flood.

²Japheth's sons: Gomer, Magog, Madai, Javan, Tubal, Meshech, and Tiras.

³Gomer's sons: Ashkenaz, Riphath, and Togarmah. ⁴And Javan's sons: Eliphaz, Tarshish, Kittim, and Dodanim. ⁵From these descendants, the peoples of the coasts and islands spread out into their lands according to their clans in their nations, each with its own language.

⁶Ham's sons: Cush, Mizraim, Put, and Canaan. ⁷Cush's sons: Seba, Havilah, Sabtah, Raamah, and Sabteca. And Raamah's sons: Sheba and Dedan.

⁸Cush fathered Nimrod, who began to be powerful in the land. ⁹He was a powerful hunter in the sight of the LORD. That is why it is said, “Like Nimrod, a powerful hunter in the sight of the LORD.” ¹⁰His kingdom started with Babylon, Erech, Accad, and Calneh, in the land of Shinar. ¹¹From that land he went to Assyria and built Nineveh, Rehoboth-ir, Calah, ¹²and Resen, between Nineveh and the great city Calah.

¹³Mizraim fathered the people of Lud, Anam, Lehab, Naphtuh, ¹⁴Pathrus, Casluh (the Philistines came from them), and Caphtor.


¹⁵Canaan fathered Sidon his firstborn and Heth, ¹⁶as well as the Jebusites, the Amorites, the Girgashites, ¹⁷the Hivites, the Arkites, the Sinites, ¹⁸the Arvadites, the Zemarites, and the Hamathites. Afterward the Canaanite clans scattered. ¹⁹The Canaanite border went from Sidon going toward Gerar as far as Gaza, and going toward Sodom, Gomorrah, Admah, and Zeboiim as far as Lasha.

²⁰These are Ham's sons by their clans, according to their languages, in their lands and their nations.

²¹And Shem, Japheth's older brother, also had sons. Shem was the father of all the sons of Eber. ²²Shem's sons were Elam, Asshur, Arpachshad, Lud, and Aram.

²³Aram's sons: Uz, Hul, Gether, and Mash.

²⁴Arpachshad fathered Shelah, and Shelah fathered Eber. ²⁵Eber had two sons. One was named Peleg, for during his days the earth was divided; his brother was named Joktan. ²⁶And Joktan fathered Almodad, Sheleph, Hazarmaveth, Jerah, ²⁷Hadoram, Uzal, Diklah, ²⁸Obal, Abimael, Sheba, ²⁹Ophir,

A watercolor illustration of various plants and flowers. The scene includes large green leaves with prominent veins, clusters of small yellow flowers, and several larger, light pink and orange blossoms. The background is a soft, pale pinkish-beige color. The overall style is delicate and artistic.

*“Open my eyes
so that I may
contemplate
wondrous things
from your
instruction.”*

PSALM 119:18

Revive Our Hearts