

The Book of Genesis**תולדות (toledot)**

	<i>Toledot</i>		Genre
		1:1—2:3	
#1	These are the generations of the heavens and the earth (2:4)	2:4—4:26	Narrative
#2	This is the book of the generations of Adam . (5:1)	5:1—6:8	Genealogy
#3	These are the generations of Noah . (6:9)	6:9—9:29	Narrative
#4	These are the generations of the sons of Noah , Shem, Ham, and Japheth. (10:1)	10:1—11:9	Genealogy
#5	These are the generations of Shem . (11:10)	11:10-26	Genealogy
#6	Now these are the generations of Terah . (11:27)	11:27—25:11	Narrative
#7	These are the generations of Ishmael (25:12)	25:12-18	Genealogy
#8	These are the generations of Isaac (25:19)	25:19—35:29	Narrative
#9	These are the generations of Esau (36:1) These are the generations of Esau (36:9)	36:1-8 36:9—37:1	Genealogy
#10	These are the generations of Jacob . (37:2)	37:2—50:26	Narrative

Genesis 1—11
Primeval History¹

1:1—2:25	<u>Creation and Blessing</u> - Creation from chaos waters (1:2) - Humans as image of God (1:26) - Blessing: Fruitful and multiply (1:28)	<u>Creation and Blessing</u> - De-creation by chaos waters - Noah as new humanity (see 9:6) - Blessing: Fruitful and multiply (9:1)	6:9—9:19
3:1-24	<u>Fall</u> - Mountain-garden temple - Sin: eat → nakedness (3:6-7)	<u>Fall</u> - Mountain-garden vineyard (8:4; 9:20) - Sin: drink → nakedness (9:21)	9:20-21
4:1-16	<u>Fall of Next Generation</u> - Firstborn not chosen (4:4) - Sin (4:8) - Division of brothers (4:14) - Curse (4:11)	<u>Fall of Next Generation</u> - Firstborn not chosen (10:21) - Sin (9:22) - Division of brothers (9:26-27) - Curse (9:25)	9:22-27
4:17-26	<u>Genealogy: Non-Chosen</u> - 7 generations + 3 sons - Cain builds a city (4:17) - Murder: 70+7 (4:24)	<u>Genealogy: Non-Chosen</u> - Noah + 3 sons: 7 generations - Nimrod builds a city (10:11) - 70 nations (10:32)	10:1-32
5:1-32	<u>Genealogy: Chosen</u> - 10 generations + 3 sons	<u>Cosmic Rebellion</u> - Sons of man invade heaven (11:4)	11:1-9
6:1-8	<u>Cosmic Rebellion</u> - Sons of God invade the land (6:2)	<u>Genealogy: Chosen</u> - 10 generations + 3 sons	11:10-26
		<u>Creation and Blessing !</u> - Abram as new humanity - Blessing (12:2): Fruitful (17:6)	11:27—12:9

¹ Adapted from Tim Mackie

Genesis 12—25

The Abraham Cycle²

A	Inclusio frame: Genealogy of Shem (11:10-26) and Terah (11:27-32)	11:10-32
B	Yahweh commands Abram to “go” [לך לך] to Canaan	12:1-9
C	<u>Threats to promise of seed and land:</u> C1 Sarai in a foreign harem (12:10-20) C2 Abram separates from Lot, his “brother” (13:1-13) C3 Yahweh promises Abram the land → Abram builds an altar (13:14-18)	12:10—13:18
D	<u>Abram saves Sodom and rescues Lot:</u> D1 9 kings at war in Valley of Salt Sea, survivors flee to mtns (14:1-12) D2 Abram rescues Lot and the king of Sodom (14:13-16) D3 Melchizedek, 10 th king, blesses Abram; Abram gives 10 th (14:17-24)	14:1-24
E	<u>The promise of seed:</u> E1 Yahweh makes covenant: Son from Abram (15:1-20) E2 Ishmael’s birth is announced (16:1-16)	15:1—16:16
E	<u>The promise of seed:</u> E1 Yahweh makes covenant: Son from Sarah (17:1-27) E2 Isaac’s birth is announced (18:1-15)	17:1—18:15
D	<u>Abraham tries to save Sodom, only Lot is rescued:</u> D3 Abraham intercedes: YHWH agrees to spare 10 righteous (18:16-33) D2 Sodom is destroyed, Lot is rescued (19:1-28) D1 Lot becomes father of nations in mtns above Valley of Salt Sea (19:29-38)	18:16—19:38
C	<u>Threats to promise of seed and land:</u> C1 Sarah in a foreign harem (20:1-18) ** birth of Isaac (21:1-7) C2 Abraham separates Ishmael from Isaac, his brother (21:8-21) C3 Abraham gains right to well in Beersheba → Abram plants a tree (21:22-34)	20:1—21:34
B	Yahweh commands Abraham to “go” [לך לך] sacrifice his son	22:1-19
A	Inclusio frame: Genealogy of Nahor	22:20-24

Concluding Abraham Narratives		
A	Death of Sarah and purchase of burial cave at Machpelah	23:1-20
B	Isaac’s marriage to Rebekah	24:1-67
B	Abraham’s marriage to Keturah + List of descendants	25:1-6
A	Death of Abraham and burial in cave at Machpelah by Ishmael and Isaac	25:7-11
Hinge unit: Genealogy of Ishmael		25:12-18

² Adapted from Tim Mackie

Genesis 25—36

The Jacob Cycle ³

A	Genealogy of Ishmael (25:12-18) + Genealogy of Isaac (25:19)		25:12-19
B	B1 Oracle about struggling twins who become “nations” (25:23) B2 Rebekah struggles in childbirth (25:22) → Jacob and Esau born and named (25:25-26) B3 Jacob takes Esau’s birthright [בכרה] through deception (25:29-34)		25:19-34
C	- Possibility of Rebekah being seized by Gentiles (26:7) - Covenant (26:28) → peace (26:31)		26:1-35
D	- Jacob’s deception of Isaac/Esau (27:18-19) - Steals blessing from Esau (27:35-36) - Flight from land (27:42-44)		27:1—28:9
E	- Border crossing: Beersheba to Haran (28:10) - Jacob meets [פגש] God at Bethel: Ladder to heaven (28:12-13a) - Received blessing [ברך]: land, seed (28:13-14)		28:10-22
F	- Arrival in Aram (29:1) - Meets Laban at border (29:13) - Daughter / wage deception (29:18, 23, 25-27)		29:1-30
G	Rachel’s barrenness (30:1) vs. Leah’s fertility (29:31; 30:20)		29:31—30:21
H	Birth of Joseph: “God remembered Rachel” (30:22)		30:22-24
G	Fertility of Jacob’s flock (30:41) vs. Laban’s flock (30:42)		30:25-43
F	- Departure from Aram (31:17-18, 21) - Meets Laban at border (31:25) - Daughter (31:19, 34-35) and wage deception (31:41)		31:1-55
E	- Border crossing: the ford of the Jabbok (32:22) - Jacob meets [פגש] God at Mahanaim: Wrestling on mountain (32:24, 30) - Received blessing [ברך] (32:29)		32:1-32
D	- Jacob plans deception of Esau (33:1-2) - Sends blessing to Esau (33:8-11) - Return to land (33:18)		33:1-20
C	- Dinah seized by Gentiles (34:1-2) - Fake covenant (34:15-16) → murder (34:25)		34:1-31
B	B1 Oracle about twins becoming “nations” fulfilled (35:11) B3 Jacob inherits the land and is renamed and blessed [ברכה] (35:9-12) B2 Rachel dies in childbirth (35:16-17) → Benjamin is born and named (35:18)		35:1-22
A	Genealogy of Jacob (35:23-26) + Genealogy of Esau (36:1-43)		35:23—36:43

³ Adapted from Tim Mackie (proposed by Fishbane, modified by Walsh)

Concluding Jacob Narratives		
A	Death of Rachel and burial in Bethlehem	35:16-22a
	B List of Jacob's wives and children	35:22b-26
A	Death of Isaac and burial cave at Machpelah by Esau and Jacob	35:27-29
	B List of Esau's wives and children	36:1-8
Hinge unit: Genealogy of Esau		36:9-43

Genesis 37—50
The Joseph Cycle⁴

Conflict Between Joseph and His Brothers			
37:2-11	- Joseph favorite of Jacob (37:3) - Dreams: brothers bow to him (37:7, 9)	- “Here comes this dreamer...” (37:19) - Sell to Egypt (37:26)	37:12-26
Sexual Temptation			
38:1-30	- Successful temptation of Judah (38:16) - Evidence: ring and staff (38:25)	- Unsuccessful temptation of Joseph (39:8) - Evidence: cloak (39:18)	39:1-23
Joseph Interprets Two Dreams			
40:1-23	- Cupbearer: Three branches (40:10) - Baker: Three baskets (40:16)	- Pharaoh: Seven cows (41:2-4) - Pharaoh: Seven heads of grain (41:5-7)	41:1-57
Brothers Come to Egypt for Food			
42:1-38	- Brothers bow to Joseph (42:6) - Joseph fills sacks w/grain + \$ (42:25) - Reuben offers his sons (42:37)	- Brothers bow to Joseph (43:26, 28) - Joseph fills sacks w/grain + \$ (44:1) - Judah offers himself (44:33)	43:1—44:34
Family of Jacob Settles in Goshen			
45:1—46:27	- Plans to come to Egypt (45:10, 18) - Brothers come to Egypt (46:5-7, 27)	- Plans to meet with Pharaoh (46:33) - Meet with Pharaoh (47:2, 27)	46:28—47:31
Jacob Blesses His Sons			
48:1-22	- Jacob blesses “his” sons (48:5, 9) - Ephraim before Manasseh (48:14)	- Jacob blesses his sons (49:1, 28) - Judah before Joseph (49:8)	49:1-27
Death of a Patriarch			
49:28—50:14	- Jacob requests burial in Canaan (49:29) - Jacob dies and embalmed (50:2)	- Joseph requests burial in Canaan (50:25) - Joseph dies and embalmed (50:26)	50:15-26

⁴ Adapted from David Dorsey