

Gurtih XVIII



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Genesis

Books of the Holy Bible series

Here follows are brief of the book of *Genesis* in the Holy Bible. It is important for Christians (and students of the *Mysteries*) to have solid knowledge of the tradition. Remarkably, I have found that many persons interested in advanced teachings, such esoteric Christianity or its various mysteries lack knowledge of its principles and/or fundamentals. Hopefully the open material within the Apostolic Guardian Church will help to resolve this problem.

Genesis: The Book of *Genesis* is attributed to the Prophet Moses; however authorship is unknown and is likely the result of many years writing with numerous authors - including Moses.

Genesis consists of fifty chapters. The first five chapters concern the ancient Jewish view of: The Creation of the World, the Garden of Eden, the Tree of Life, expulsion and fall from grace; and the origin of mankind, our early relationship to God, and the Great Flood, the survival of Noah and Shem's descendants.

From chapter eleven covers the Tower of Babel. *Genesis* then continues on with the story of Israel and its various patriarchs starting from *Abram* (*Abraham*). *Abram* is lead by *God* to leave Mesopotamia and seek a new home, called the Promised Land. The Promised Land is the source of *God's* covenant to the Israelites - a covenant given to the patriarch *Abraham*.

During Abraham's travels he meets the *Priest Melchizedek* - Melchizedek being an important mystical figure within the Western Mysteries. Abraham has two sons, one to his wife *Sarah* the son *Isaac* and another to Sarah's servant *Hagar* the son *Ishmael*. Regrettably Sarah's jealousy caused the wrongful expulsion of Hagar and Ishmael - A reflection of the weakness of Abraham's weakness character; by not marrying both women. Ishmael later became the patriarch of the Arab peoples.

In chapter 22 God tests Abraham's faith with the insane idea of challenging Abraham with the potential sacrificing his beloved and only son *Isaac*. While this act is hailed as a trail of great faith, it nevertheless reflects the barbarism of early Israeli thought. The story continues with Isaac and further wanderings, a return to Mesopotamia to find a wife; Isaac being tricked to bless *Jacob*, the younger son Jacob; Jacob also returned to Mesopotamia to gain a wife, after working many years he finally gained the women he wanted and this union sired the twelve tribes of *Israel*. Or the Twelve Tribes of Jacob, though Jacob changed his name to Israel. The twelve tribes been: *Asher, Benjamin, Dan, Gad, Issachar, Joseph, Judah, Levi, Naphtali, Reuben, Simeon* and *Zebulun*.

From chapter 37 a lot of attention is given to Joseph. Joseph is sold unto slavery by his brothers, who are jealous of him. Joseph's gifts later earn him freedom and prestige. A famine occurs and Joseph's family come to Egypt, where they are welcomed and flourish into a great multitude of peoples. Later the Israelites become slaves in Egypt [**Note:** The Israelites are released from captivity during the next book Exodus].