COVENANT Episode Summary

CONCEIVED: CREATION TO 2166 BC

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1. ESSENTIALS

What Do You Need to Know First About This Era?

SPAN: ***Before 2166 BC:*** Prehistory, Not Datable
BOOKS: ***Genesis 1–11:*** Through Abram's Call
COVENANT: ***With Noah:*** The Rainbow Promise
KEY PEOPLE: ***Adam, Noah, Abram:*** Fall, Grace, Faith
SETTING: ***Eden to Ur:*** Then Haran, Toward Canaan
PURPOSE: ***Foundations:*** Bereshit: Origins of All

2. STORYLINE

Where Does This Era Fit in the Story of the Bible?

Prehistory Before the Patriarchs

- Begins: "In the Beginning, God"
- Creation Order, Then Mankind
- Sin Enters; Noah Finds Grace
- Babel: Man Doing Things His Way
- Ends: God Calls Abram

KEY VERSES

The Lord God said to the serpent, "Because you have done this, cursed are you above all livestock and above all beasts of the field; on your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life. I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel."

- Genesis 3:14-15

3. THEMES & IDEAS

What Major Biblical Concepts Do We Find in This Era?

- In the Beginning, God
- Everything God Made Was Good
- Made in God's Image (*Imago Dei*)
- Co-Ruling with God
- "Has God Indeed Said?"
- The First Gospel (Genesis 3:15)
- Noah Found Grace
- Man's Way vs. God's Way

4. TURNING POINTS

What are this era's 4 turning points?

GEN 1: 1. God & the Creation Order
God speaks everything into being, and it is good

GEN 1-3: 2. Creation & Fall of Man
Made in God's image to co-rule, mankind rebels

GEN 4-11: 3. The Flood & the New Beginning
Sin explodes; God judges and restarts with Noah

GEN 11-12: 4. The Call of Abraham
God calls Abram out of idolatry with a promise



4. TURNING POINTS

4. What happens at each turning point?

5. What do we learn about God from each of these sections?

6. What do these sections offer our Christian life?

GEN 1: 1. GOD & THE CREATION ORDER

Outside time, space, and matter, God creates within them, and creation displays his glory

GEN 1:1: In the Beginning, God
Time, space, and matter: God is outside them yet works within them; get these four words first

GEN 1:2-25: It Was Good
Out of nothing God speaks light and life into being, and everything he makes reflects his glory

GEN 1-3: 2. CREATION & FALL OF MAN

The image bearer meant to rule with God turns against him, yet God promises a Seed

GEN 1:26-2:25: Made to Rule with God
Male and female in God's image, his ambassadors, given dominion over creation under his authority

GEN 3: Has God Indeed Said?
Satan questions God's Word; Adam and Eve eat, hide, and die spiritually, yet God covers them and promises a Seed

GEN 4-11: 3. THE FLOOD & THE NEW BEGINNING

Judgment and grace together: the ark preserves a family, and a covenant follows

GEN 4:1-6:8: Sin Explodes, Grace Found
Every intention of man's heart is evil continually, but Noah finds grace, the Bible's first mention of it

GEN 6:9-11:9: The Ark, the Rainbow & Babel
God judges and preserves through the ark and covenants with Noah; at Babel, man seeks his own name

GEN 11-12: 4. THE CALL OF ABRAHAM

Genesis 11 is man's way; Genesis 12 is God's way, narrowing the story to one family

GEN 11:27-32: Out of a House of Idols
Abram grows up among idol worshipers in Ur of the Chaldeans; his father Terah dies in Haran

GEN 12:1-4: Land, Lineage & Lifestyle
God promises a land, a line leading to the Messiah, and a way of life, and Abram trusts and goes

5. HOW THIS ERA POINTS TO CHRIST

- The woman's Seed who will crush the serpent's head
- The Last Adam: from his side comes his bride, the church
- The ark: we must be in Christ to be saved from judgment
- The cross: another tree that opens the narrow way to life



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