

# GENESIS

(BERE'SHEET)<sup>1</sup>

**CHAPTER 5:1** This *is* the account<sup>2</sup> of the bringings-forth of *Soil-creature*.<sup>3</sup> In the day of the creating of ELOHIM *Soil-creature*, in the likeness of ELOHIM he made<sup>4</sup> him. **2** Male and female he created them, and he blessed them, and he called their name *Soil-creature*, in the day they were created. **3** And *Soil-creature* lived thirty and a hundred years<sup>s</sup>, and he brought forth<sup>c5</sup> in his own likeness, according to his image; and he called his name Seth. **4** And the days of *Soil-creature*, after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Seth, were eight hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **5** And all the days of *Soil-creature*, that he lived, were nine hundred years<sup>s</sup> and thirty years<sup>s</sup>; and he died. **6** And Seth lived five years<sup>s</sup> and a hundred years<sup>s</sup>, and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> Enosh. **7** And Seth lived, after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Enosh, seven years and eight hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **8** And all the days of Seth were two *and* ten years<sup>s</sup> and nine hundred years<sup>s</sup>; and he died. **9** And Enosh lived ninety years<sup>s</sup>, and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> Kenan. **10** And Enosh lived, after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Kenan, five *and* ten years<sup>s</sup> and eight hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **11** And all the days of Enosh were five years and nine hundred years<sup>s</sup>; and he died. **12** And Kenan lived seventy years<sup>s</sup> and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> Mahalalel. **13** And Kenan lived, after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Mahalalel, forty years<sup>s</sup> and eight hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **14** And all the days of Kenan were ten years and nine hundred years<sup>s</sup>; and he died. **15** And Mahalalel lived five years and sixty years<sup>s</sup>, and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> Jared. **16** And Mahalalel lived,

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<sup>1</sup> The books of the Hebrew Bible are named from their opening words: here *Bere'sheet*, meaning “At *the* first of . . . .”

<sup>2</sup> I.e., written record, from the verb *saper*, “to count, recount.”

<sup>3</sup> Perhaps the proper name “Adam.”

<sup>4</sup> Or “did.”

<sup>5</sup> The verbs in this section are all causative in the active voice. Lit “cause bringing forth,” the sense of which is difficult to bring out in English. Contrast this with Gen 4:25 where the woman “brings forth” a son, but the verb is not in this causative form.

after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Jared, thirty years<sup>s</sup> and eight hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **17** And all the days of Mahalalel were five and ninety years<sup>s</sup> and eight hundred years<sup>s</sup>; and he died. **18** And Jared lived two and sixty years<sup>s</sup> and a hundred years<sup>s</sup>, and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> Enoch. **19** And Jared lived, after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Enoch, eight hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **20** And all the days of Jared were two and sixty years<sup>s</sup>, and nine hundred years<sup>s</sup>; and he died.

**21** And Enoch lived five and sixty years<sup>s</sup> and brought forth<sup>c</sup> Methuselah. **22** And Enoch walked about<sup>6</sup> with the ELOHIM, after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Methuselah, three hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **23** And all the days of Enoch were five and sixty years<sup>s</sup>, and three hundred years<sup>s</sup>. **24** And Enoch walked about with the ELOHIM, and he *was* not, for ELOHIM took him.

**25** And Methuselah lived seven and eighty years<sup>s</sup>, and a hundred years<sup>s</sup>, and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> Lamech. **26** And Methuselah lived, after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Lamech, two and eighty years<sup>s</sup>, and seven hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **27** And all the days of Methuselah were nine and sixty years<sup>s</sup>, and nine hundred years<sup>s</sup>; and he died.

**28** And Lamech lived two and eighty years<sup>s</sup>, and a hundred years<sup>s</sup>, and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> a son, **29** and he called his name Noah,<sup>7</sup> saying, “This one will console us from our doing, and from the distress of our hands from the soil that YHVH has cursed.” **30** And Lamech lived, after his bringing forth<sup>c</sup> Noah, five and ninety years<sup>s</sup>, and five hundred years<sup>s</sup>—and he brought forth<sup>c</sup> sons and daughters. **31** And all the days of Lamech were seven and seventy years<sup>s</sup>, and seven hundred years<sup>s</sup>; and he died. **32** And Noah was a son of five hundred years<sup>s</sup> and Noah brought forth<sup>c</sup> Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

**CHAPTER 6: 1** And it was that the soil-creature began to be abundant upon the face<sup>p</sup> of the soil, and daughters were brought forth to them. **2** And the sons of the ELOHIM saw the daughters of the soil-creature—that they *were*

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<sup>6</sup> This form of the verb carries an iterative meaning, thus “to walk back and forth.” It is used here and in v. 24.

<sup>7</sup> Probably a play on the verb *nacham* here, “to console” or “to comfort.”

good; and they took to themselves women from all that they chose. **3** And YHVH said, “My spirit<sup>8</sup> will not contend<sup>9</sup> with the soil-creature for an age,<sup>10</sup> in that he also *is* flesh<sup>11</sup>—and his days are a hundred and twenty years<sup>s</sup>. **4** The Nephilim<sup>12</sup> were in the land in those days, and also, afterwards, when the sons of the ELOHIM came toward the daughters of the soil-creature, and they brought forth for them<sup>m</sup>—these *were* the mighty ones that *were* from an age,<sup>13</sup> men<sup>14</sup> of the name.<sup>15</sup>

**5** And YHVH<sup>16</sup> saw that the bad of the soil-creature *was* abundant in the land, and every shaping of the thoughts of his heart was only bad all the day. **6** And YHVH was sorry<sup>17</sup> that he had made<sup>18</sup> the soil-creature on the land, and it made distress<sup>c</sup> toward his heart. **7** And YHVH said, “I will wipe out the soil-creature that I have created from upon the face<sup>p</sup> of the soil—from soil-creature, to animal, to moving thing, and to flyer of the skies; for I am sorry that I made<sup>19</sup> them.” **8** And *Noah* found favor in the eyes of YHVH.

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<sup>8</sup> Heb *ruach*, lit “wind.”

<sup>9</sup> In the sense of judge, or perhaps “abide.” Syriac and LXX read “abide.”

<sup>10</sup> I.e., continually; Heb idiom referring to an undetermined time into the future or in the past.

<sup>11</sup> Or perhaps, “in their going astray,” meaning uncertain.

<sup>12</sup> Meaning uncertain, as the root verb is unclear; perhaps “fallen ones,” “miscarried ones,” “distinguished ones,” “wonderful ones,” or “mighty ones,” used only here and Num 13:33.

<sup>13</sup> I.e., long ago.

<sup>14</sup> Heb *'ish* in the plural.

<sup>15</sup> Or “renown.”

<sup>16</sup> LXX reads “Lord God.”

<sup>17</sup> Hebrew verb implies sadness.

<sup>18</sup> Or “done.”

<sup>19</sup> Or “did.”