

3. In the following surveys of the particular books I will use the following method:

--present an overview of the book. These are taken from articles originally appearing in ETERNITY magazine and prepared by Fred Putnam (our own Putnam!) and are used by permission.

--present an analytical outline in brief form

--discuss key aspects of the book and indicate what I think you should know about it.

And please remember that your discussion is welcome at any time.

B. A Survey Study of the Book of Genesis

1. An overview:

Most of Genesis is history and its style is prose narrative for the most part. There are poetic sections scattered throughout the book (2:23; 10:25-27, for example) which show up visibly in the NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION Bible. There are also several genealogies (4:17-22; 5:1-32, for example). These three types of material are well-blended by a skillful author to reveal the beginning of all things.

In Outline form, Genesis contains a built-in outline based on the expression "the generations of" (Heb: Toledoth) ("the account of..NIV) which occurs eleven times throughout the book. Each time it introduces the results which flowed from the person or thing named in the phrase. The occurrences are

2:4...the heavens and earth,

5:1...Adam

6:9...Noah

10:1..Shem, Ham, Japeheth

11:10.Shem

11:27.Terah

25:12.Ishmael

25:19.Isaac

36:1,9.Esau

37:2..Jacob

(two usages as noted)

A short practical outline is this:

I. The Beginning of All Things 1-11

A. Creation 1:1-2:3

B. Fall and Judgment 2:4-3:24

C. Early Man 4-5

D. The Flood 6-9

E. The Origin of the Nations 10-11

II. The Beginning of the People of God.

A. Abraham, Man of Faith 12:1-25:18

B. Isaac, Son of Promise 25:19-26:35

C. Jacob, Father Israel 27-36

D. Joseph, God's Deliverer 37-50

Notice Hendricksen's outline on page 212...it is less logical than the above but shows you how outliners differ without being more wrong or less right!