

Syllabus: Reading the Bible Together - Genesis 6-9

This course offers an in-depth study of the biblical flood narrative found in Genesis chapters 6 through 9. Each lesson focuses on specific verses, exploring linguistic, literary, and thematic elements of the text.

Lesson 1: Introduction to the Flood Narrative

- * A brief introduction to the Flood narratives
- * Analysis of Genesis 6:9-11 (בר' ו' 9-11)
- * Discussion of key terms: "צדיק תמים" (righteous, blameless) and "בדורותיו" (in his generations)
- * Introduction to Shem, Ham & Jafeth

Lesson 2: Grammatical and Thematic Explorations

- * Close reading of Genesis 7:1-3 (בר' ז' 1-3)
- * Grammatical focus: The object marker "ET" before the verb
- * Literary device: Expressions of grouping
- * Hebrew Morphology: The root h.y.y in different Binyanim (verb conjugations)

Lesson 3: Vocabulary and Timing

- * Study of Genesis 7:4-7 (בר' ז' 4-7)
- * Analysis of rare words and forms: "מבול" (flood), "יקום" (living things)
- * Word study: "גשם" vs. "מטר" (rain)
- * Exploration of Noah's age

Lesson 4: The Flood's Commencement

- * Examination of Genesis 7:11-13 (בר' ז' 11-13)
- * The significance of numbers and their affiliation with the Mesopotamian version (Cassuto)
- * The sources of the waters: "Tehom" (the deep)
- * Idiomatic expression: "the bone of the day"
- * Inquiry into the term "נשי" (women/wives)

Lesson 5: The Waters Subside

- * Reading of Genesis 8:1-4 (בר' ח' 1-4)
- * Hebrew root analysis: ז.כ.ר (remember), ש.כ.כ (subside), ס.ג.ר (shut)
- * The adverb "הלוך" (going/continually)
- * The location of "אררט" (Ararat)

Lesson 6: Exiting the Ark

- * Analysis of Genesis 8:18-21 (בר' ח' 18-21)
- * Discussion of "למשפחותיהם" (according to their families)
- * Grammatical difference: "ויצא" vs. "יצאו" (he went out / they went out)
- * Thematic elements: "ויעל עלת" (and he offered a burnt offering) and "ניחוח" (pleasing aroma)

Lesson 7: After the Flood

- * Study of Genesis 9:18-22 (בר' ט' 18-22)
- * Hebrew root analysis: פ.ו.צ (scatter), ח.ו.ל (begin)
- * Grammar: Verb conjugation and identifying the subject/object
- * Interpretation of "גלה ערות" (uncover nakedness)

Lesson 8: Curses and Blessings

- * Examination of Genesis 9:23-27 (בר' ט' 23-27)
- * The cursing of Canaan
- * The blessings of Shem & Jafeth