# MORE BIBLE INFORMATION

(Genesis)

The book of Genesis is absolutely necessary as a foundation for the whole Biblical system. If it were not for the book of Genesis, the rest of the Bible would be unexplainable. What Adam and Eve did in sinning against God helps to explain what God did through Christ who is sometimes called the "Second Adam". Redemption is meaningless without a knowledge of "The Fall". The first promise of the Messiah or Redeemer is contained in Genesis 3:15.

#### The Deluge

The next important fact in Genesis is the great flood or deluge. Scientists have established the fact of the flood. The Bible testifies of it many times. The Bible's greatest testimony is probably in the words of Jesus in Luke 17:27.

One of the significant features of the flood is that the word "Covenant" appears for the first time in the Bible. Surrounding this covenant (Genesis 6:18) there is an explanation of why God saw fit to spare the family of Noah. This explanation reveals that God despised sin and He makes a way of escape for the godly.

The sparing of Noah made him the father of all living people. This family was to develop into a race and subsequently into a nation.

#### The Tower of Babel:

The next important fact is the confusion of tongues at the Tower of Babel in chapter 11, which resulted in the people being scattered over the face of the earth. This event ended what we called, in our last lesson, the first period of 2000 years. This period dealt with the human race as a whole.

#### From Events to Characters:

From this point in history, the Bible deals more with individual characters than with particular events, although some outstanding events do take place. This should be important to us because the Bible shows how God takes individuals and works them into His plans and purposes,

#### Abraham:

Genesis: 12:1-25:10 deals largely with Abraham, the father of a nation. We might study this period under the following headings.:

- (a) His call (Chapter 12)
- (b) The Story of Lot, Abraham's Nephew (Chapters 13-14)
- (c) The Promises of God (Chapters 15-17)
- (d) The Story of Sodom (Chapters 18-19)
- (e) The Great Heritage (Chapters 20: 1-25:10)

#### The Romance of Rebekah:

In addition to the great life of Abraham, Genesis contains the wonderful romance of Rebekah. If you like love stories, don't overlook the wooing of Rebekah in Genesis chapter 24.

## Isaac, The Blessed:

"In Isaac shalt thy seed be blessed" never ceased ringing the ears of Abraham. At the death of Abraham, Isaac became heir of his father's possessions. The greatest of these possessions were the promises of God. On two occasions God showed Himself to Isaac to confirm that promises made to his father were promises to Isaac also. (See Genesis 26:2-5 and 26:24.)

Editor

# CHRISTMAS

(Editor)

Christmas beckons us again to the manger. There we renew our knowledge of the fact that Christ was born. To stay at the manger is to miss the best of Christmas. Christ was born. Much has transpired since that wonderful day. Can we now say He is born in our hearts and lives there?

Birth speaks of life. Christ comes to our hearts to live and to cause us to live to the glory of God. The angels which sang "Glory to God in the highest" only began the herald of praise to God which we are to continue by our Christian living.

To live the meaning of Christmas we must see His star and follow its light in bringing good-will to men on earth. Charles H. Mackintosh put it this way:

"There is a light of that Supernal Star,
Which only love and faith in love can see.
Let us rededicate all that we are
To all that God intended us to be.
Then only may the star announce the birth
In us of peace and warm good-will on earth."

# Christmas Greetings

The Executive of the R. B. Y. P. A. join in extending sincere Christmas greetings to one and all at this glad Christmas Season.

May the new year be one of Happiness, Prosperity and Christian growth.

### The Drama of Jacob:

Isaac had twin sons born in his home. Their names were Esau and Jacob. Esau sold his spiritual heritage for natural gratifications of the flesh. His fleshly appetites seemed to master his life. His brother Jacob found help for his deceitfulness and sin through the grace of God. On five different occasions God appeared to Jacob. A study of these appearings will reveal Jacob's spiritual condition and progress with God. (See Genesis 28:1-19; 31:11-13; 32:24-32 35:1-15 and 46:1-4).

# The Renown of Joseph:

This period covers chapter 37 of Genesis to Exodus chapter 19. It is sometimes called the "Egyptian Interlude". We shall not deal with this period exclusively, but rather outline portions by which we might study the life of Joseph. Dr. W. T. Purkiser divides the life of Joseph into four periods as follows:

- (1) (Joseph) The Dreamer (Genesis 37:1-20)
- (2) (Joseph) The Beloved (Genesis 27:21-36, 39: 1-40:23)
- (3) (Joseph) The Ruler (Genesis 41-48)
- (4) (Joseph) The Prophet (Genesis 49-50)