

# INTERACTIVE TRAVEL GUIDE

DESTINATION: *Genesis 12-50*

Genesis is also a book of firsts. The first time things are mentioned in the Bible, special significance should be given.

1. The first time husbandry is mentioned – 4:2
2. The first time agriculture is mentioned – 4:2
3. The first time offerings are mentioned – 4:3
4. The first time murder is mentioned – 4:3
5. The first time musicians are mentioned – 4:21

## THINGS TO DO:

Keep a sheet of paper and write down the first time something of significance is mentioned in the Bible. Ask yourself these questions. Why are they important enough to be included in the Bible? What is the significance from God's standpoint?

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- c. 2166 – 1991 B.C. ....  
Abraham, born in Ur of the Chaldeans, lived 175 years
- c. 2091 – 2090 B.C. ....  
Abraham travels to Canaan
- c. 2066 B.C. ....  
Sodom and Gomorrah destroyed
- c. 2066 – 1886 B.C. ....  
Issac, born to Abraham and Sarah, lived 180 years
- c. 2006 – 1859 B.C. ....  
Jacob, born to Issac and Rebekah, lived 147 years
- c. 1991 B.C. ....  
Abraham dies in Canaan
- c. 1915 – 1805 B.C. ....  
Joseph, born to Jacob and Rachel, lived 110 years
- c. 1897 B.C. ....  
Joseph sold to Egypt
- c. 1886 B.C. ....  
Isaac dies in Canaan
- c. 1876 B.C. ....  
Jacob and his family move to Egypt
- c. 1859 B.C. ....  
Jacob dies in Egypt

c. 1805 B.C. ....  
Joseph dies in Egypt

### TRIP PLANNER:

Genesis can be easily divided into two sections. The second section from Genesis 11:10 – 50:26 is biographical in nature and focuses on the lives of four key people. This time is also known as the Age of the Patriarchs. The setting for this section of Genesis occurs in Canaan and Egypt. Canaan is modern day Israel.

1. Abraham: 11:10 – 25:8
2. Issac: 25:19 – 26:35
3. Jacob: 27:1 – 36:43
4. Joseph: 37:1 – 50:26

### PLACES OF INTEREST:

**Salem** – the ancient name for Jerusalem.

**Sodom and Gomorrah** – Mount Sodom is located at the south end of the Dead Sea. This is believed to be the location of the ancient cities of Sodom and Gomorrah. Archaeologists have found cities turned to ash and evidence of millions of round golf ball sized sulfur balls.

**Ur** – The ruins of the ancient city of Ur, the birthplace of Abraham, are located 140 miles south of Babylon in modern day Iraq near the Euphrates river. The site is now known as Tall al Muqayyar, Iraq. The great ziggurat of Ur is still standing.

### PEOPLE OF INTEREST:

**Abram** – Abram is the first name of Abraham. God changes Abram's name to Abraham. Abram means "exalted father." Abraham means "father of a multitude."

**Ishmael** – The son of Abraham and Hagar. Ishmael is a symbol of the work of the flesh in that Abram and Sarai did not believe that God would provide a son through their union. Sarai gives Abram her maidservant to bear a son. The descendants of Ishmael formed the nations from Egypt to Assyria, but were not the only tribes in the Arabian desert.

**Melchizedek** – The King of Salem during the time of Abram. Genesis describes Melchizedek as the priest of the most High God and Abram brings a tithe and offering to him. The mysterious appearance of Melchizedek led most theologians to believe that this is a Theophany – an Old Testament appearance of Jesus.

## FUN FACTS:

**CALENDAR YEAR** – The Jewish calendar year is 360 days and based on a lunar cycle. Each month begins on the first sliver of light after a new moon (when the moon is completely dark). The Gregorian calendar year that we use is 365.2425 days and is based on the time it takes for the Earth to complete one orbit around the sun.

**PENTATEUCH** - Genesis is the first of five books referred to as the Pentateuch which means “fivefold vessels.” The Jews refer to these five books as the Torah or “law.” The five books include: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy.

**COVENANT** – A covenant is a binding agreement between two parties, some conditional and some unconditional. Conditional covenants were only binding when the conditions of the covenant were made. Unconditional covenants were made by a superior to someone lesser. It was based solely on the ability of the superior to fulfill the conditions of the covenant. God initiated eight covenants with man. Listed here are five of the eight covenants.

1. **Abrahamic Covenant:** This covenant is between God and Abraham. There are four elements to this covenant. (1) I will bless those that bless you and curse those that curse you. (2) You will be a Father of many nations. (3) I will be Your God. (4) God gives the land of Canaan as an everlasting possession. The sign of this covenant is circumcision. This covenant is unconditional.
2. **Palestinian / Canaan Covenant:** This covenant is between God and the nation of Israel. God promises that Israel would live in the land of Canaan that was given to them. This covenant is unconditional provided that certain conditions were met. (1) The nation would lose the land due to unfaithfulness. (2) Israel would be restored when they repented. (3) Israel will be converted as a nation. (4) Israel's enemies will be judged. (5) Messiah will return. This covenant is unconditional with conditional elements.
3. **The Mosaic Covenant:** This covenant is between God and the nation of Israel. It is based on the Mosaic law. If Israel obeys, they will be blessed and cursed if they disobey. This covenant is conditional.
4. **The Davidic Covenant:** This covenant is between God and David. (1) David's throne is established forever. (2) One of David's descendants would rule over Israel forever. (3) The Messiah would come through David's lineage. This covenant is unconditional.

5. New Covenant: This covenant is between God and the nation of Israel. (1) God will write his law in their minds and hearts. (2) God will forgive their iniquity. (3) God will restore the land to Israel. (4) God will give a new heart and Spirit. (5) God will restore relationship with Israel and live amongst them. (6) The Gentiles will be included in this covenant. The sign of this covenant is the Messiah. This covenant is unconditional.

**MAPS:**

**1. 1. Abram's Journey from Ur**

Table 1: Abraham's Journey from Ur

