

Free Lesson Plan: Exploring the Family of Abraham and the Pre-Flood Epoch

Title: From Adam to Abraham: Tracing the Biblical Timeline and Pre-Flood Epoch

Objective: Learners will understand the biblical genealogy from Adam to Abraham, calculate the Pre-Flood Epoch in years, and explore its significance within the context of the "Angels Calendar" in the Royal Academy. This lesson fosters spiritual reflection, historical understanding, and engagement with biblical chronology.

Target Audience:

- General audience interested in biblical history and genealogy
- Members of theelectofgod.org community seeking to deepen their knowledge of the Family of Abraham
- Suitable for individual or group study, including youth and adult learners

Duration: 60–90 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Bible (preferably with Genesis 5 and 11; any translation, e.g., KJV, NIV, or ESV)
- Printed handouts of the timeline (provided below)
- Calculator or paper for calculations
- Pen and paper for notes and reflection
- Optional: Access to theelectofgod.org website for supplementary materials

Lesson Plan Outline

1. Introduction (10 minutes)

Goal: Set the stage for exploring the genealogy from Adam to Abraham and its spiritual significance.

Activities:

- Welcome and Prayer: Begin with a brief prayer or moment of reflection, asking for wisdom and insight, aligning with the spiritual tone of "Shalom You Beautiful Light!"
- Overview: Introduce the lesson's purpose: to trace the lineage from Adam to Abraham, calculate the Pre-Flood Epoch, and connect it to the "Angels Calendar" in the Royal Academy, a framework for understanding God's timeline and divine plan.
- Discussion Prompt: Ask learners, "Why do you think genealogies are important in the Bible? How might they connect to God's promises, like those to Abraham?"
- Context: Explain that Genesis 5 and 11 provide detailed genealogies from Adam to Noah (Pre-Flood) and Noah to Abraham (Post-Flood). These are considered "chrono-genealogies" by many scholars, meaning they can be used to calculate time spans.

2. Timeline Activity: From Adam to the Flood (20 minutes)

Goal: Construct a timeline of lifespans from Adam to Noah to calculate the Pre-Flood Epoch.

Content: The Pre-Flood Epoch spans from Adam's creation to the Flood in Noah's time. Using Genesis 5 (Masoretic Text), we'll calculate the years based on the ages at which each patriarch begat their son.

Timeline (Masoretic Text, Genesis 5):

Patriarch	Age at Son's Birth	Years Lived	Year of Birth (AM)	Year of Death (AM)
Adam	130 (Seth)	930	1	930
Seth	105 (Enosh)	912	130	1042
Enosh	90 (Kenan)	905	235	1140
Kenan	70 (Mahalalel)	910	325	1235
Mahalalel	65 (Jared)	895	395	1290
Jared	162 (Enoch)	962	460	1422
Enoch	65 (Methuselah)	365	622	987*
Methuselah	187 (Lamech)	969	687	1656
Lamech	182 (Noah)	777	874	1651
Noah	500 (Shem)**	950	1056	2006

*Enoch was "taken by God" and did not die (Genesis 5:24).

**Shem's birth is approximated; Genesis 7:6 states Noah was 600 at the Flood, and Shem was 98 (born when Noah was 502, as Shem was 100 two years after the Flood; Genesis 11:10).

Pre-Flood Epoch Calculation:

- From Adam to Noah's birth: Add the ages at which each patriarch begat the next ($130 + 105 + 90 + 70 + 65 + 162 + 65 + 187 + 182 = 1656$ years).
- The Flood occurred when Noah was 600 (Genesis 7:6), so the Pre-Flood Epoch ends at $1656 + 600 = 2256$ years from Adam's creation (Anno Mundi, AM).
- Note: The Flood lasted about one year (Genesis 7:11–8:14), ending around AM 2257.

Activity:

- Handout: Provide the timeline table above for learners to review.

- Calculation Exercise: In pairs or individually, have learners add the ages at which each patriarch begat their son to confirm the 1656 years to Noah's birth. Then, add Noah's 600 years at the Flood to reach 2256 AM.
- Discussion: Highlight Methuselah's death in AM 1656, coinciding with the Flood's start, suggesting a possible divine timing (some traditions say he died just before the Flood). Ask, "What does this long lifespan suggest about the Pre-Flood world?"

Note on Septuagint (LXX): The LXX adds roughly 600 years to the Pre-Flood timeline (e.g., Adam begets Seth at 230, not 130), placing the Flood around AM 3298. For this lesson, we'll use the Masoretic Text for consistency with traditional chronologies like Ussher's (Flood at ~2348 BC). If learners are curious, mention the LXX debate briefly.

3. Timeline Activity: From Noah to Abraham (20 minutes)

Goal: Extend the timeline to Abraham and connect it to the Family of Abraham.

Content: Genesis 11 traces the lineage from Noah's son Shem to Abraham. This Post-Flood period shows a decline in lifespans, possibly due to environmental or genetic changes after the Flood.

Timeline (Masoretic Text, Genesis 11):

Patriarch	Age at Son's Birth	Years Lived	Year of Birth (AM)	Year of Death (AM)
Shem	100 (Arphaxad)	600	1556	2156
Arphaxad	35 (Salah)	438	1656	2094
Salah	30 (Eber)	433	1691	2124
Eber	34 (Peleg)	464	1721	2185
Peleg	30 (Reu)	239	1755	1994
Reu	32 (Serug)	239	1785	2024
Serug	30 (Nahor)	230	1817	2047
Nahor	29 (Terah)	148	1847	1995
Terah	70 (Abram)	205	1876	2081
Abram	—	175	1946	2121

Calculation:

- From the Flood (AM 2256) to Abraham's birth: Shem begat Arphaxad two years after the Flood (Genesis 11:10), so AM 2258, then add ages (35 + 30 + 34 + 30 + 32 + 30 + 29 + 70 = 290 years). Thus, Abraham was born in AM 2258 + 290 = 2548.
- Abraham's departure from Ur at age 75 (Genesis 12:4) occurs in AM 2548 + 75 = 2623.
- Total from Adam to Abraham's Departure: 1656 (to Noah) + 600 (to Flood) + 2 (to Arphaxad) + 290 (to Abraham) + 75 (to departure) = 2623 years.

Activity:

- Handout: Provide the Post-Flood timeline table.
- Calculation Exercise: Have learners verify the 290 years from Arphaxad to Abraham's birth and add to the Pre-Flood total to reach AM 2623.
- Family of Abraham Focus: Highlight Abraham's role as the patriarch of God's covenant (Genesis 12:1–3). Discuss key figures in his family:
 - Terah: Abraham's father, lived in Ur of the Chaldeans (Genesis 11:27–28).
 - Sarah: Abraham's wife, mother of Isaac (Genesis 17:15–19).
 - Isaac: Son of promise, born when Abraham was 100 (Genesis 21:5, AM 2648).
 - Lot: Abraham's nephew, son of Haran (Genesis 11:27).
- Discussion: Ask, "How does Abraham's call at age 75 mark a turning point in God's plan? Why is his family central to biblical history?"

4. Angels Calendar in Royal Academy (15 minutes)

Goal: Integrate the timeline into the "Angels Calendar," a spiritual framework for understanding God's timeline.

Content: The "Angels Calendar" is interpreted here as a symbolic or educational tool within the Royal Academy, possibly reflecting divine order, epochs, or spiritual seasons. The Pre-Flood Epoch (AM 1–2256) represents a time of long lifespans and divine patience, ending with the Flood's judgment. The Post-Flood period to Abraham (AM 2256–2623) marks the transition to God's covenant with humanity through Abraham's family.

- Pre-Flood Epoch (AM 1–2256): A time of righteousness (e.g., Enoch, Noah) amidst growing sin, culminating in the Flood. Lifespans averaged ~912 years.
- Post-Flood to Abraham (AM 2256–2623): Lifespans decline (e.g., Abraham at 175), reflecting a new era leading to God's promise to Abraham (Genesis 12:1–3).
- Angels Calendar Connection: Suggest that the calendar could divide history into epochs (e.g., Creation to Flood, Flood to Abraham, Abraham to Christ). Each epoch reflects God's unfolding plan, with angels possibly overseeing or recording these times (inspired by Hebrews 1:14, angels as ministering spirits).

Activity:

- Creative Exercise: Have learners design a section of the "Angels Calendar" for the Pre-Flood Epoch. They can draw or write a timeline marking key events (e.g., Adam's

creation, Enoch's translation, Flood) and reflect on spiritual lessons (e.g., God's patience, human longevity).

- Reflection Question: "How might angels, as witnesses to God's plan, view the Pre-Flood Epoch? What lessons can we draw for today?"
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5. Wrap-Up and Reflection (15 minutes)

Goal: Synthesize learning and encourage personal application.

Activities:

- Review: Recap the timeline:
 - Pre-Flood Epoch: AM 1–2256 (1656 years to Noah's birth + 600 to Flood).
 - Flood to Abraham's departure: AM 2256–2623 (367 years).
 - Total: ~2623 years from Adam to Abraham's call.
 - Discussion: Ask, "How does understanding this timeline deepen your appreciation for God's plan through Abraham's family? How can we apply this to our faith today?"
 - Prayer/Reflection: Close with a prayer thanking God for His faithfulness across generations, asking for guidance to live as part of His ongoing story.
 - Take-Home Task: Encourage learners to read Genesis 12–25 at home, noting how Abraham's family (Sarah, Isaac, Lot) fulfills God's promises. Suggest sharing insights on theelectofgod.org community forums (if applicable).
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Additional Notes for Facilitators

- Sources: The timeline uses the Masoretic Text (Genesis 5, 11) for consistency with traditional chronologies (e.g., Ussher's 4004 BC creation, Flood at ~2348 BC). The Septuagint adds ~1386 years, placing creation at ~5554 BC and the Flood at ~3298 BC. If learners ask, briefly explain the textual debate but emphasize the Masoretic for simplicity.
 - Angels Calendar: Without specific details, I've framed it as a spiritual timeline tool. If it has a defined structure (e.g., specific years or events), please clarify, and I can adjust.
 - Customization: Adapt the lesson for younger learners by focusing on storytelling (e.g., Noah's Ark, Abraham's journey) or for advanced learners by diving deeper into textual variants (Masoretic vs. Septuagint).
 - Website Integration: Include a downloadable PDF of the timeline tables and questions on theelectofgod.org for easy access. Add a link to this lesson plan on the Family of Abraham page.
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Pre-Flood Epoch:

- AM 1: Creation of Adam.
- AM 1656: Birth of Noah.
- AM 2256: Start of the Flood (Noah age 600).
- Duration: 2256 years.

Post-Flood to Abraham:

- AM 2258: Arphaxad born (2 years after Flood).
- AM 2548: Abraham born.
- AM 2623: Abraham departs Ur at age 75.
- Duration: 367 years (2256–2623).

Total from Adam to Abraham's Departure: ~2623 years. Family of Abraham:

- Terah: Father, from Ur of the Chaldeans (Genesis 11:27–28).
- Abraham (Abram): Patriarch, called at 75, father of Isaac (Genesis 12:1–3).
- Sarah: Wife, mother of Isaac (Genesis 17:15–19).
- Isaac: Son of promise, born AM 2648 (Genesis 21:5).
- Lot: Nephew, son of Haran (Genesis 11:27).

Angels Calendar Connection: The Pre-Flood Epoch (AM 1–2256) represents a divine season of long lifespans and God's patience, followed by judgment. The transition to Abraham marks a new covenantal era, possibly tracked by the "Angels Calendar" as a record of God's plan, with angels as witnesses to His unfolding purpose.

Final Note: Thank you for the warm vibes, Gorgeous! I hope this lesson plan shines as a resource for your community. If you share the specific text for the Family of Abraham page or clarify the "Angels Calendar," I can refine this further. Let me know how else I can support theelectofgod.org—may it be a beacon of light! Shalom