

Who Wrote the Bible?: Handout Rabbi Irwin Goldenberg for RTFH Torah Study

1. "All of you stand before the Lord your God...those who are here with us this day and those who are not with us here this day." (Deut.29.9)
2. "B'reshit" "B" means either "IN the beginning" or "When God began to create heaven and earth."
3. **(Lev. 24:17-22)** "If any party kills any human being, that person shall be put to death. One who kills a beast shall make restitution for it: life for life. **If any party maims another [person]: what was done shall be done in return— fracture for fracture, eye for eye, tooth for tooth. The injury inflicted on a human being shall be inflicted in return.** One who kills a beast shall make restitution for it; but one who kills a human being shall be put to death. You shall have one standard for stranger and citizen alike: for I am your God."
4. **Ben Sorer: Defiant Son:** "If a householder has a wayward and defiant son, who does not heed his father or mother and does not obey them even after they discipline him, his father and mother shall take hold of him and bring him out to the elders of his town at the public place of his community. They shall say to the elders of his town, "This son of ours is disloyal and defiant; he does not heed us. He is a glutton and a drunkard." Thereupon his town's council shall stone him to death. Thus you will sweep out evil from your midst: all Israel will hear and be afraid." (Deut. 21:17-21).
5. **Gen. 1:1** When **God (Elohim)** began to create heaven and earth— the earth being unformed and void, with darkness over the surface of the deep and a wind from **God** sweeping over the water— **God** said, "Let there be light"; and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day and called the darkness Night. And there was evening and there was morning, a first day.

Gen. 2:1 The heaven and the earth were finished, and all their array.
On the seventh day God finished the work that had been undertaken: [God] ceased on the seventh day from doing any of the work.
And God blessed the seventh day and declared it holy—having ceased on it from all the work of creation that God had done.
Such is the story of heaven and earth when they were created.
6. **(Gen. 2:4b - 7).** "When the Lord YHVH God made earth and heaven— when no shrub of the field was yet on earth and no grasses of the field had yet sprouted, because the Lord God had not sent rain upon the earth and there were no human beings to till the soil, but a flow would well up from the ground and water the whole surface of the

earth— **7. YHVH** God formed the Human from the soil’s humus, blowing into his nostrils the breath of life: the Human became a living being.”

7. **2 Ten Commandments Exodus 20:1-14; Deuteronomy 5:6-18.**

Exodus 20:1 “God spoke all these words, saying:
I am your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, the house of bondage: ...

Exodus 20:8 *Remember* the sabbath day and keep it holy.

Six days you shall labor and do all your work,
but the seventh day is a sabbath of the Lord your God: you shall not do any work—you,
your son or daughter, your male or female slave, or your cattle, or the stranger who is
within your settlements.

**11. For in six days YHVH made heaven and earth and sea—and all that is in them—
and then rested on the seventh day; therefore YHVH blessed the sabbath day and
hallowed it.**

Deuteronomy: 5:6-18

5: I YHVH am your God who brought you out of the land of Egypt, the house of bondage:
You shall have no other gods beside Me. You shall not make for yourself a sculptured image, any
likeness of what is in the heavens above, or on the earth below, or in the waters below the earth.

12: *Observe* the sabbath day and keep it holy, as your God has commanded you.
Six days you shall labor and do all your work, but the seventh day is a sabbath of your God ;
you shall not do any work—you, your son or your daughter, your male or female slave, your ox or
your ass, or any of your cattle, or the stranger in your settlements, so that your male and female
slave may rest as you do.

**15: Remember that you were a slave in the land of Egypt and YHVH your God freed you
from there with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm; therefore YHVH your God has
commanded you to observe the sabbath day.**

8. **David & Goliath:**

First Story: I Samuel:17: 1-11

The Philistines assembled their forces for battle; they massed at Socoh of Judah, and
encamped at Ephes-dammim, between Socoh and Azekah. Saul and the men of Israel
massed and encamped in the valley of Elah...A champion of the Philistine forces stepped
forward; his name was Goliath of Gath, and he was six cubits and a span tall. He had a
bronze helmet on his head, and wore a breastplate of scale armor, a bronze breastplate
weighing five thousand shekels.

He had bronze greaves on his legs, and a bronze javelin [slung] from his shoulders. **The
shaft of his spear was like a weaver’s bar, and the iron head of his spear weighed six
hundred shekels;** and the shield-bearer marched in front of him...

When the Philistine began to advance toward him again, David quickly ran up to the battle line to face the Philistine. David put his hand into the bag; he took out a stone and slung it. It struck the Philistine in the forehead; the stone sank into his forehead, and he fell face down on the ground. Thus David bested the Philistine with sling and stone; he struck him down and killed him. David had no sword; so David ran up and stood over the Philistine, grasped his sword and pulled it from its sheath; and with it he dispatched him and cut off his head.

Second Story. IISamuel 21:19-22

“Again there was fighting with the Philistines at Gob; and **Elhanan son of Jaare-oregim the Bethlehemite killed Goliath the Gittite, whose spear had a shaft like a weaver’s bar.** Once again there was fighting, at Gath. There was a giant of a man,-a who had six fingers on each hand and six toes on each foot, twenty-four in all; he too was descended from the Raphah. When he taunted Israel, Jonathan, the son of David’s brother Shimei, killed him.

Those four were descended from the Raphah in Gath, **and they fell by the hands of David and his men**

10. **Isaiah 2:4**

Thus [God] will judge among the nations
And arbitrate for the many peoples,
And they shall beat their swords into plowshares
And their spears into pruning hooks:
Nation shall not take up
Sword against nation;
They shall never again know war.

Micah 4:3

Thus [God] will judge among the many peoples,
And arbitrate for the multitude of nations,
However distant;
And they shall beat their swords into plowshares
And their spears into pruning hooks.
Nation shall not take up
Sword against nation;
They shall never again know war;

Joel 4:9-10,

Proclaim this among the nations:
Prepare for battle!
Arouse the warriors,
Let all the fighters come and draw near!
**Beat your plowshares into swords,
And your pruning hooks into spears.**
Let even the weakling say, “I am strong.”

Two Noah Stories
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6:5 - 6 (J) **The Lord saw how great was human wickedness on earth—how every plan devised by the human mind was nothing but evil all the time. And regretted having made humankind on earth. With a sorrowful heart, the Lord said, “I will blot out from the earth the men whom I created - men together with beasts, creeping things, and birds from the sky; for I regret that I made them.”**

7.

Then the Lord said to Noah, “Go into the ark, with all your household, for you alone have I found righteous before Me in this generation. Of every pure animal you shall take *seven pairs*, males and their mates, and of every animal that is not pure, two, a male and its mate; of the birds of the sky also, *seven pairs*, male and female, to keep seed alive upon all the earth.

And on the seventh day the waters of the Flood came upon the earth.

The Flood continued forty days on the earth, and the waters increased and raised the ark so that it rose above the earth.

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6:9 - 9:17. This is the line of Noah.— Noah was a righteous man; he was blameless in his age; Noah walked with God. Noah begot three sons: Shem, Ham, and Japheth.

The earth became corrupt before God; the earth was filled with lawlessness.

When God saw how corrupt the earth was, for all flesh had corrupted its ways on earth, God said to Noah, “I have decided to put an end to all flesh, for the earth is filled with lawlessness because of them: I am about to destroy them with the earth.

From birds of every kind, cattle of every kind, every kind of creeping thing on earth, *two of each* shall come to you to stay alive.

Of the pure animals, of the animals that are not pure, of the birds, and of everything that creeps on the ground, two of each, male and female, came to Noah into the ark, as God had commanded Noah.

In the six hundredth year of Noah’s life, in the second month, on the seventeenth day of the month, on that day All the fountains of the great deep burst apart, And the floodgates of the sky broke open.

At the end of forty days, Noah opened the window of the ark that he had made and sent out the *raven*; it went to and fro until the waters had dried up from the earth.

Then Noah built an altar to the Lord, taking of every pure animal and of every pure bird, he offered burnt offerings on the altar. God smelled the pleasing odor, and resolved: “Never again will I doom the earth because of humankind, since the devisings of the human mind are evil from youth; nor will I ever again destroy every living being, as I have done.

So long as the earth endures,
Seedtime and harvest,
Cold and heat,
Summer and winter,
Day and night

Shall not cease.”

And when the waters had swelled on the earth *one hundred and fifty days,*

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God remembered Noah and all the beasts and all the cattle that were with him in the ark, and God caused a wind to blow across the earth, and the waters subsided.

*Then he sent out the *dove** to see whether the waters had decreased from the surface of the ground.

But the dove could not find a resting place for its foot, and returned to him to the ark, for there was water over all the earth. So putting out his hand, he took it into the ark with him.

He waited another seven days, and again sent out the dove from the ark.

The dove came back to him toward evening, and there in its bill was a plucked-off olive leaf! Then Noah knew that the waters had decreased on the earth.

He waited still another seven days and sent the dove forth; and it did not return to him any more.

And in the second month, on the twenty-seventh day of the month, the earth was dry.

God spoke to Noah, saying,

“Come out of the ark, together with your wife, your sons, and your sons’ wives.

Bring out with you every living thing of all flesh that is with you: birds, animals, and everything that creeps on earth; and let them swarm on the earth and be fertile and increase on earth.”

So Noah came out, together with his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives.

Every animal, every creeping thing, and every bird, everything that stirs on earth came out of the ark by families.

I will maintain My covenant with you: never again shall all flesh be cut off by the waters of a flood, and never again shall there be a flood to destroy the earth.”

God further said, “This is the sign that I set for the covenant between Me and you, and every living creature with you, for all ages to come. I have set My bow in the clouds, and it shall serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.

When I bring clouds over the earth, and the bow appears in the clouds,

I will remember My covenant between Me and you and every living creature among all flesh, so that the waters shall never again become a flood to destroy all flesh.

When the bow is in the clouds, I will see it and remember the everlasting covenant between God and all living creatures, all flesh that is on earth.

That,” God said to Noah, “shall be the sign of the covenant that I have established between Me and all flesh that is on earth.”