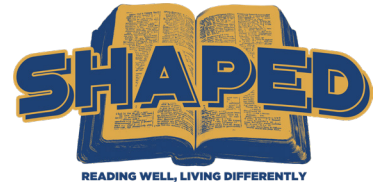


EXERCISE

Entering the Story



Every passage in the Bible lives somewhere inside a larger story, the metanarrative. This exercise helps you practice finding a passage's place in the metanarrative — and seeing what it contributes to the whole.

Placing a Passage in the Metanarrative

Your passage:

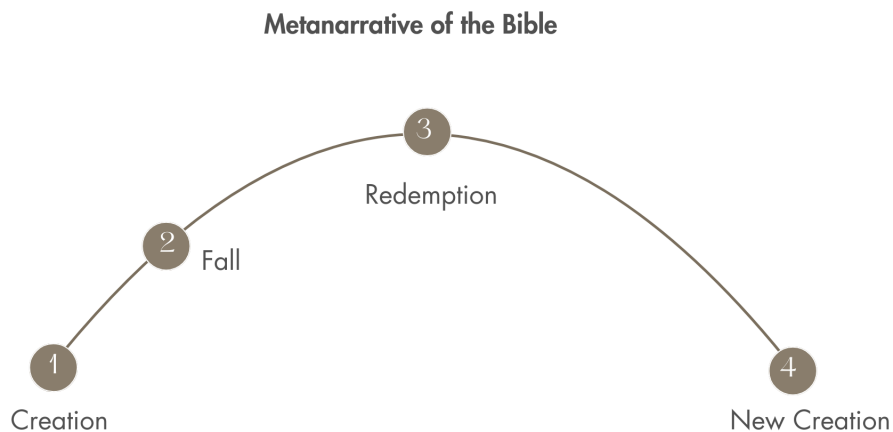
“Now the Lord said to Abram, ‘Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you. And I will make of you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name great, so that you will be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and him who dishonors you I will curse, and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’”

Genesis 12:1–3 (ESV)

Step 1 — Locate it

Read Genesis 12:1–3 slowly. Then circle or mark where this passage falls in the story. Remember the key components to each movement of the story:

- Creation - God makes the world and everything in it and declares it is good
- Fall - Mankind choose autonomy and independence instead of reliance and trust in God. Sin enters the world and corrupts the cosmos.
- Redemption - Jesus unites himself with mankind by becoming human, and redeems people back to God by choosing to die as a sacrifice on our behalf.
- Restoration - Jesus returns and the world is made new, the original design for God’s good world fully realized.



Step 2 — Why does it matter?

What does this passage reveal about God’s character and purposes — especially in light of the Fall?

How does knowing where this passage falls in the metanarrative change what you noticed in it?

Step 3 — Bridge a gap

The teaching described three gaps between us and the original audience: language, culture, and history.

Which gap feels most significant for understanding this passage? What would you need to know to bridge it?

Step 4 [Optional] — Use Tools to Help

Look up one piece of background on this passage — a Bible dictionary, a study note, or a commentary. (If you don’t have access to those resources, use the blueletterbible.org code to help). What did you find that helped?

