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The Written Account of the Generations of Adam 5:1 to 6:8



Moshe edited and compiled twelve family documents in the book of **Genesis**. The major structural word for **Genesis** is *toldot*, which means **the written account of**, or *this is what became of these men and their descendants*. The noun is often translated *generations*, *histories* or *descendants*. After the section on the written account of the heavens and the earth from **2:4** to **4:26**, we have the third *toldot*, **the written account of the generations of Adam**. **So what this third family document tells us, is what became of Adam. And what became of Adam was that God created man out of nothing (Hebrew: *bara*) in His likeness. Therefore, this third family document is concerned with the passing down of this image through the succeeding generations.**

The new family document begins here, with the dual purpose of linking the history of the downward slide from **Adam** to **Noah**. We move from the blessing in **5:1** to the curse of **6:1-8**. Like leaven in bread, sin slowly worked its way through the human family. And this family document answers a problem raised by the previous one. If, in spite of sin, there is supposed progress in civilization, what happened to the curse? The answer is this - the result of sin is death. So, you can smell the stench of death all the way through this section.