

Getting The Genesis Story Straight
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Creation researchers have effectively exposed errors inherent in efforts to harmonize Genesis chapters one through ten with “findings” of evolutionary science. These chapters give us the clearest insight available concerning the world that “perished” in the Flood (II Peter 3:6).

Now, let’s look at revealed social facts needed to comprehend clearly our patriarch fathers, Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. First, the patriarchs successfully managed households of loyal servant-saints numbered in the thousands. Abram (Abraham) mustered 318 warriors “born in his own house” (Genesis 14:14) to rescue Lot. These household militiamen of course had wives, children, and parents. Jacob, with an estimated 500 armed servants, offered Esau a successful peace offering of 580 animals without jeopardizing economically his household’s extensive livestock operations (Genesis 32:13-21). Israel was in peril from Esau who came leading 400 armed men, rustled and hustled, from servants of his father, Isaac (Genesis 32:6).

Apart from demographic concerns, we often fail to see the remarkable loyalty of thousands of anonymous servants to their patriarchs. Their stellar service gives evidence of their conscientious observance of God’s command to honor father and mother, the basis of all authority relationships (Exodus 20:12). Patriarchs fostered their servants’ loyalty by faithful administration of the Lord’s tithes to meet needs for health, education and welfare among their extended households (Genesis 14:20; 28:22).

Thus, all male servants one day submitted, with Abraham, to circumcision (Genesis 17:9-27). These, servants also successfully kept the “state secret” that Sarah was wife as well as sister of Abraham. In so doing, they averted genocidal attack from two heathen kings who successively came merely to abduct their mistress Sarah. Similarly, Jacob’s circumcised servants, decades later, abruptly broke camp to follow their patriarch back to Canaan, despite the very real prospect of battle with relatives who were still serving Laban (Genesis 31:1-55).

We need to look for revealed social facts, if we are to get Genesis straight in our thinking. Otherwise, our culturally-imposed individualistic blinders will dispose us to *slander*, not *honor*, our patriarch fathers. Abraham *did not* cower behind Sarah’s skirts to save his skin. Jacob was honest in all his business dealings, *not morally challenged* as sadly alleged. Consequences of such disastrous misreadings of Genesis include feminization of America’s leaders and the vulnerability of business leaders to envious attack that is now destroying our nation’s industry.

The patriarchs were operating in the context of God’s law, later codified by Moses. God’s law prescribes a line of behavior that *chooses life* (Deuteronomy 30:19). A parallel line of proscribed behavior is also set forth that in effect *chooses death*, e.g., coveting, theft, murder, adultery, etc. When we get Genesis wrong, God’s revealed prescriptive and proscriptive moral lines become confused as we unhappily see again in the public arena. “Woe unto them that call evil good, and good evil; that put darkness for light, and light for darkness” (Isaiah 5:20). It is high time we diligently study to understand Genesis facts more completely. Until we do, medical murder of the born and unborn will continue. And, we risk hearing Christ’s awful denunciation “I never knew you: depart from me, ye that work iniquity” (Matthew 7:23).