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Genesis and John

The Bible is a collection of books written by various authors over fifteen to sixteen hundred years;the core theme of the bible is redemption,but each book has its own main purpose based on cultural and geographic location. There are sixty- six books in the bible;thirty-nine in the Old testament and twenty- seven in the New testament. Despite the various authors' location and varied personalities there are some similarities and differences. Although both Genesis and John are similar, they have several crucial differences in terms of beginnings, sacrifice, and birth.

The Book of Genesis begins with the creation story,God spoke and things came into existence: the light, water, vegetation,animals and the sea creatures were all created by the power of the word of God (Genesis 1).He did the separation of the waters from the sky and the sea(Genesis 1:9). The similarity with both books is that John states: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning,through Him everything was made,"(John 1:2-3). Here we see the similarity of the Word being with God at creation and that the Word was from the beginning. The Word refers to Jesus who's the Word the second part of the triune God. and although he made the world, the world did not Know him.

The first murder that took place in the book of Genesis,” Now Cain said to his brother Abel, ‘let us go out into the field.’ while they were there in the field, Caine attacked his brother and killed him,”(Genesis 4:8). This was the first time in creation that murder had been committed. Instead of showing love to his brother he became jealous of him, indeed that was sad but it was the first of its kind in creation. Synonymously, John tells us of the first miracle that was performed by Jesus while he was attending a wedding in Galilee.” When the wine had gone, Jesus’ mother said to him, ‘They have no more wine’... What Jesus did was the first in Cana of Galilee, (John 2:3-11). In these two books the similarity of first things though one was a joyous occasion the other ended in murder it was the first time both things had taken place.

God had promised Abraham a son but did not reveal to him when it would happen. At the age of ninety-nine God fulfilled the promise; later God said to Abraham, “Abraham!” “Here I am,” he replied. Then God said, “take thy son, thy only son, whom you loved-Isaah and go to the region of Moriah. Sacrifice him there... Abraham took the wood for the burnt offering and placed it on his son Isaah , He himself carried the knife,(Genesis 22:1-6). Human sacrifice is not consistent with the teaching of Judaism, however, because of Abraham's belief in God he was tested, knowing that nothing is impossible for God to do; Abraham’s dearly beloved son was to be sacrifice if God could cause him to have a son at the age of ninety-nine he could bring him back to life. In the book of John after Pilate’s interrogation of Jesus “Finally he handed him over to them to be crucified...carrying his own (wooden) cross he went to the place called the skull (Genesis 19:16-17).” Here we see God allowing his son, His beloved son to be sacrificed. In this portion there is a similar feature and a contrast. Abraham’s obedience

to obey God by sacrificing his beloved son; and God allowing His beloved son to be sacrificed. Moreover, Isaac carrying the wood is symbolic to Jesus carrying his wooden cross is an allegory. Abraham was willing to give up his son in obedience to God the father just as God gave us his son to demonstrate his love for humanity.

Both of these books Genesis and John inform us of our theology of birth. In Genesis sin entered the world“ And the lord God commanded the man, you are free to eat from every tree;but you must not...for when you eat from it you will surely die”(Genesis 2:16-17).God gave the command to Adam and he disobey and brought sin into the world which caused humanity to die spiritually; physically we are born into sin,but Jesus came to give us a new birth John tells us. A pharisee named Nicodemus was inquiring about how he could experience this new birth;”How can someone be born when he is old?” ...their mother’s womb to be born!(John 3:4). We are born once physically, but because of sin we die, and so, if we are to have fellowship with God we need to be born again of the spirit, evidently this is what Jesus was explaining to Nicodemus.

Lastly the book of Genesis is found in the Old testament and the book of John is in the New testament.

In conclusion although the Bible was written by so many authors in different places and time we can compare and contrast its beginning, sacrifice,and birth;it is by no means a coincident it only could be the providential hand of God.