Famous Stories from Genesis

Buddhist Mandala
In reading this book you will find out:

1. How God made the world.
2. Why God made the world.
3. How God made people.
5. Why these things are so important.
**Introduction**

Once there was a foolish traveler who did not know where his journey began, or what road to take, or where to stay along the way, or what to see. Other travelers met along the way gave him bad directions and deceived him so that he got into all sorts of trouble. Do you think this traveler ever reached his destination? Yet there are many people today who live in just this meaningless way. They have no idea why the world exists, why they exist, or whether life has any purpose. So they live for their own pleasure, getting drunk, fighting, beating their own family members, deceiving others, and dishonoring themselves and others. In God’s sight, those who live in this way are dead even while they live. What then, must we do to take hold of real life?

This book contains short stories that explain the creation of the world, how people were made, why there is so much trouble in the world, and how we can come safely to the end of our journey through life. These stories are found in a book called Genesis, which is the first book in God’s Holy Bible. Reading the Holy Bible can benefit people greatly, for three reasons. First, God’s word is true. It is not a teaching made up by people, but the word of the holy and all-powerful God who made the world. Second, the Bible clearly shows God’s way of salvation. It was written so that whether we live or die we may live with God in peace and joy forever. Third, God’s word has great liberating power.
power, for it can set us completely free from the spiritual consequences of our own bad actions, as well as from the fear of curses, evil spirits, and death. As the Lord Jesus said, “Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

These stories are taken from the book of Genesis from the Radiant Light version of the Holy Bible, which was translated in Lhasa. The English translation is taken from the New International Reader’s Version (NIrV). The Tibetan and English languages have been placed beside each other to make it easier to study. However, since one has not been translated from the other, occasionally there will be small differences in meaning. If you would like to know more about the Lord Jesus Christ, please visit the website www.gsungrab.org where you can freely download a variety of resources, including an introduction to the Bible, language study materials, and an explanation of how to be saved. May God bless you as you read these stories and share them with others.

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Gen 21:1-6

God Tests Abraham
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In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. 2 The earth didn't have any shape. And it was empty. There was darkness over the surface of the waves. At that time, the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters. 3 God said, “Let there be light.” And there was light. 4 God saw that the light was good. He separated the light from the darkness. 5 God called the light “day.” He called the darkness “night.” There was evening, and there was morning. It was day one. 6 God said, “Let there be a huge space between the waters. Let it separate water from water.” 7 And that's exactly what happened. God made the huge space between the waters. He separated the water under the space from the water above it. 8 God called the huge space “sky.” There was evening, and there was morning. It was day two. 9 God said, “Let the water under the sky be gathered into one place. Let dry ground appear.” And that's exactly what happened. 10 God called the dry ground “land.”
called all the water that was gathered together "seas." And God saw that it was good. 11 Then God said, "Let the land produce plants. Let them produce their own seeds. And let there be trees on the land that grow fruit with seeds in it. Let each kind of plant or tree have its own kind of seeds." And that's exactly what happened. 12 So the land produced plants, each kind of plant had every kind of seeds. And the land produced trees that grew fruit with seeds in it. Each kind of tree had its own kind of seeds. God saw that it was good. 13 There was evening, and there was morning. It was day three. 14 God said, "Let there be lights in the huge space of the sky. Let them separate the day from the night. Let the lights in the huge space of the sky give light on the earth." And that's exactly what happened. 15 God made two great lights. He made the larger light to rule over the day and the smaller light to rule over the night. He put them there to separate light from darkness. God saw that it was good. 16 There was evening, and there was morning. It was day four. 17 God said, "Let the seas be filled with living things. Let birds fly above the earth. Let them rule over the living things of the sky. Let the land produce every kind of living thing that moves along the ground. And God saw that it was good. 18 So God said, "Let the land produce every kind of living thing that moves along the ground, and wild animals. And that's exactly what happened. 19 God made every kind of wild animal. He made every kind of livestock. He made every kind of creature that moves along the ground. And God saw that it was good. 20 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the sky and the wild animals and all the creatures that move along the ground. 21 God made every kind of wild animal. He made every kind of livestock. He made every kind of creature that moves along the ground. And God saw that it was good. 22 Then God said, "Let us make human beings in our image, after our likeness, and let them rule over the fish of the sea and the birds of the sky and the wild animals and all the creatures that move along the ground. And God saw that it was good.
them rule over the livestock and all the wild animals. And let them rule over all the crea-
tures that move along the ground.”  27 So God created human beings in his own likeness. He created them to be like himself. He created them as male and female.

28 God blessed them. He said to them, “Have children so that there will be many of you. Fill the earth and bring it under your control. Rule over the fish in the seas and the birds in the sky. Rule over every living creature that moves along the ground.”  29 Then God said, “I am giving you every plant on the face of the whole earth that produces its own seeds. I am giving you every tree that has fruit with seeds in it. All of them will be given to you for food.  30 I am giving every green plant as food for all the land animals and for all the birds in the sky. I am also giving the plants to all the creatures that move along the ground. I am giving them to every living thing that breathes.” And that's exactly what happened.  31 God saw everything he had made. And it was very good. There was evening, and there was morning. It was day six.
So the heavens and the earth and everything in them were completed. 7 By the seventh day God had finished the work he had been doing. So on that day he rested from all his work. 8 God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on that day he rested from all the work he had done. 

Here is the story of the heavens and the earth when they were created. 

By the third day God had made every kind of tree grow in the garden. 2 The Garden of Eden was in the east, and there the Lord God put the man he had formed. 3 He made him out of the dust of the ground. Then the Lord God formed a man. He made him out of the dust of the ground. He breathed the breath of life into the man’s nostrils, and the man became a living person. 4a God blessed the seventh day and made it holy, because on that day God rested from all his work. 5 God called the seventh day “the Sabbath.” 6

Then the Lord God formed a man. He made him out of the dust of the ground. God breathed the breath of life into the man’s nostrils, and the man became a living person. 7 Then the Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.” 8

The Lord God planted a garden in the east in Eden. 9 He put in the garden the man he had formed. 10 The Lord God said, “It is not good for the man to be alone. I will make a helper who is just right for him.” 11

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The Lord God gave the man a command. He said, “You may eat fruit from any tree in the garden. 15 But you must not eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. If you do, you will certainly die.” 16

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The Garden of Eden

The Garden of Eden was in the east, and there the Lord God put the man he had formed. 2 Then the Lord God formed a man. He made him out of the dust of the ground. God breathed the breath of life into the man’s nostrils, and the man became a living person. 3
People Disobey God's Command

3 The serpent was more clever than any of the wild animals the Lord God had made. The serpent said to the woman, "Did God really say, 'You must not eat fruit from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden. But God did say, 'You must not eat the fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden. Do not even touch it. If you do, you will die.'"

7 The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat fruit from the trees in the garden. And the tree in the middle of the garden. The tree God really said, 'You must not eat fruit from the tree in the middle of the garden.'"

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sewed together fig leaves and made clothes for themselves. 8 Then the man and his wife heard the Lord God walking in the garden. It was during the coolest time of the day. They hid from the Lord God among the trees of the garden. 9 But the Lord God called out to the man. “Where are you?” he asked. 10 “I heard you in the garden,” the man answered. “I was afraid, because I was naked. So I hid.” 11 The Lord God said, “Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten fruit from the tree I commanded you not to eat from?” 12 The man said, “It’s the fault of the woman you put here with me. She gave me some fruit from the tree. And I ate it.” 13 Then the Lord God said to the woman, “What have you done?” The woman said, “The serpent tricked me. That’s why I ate the fruit.” 14 So the Lord God spoke to the serpent. He said, “Because you have done this, “You are set apart from all livestock and all wild animals. I am putting a curse on you. You will crawl on your belly. You will eat dust all the days of your life. 15 I will make you and the woman hate each other. Your children and her children will be enemies. Her son will crush your head.
And you will bite his heel." 24 The Lord God said to the woman, "I will increase your pain when you give birth. You will be in great pain when you have children. You will long for your husband. And he will rule over you." 25 The Lord God said to Adam, "You listened to your wife's suggestion. You ate fruit from the tree I warned you about. I said, 'You must not eat its fruit.' So I am putting a curse on the ground because of what you did. All the days of your life you will have to work hard. It will be painful for you to get food from the ground, 1 even though the ground produces thorns and prickly weeds. 19 You will have to work hard and sweat a lot to produce the food you eat. 20 The Lord God drove him out of the Garden of Eden. He sent the man to farm the ground he had been made from. 21 The Lord God made clothes out of animal skins for Adam and his wife to wear. 22 Adam named his wife Eve. She would become the mother of every living person. 23 The Lord God made the man to farm the ground he had been made from. 24 So the Lord God drove the man out of the Garden of Eden. He also placed there a flaming sword that flashed back and forth. The angels and the sword guarded the way to the tree of life.
The Story of Cain and Abel

4 Adam loved his wife Eve and slept with her. She became pregnant and gave birth to Cain. She said to her husband, ‘I have had a son and a brother’.

5 After some time, Cain gathered his brother Abel. He brought some things he had grown. He brought some of the fruits of the field. So they went out. There Cain attacked his brother Abel and killed him. Then the Lord said to Cain, ‘Where is your brother Abel?’ ‘I don’t know,’ Cain replied. ‘Am I supposed to take care of my brother?’

6 The Lord said, ‘What have you done? Listen! Your brother’s blood is crying out to me from the ground. So I am putting a curse on you. I am driving you away from this ground. It has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. When you farm the land, it will not produce its crops for you anymore. You will be a restless person who wanders around on the earth. I will be hidden from you. I’ll be a restless person who wanders around on the earth.

7 But the Lord said to him, ‘No. Anyone who finds me will kill me.’ ‘Today you are driving me away from the land. I will be hidden from you. I’ll be a restless person who wanders around on the earth. Anyone who finds me will kill me.’ The Lord put a mark on Cain. Then anyone who found him wouldn’t kill him. So Cain went away from the Lord. He lived in the land of Nod. It was east of Eden.
ཆད་པ་ལྡབ་བདུན་ཕོག་ཡོང་། བཞེག་པ་དེའི་གནས་པ་སོགས་སུ་ཡོད་པའི་ས་ཆ་འཁམ་ཉུལ་བར་གནས་སོ།

16 སྐད་ཁང་ོལ་རྒས་ཤིག་བསྐན། བཞེག་པ་དེའི་གནས་པ་སོགས་སུ་ཡོད་པའི་ས་ཆ་འཁམ་ཉུལ་
Noah Prepares for the Flood

6 The Lord saw how bad the sins of everyone on earth had become. They only thought about evil things. 6 The Lord was very sad that he had made human beings on the earth. His heart was filled with pain. 7 So the Lord said, “I created human beings, but I will wipe them out. I will also destroy the animals, the birds in the sky, and the creatures that move along the ground. I am very sad that I have made human beings.” 8 But the Lord was very pleased with Noah. 9 Here is the story of Noah’s family line. Noah was a godly man. He was without blame among the people of his time. He walked faithfully with God. 10 Noah had three sons. Their names were Shem, Ham and Japheth. 11 The earth was very sinful in God’s eyes. It was full of people who did mean and harmful things. 12 God saw how sinful the earth had become. All its people were living very sinful lives. 13 So God said to Noah, “I am going to put an end to everyone. They have filled the earth with their harmful acts. I am certainly going to destroy them and the earth.
Then the Lord said to Noah, "Go into the ark with your whole family. I know that you are a godly man among the people of the land. Take seven pairs of every kind of 'clean' animal with you. Take a male and a female of each kind. Take one pair of every kind of animal that is not 'clean.' Take a male and a female of each kind. Then enter the ark with your whole family. I know that you are a godly man among the people of the land." Noah did everything the Lord commanded him to do. Noah was 600 years old when the flood came on the earth. 7 He and his sons entered the ark. His wife and his sons' wives went with them. They entered the ark to escape the waters of the flood. 8 Male and female pairs of 'clean' animals and pairs of animals...
For forty days and forty nights. 13 On that same day Noah and those with him in the ark were left. 14 So every living creature that moved on land died. The birds, the livestock and the wild animals died. All of the creatures that fill the earth also died. And so did every human being. 15 But the birds, the livestock and the wild animals died. All of the creatures that fill the earth also died. And so did every human being. 16 The animals going in were male and female of every living thing. Everything happened just as God had commanded Noah. Then the Lord shut him in. 17 For 40 days the flood kept coming on the earth. As the waters rose higher, they lifted the ark high above the earth. 18 The waters rose higher and higher on the earth. And the ark floated on the water. 19 The waters rose on the earth until all the high mountains under the entire sky were covered. 20 The waters continued to rise until they covered the mountains by more than 20 feet. 21 Every living thing that moved on land died. The birds, the livestock and the wild animals died. All of the creatures that fill the earth also died. And so did every human being. 22 Every breathing creature on earth was wiped out. People and animals were destroyed. The creatures that move along the ground and the birds in the sky were wiped out. Everything on earth was destroyed. Only Noah and those with him in the ark were left. 23 The waters flooded the earth for 150 days.
But God showed concern for Noah. He also showed concern for all the wild animals and livestock that were with Noah in the ark. So God sent a wind to sweep over the earth. And the waters began to go down. At the end of the seventh month, the ark came to rest on the mountains of Ararat. The waters continued to go down until the tenth month. On the first day of the seventh month, Noah opened a window of the ark. He sent out a raven. It kept flying back and forth until the second month the earth was completely dry. Then God said to Noah, "Come out of the ark, you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you. Bring out every kind of living thing that is with you. Bring the birds, the animals, and all the creatures that move along the ground. Then they can multiply on the earth. They can have little ones and the number of them can increase." 18 So Noah came out of the ark, his sons and his wife and his sons' wives were with him. 19 All the

The End of the Flood

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animals came out of the ark. The creatures that move along the ground also came out. So did all the birds. Everything that moves on land came out of the ark, one kind after another. Then Noah built an altar to honor the Lord. He took some of the "clean" animals and birds, He sacrificed them on the altar as burnt offerings. The smell of the offerings pleased the Lord. He said to himself, "I will never put a curse on the ground again because of human beings. I will not do it even though their hearts are always directed toward evil. Their thoughts are evil from the time they are young. I will never destroy all living things again, as I have just done. "As long as the earth lasts, there will always be a time to plant and a time to gather the crops. As long as the earth lasts, there will always be cold and heat. There will always be summer and winter, day and night."
God's Covenant

Then God blessed Noah and his sons. He said to them, "Have children so that there are many of you. Fill the earth. All the land animals will be afraid of you. All the birds in the sky will be afraid of you. Every creature that moves along the ground will be afraid of you. So will every fish in the seas. Every living thing is put under your control. I have already given you the green plants for food. Now I am giving you everything. "But you must not eat meat that still has blood in it. I will certainly hold someone accountable if you are murdered. I will even hold animals accountable if they kill you. I will also hold anyone accountable who murders another person." Anyone who murders a human being will be killed by a human being. That is because I have made human beings so that they are like me. Have children so that there will be many of you. Multiply and become many on the earth." Then God spoke to Noah and to his sons who were with him. He said, "I am now making my covenant with you. The way of the animals who come out of the ark will not again destroy the earth." God continued, "My covenant is between me and every kind of living creature on earth. A flood will never again destroy the earth. A rainbow will appear in the clouds. It will be the sign of the covenant between me and the earth. Sometimes when I bring clouds over the earth, a rainbow will appear in them. Then I will remember my covenant between me and you and every kind of living creature. The waters of a flood will never again destroy all life. When the rainbow appears in the clouds, I will see it. I will remember that my covenant will last forever. It is a covenant between me and every kind of living creature on earth. So God said to Noah, "The rainbow is the sign of my covenant. I have made my covenant between me and all life on earth."
The Tower of Babel

The whole world had only one language, and everyone spoke it. They moved to the east and found a broad valley in Babylon. There they made their home. They said to one another, "Come on! Let's make bricks and bake them well." They used bricks instead of stones. They used tar to hold the bricks together. Then they said, "Come on! Let's build a city for ourselves. Let's build a tower that reaches to the sky. We'll make a name for ourselves. Then we won't be scattered over the whole earth."

But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower the people were building. He said, "All these people are united and speak the same language. That is why they can do all this. Now they will be able to do anything they plan."

So the Lord scattered them from there over the whole earth. And they stopped building the city.
The Lord had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's family. Go to the land I will show you. I will make you into a great nation. And I will bless you. I will make your name great. You will be a blessing to others. I will bless those who bless you. I will put a curse on anyone who puts a curse on you. All nations on earth will be blessed because of you." So Abram went, just as the Lord had told him. Lot went with him. Abram was 75 years old when he left Harran. He took his wife Sarai and his nephew Lot. They took all the people and possessions they had acquired in Harran. They started out for the land of Canaan. And they arrived there. Abram traveled through the land. He went as far as the large tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were living in the land. The Lord appeared to Abram at Shechem. He said, "I will give this land to your family who comes after you." So Abram built an altar there to honor the Lord, mixed up the language of the whole world. That's why the city was called Babel. From there the Lord scattered them over the whole earth. Lord mixed up the language of the whole world. That's why the city was called Babel. From there the Lord scattered them over the whole earth.
སྲིད་གནས་ལེགས་པའི་ སྒྲིག་གི་ལྷན་པོ་ དཔེར་ནས་ཡོད་པ་ དཀོན་མཆོག་གིས་ཨབ་རེམ་ལ་མངོན་པར་མཛད།

who had appeared to him. 8 From there, Abram went on toward the hills east of Bethel. He set up his tent there. Bethel was to the west, and Ai was to the east. Abram built an altar there and called on the name of the Lord.
God Gives Abram the Land of Canaan

The First Covenant Between God and Abram

The Lord spoke to Abram after Lot had left him. He said, "Look around from where you are. Look north and south, east and west. I will give you all the land you see. I will give it forever to you and your family who are left. He said, "Look around from where you are. Look north and south, east and west. I will give you all the land you see. I will give it forever to you and your family who are left.

The Lord took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky. Count the stars, if you can." Then he said to him, "That's how many children will be born into your family." Then a message came from the Lord. The Lord said, "When you die, what you have will not go to your servant Eliezer. He will get everything I own."

Some time later, Abram had a vision. The Lord said to him, "Abram, do not be afraid. I am like a shield to you. I am your very great reward."

But Abram said, "Lord and King, what can you give me? I still don't have any children. My servant Eliezer comes from Damascus. When I die, he will get everything I own."

Abram continued, "You haven't given me any children. So this servant of mine will get everything I own."

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The Lord took Abram outside and said, "Look up at the sky. Count the stars, if you can." Then he said to him, "That's how many children will be born into your family." Abram believed the Lord. The Lord was pleased with Abram because he believed. So Abram's faith made him right with the Lord.
The Second Covenant Between God and Abram

17 1 When Abram was 99 years old, the Lord appeared to him. He said, “I am the Mighty God. Walk faithfully with me. Live in a way that pleases me. 2 I will now act on my covenant between me and you. I will greatly increase the number of your children after you.” 3 Abram fell with his face to the ground. God said to him, 4 “This is my covenant with you. You will be the father of many nations. 5 You will not be called Abram anymore. Your name will be Abraham, because I have made you a father of many nations. 6 I will greatly increase the number of your children after you. Nations and kings will come from you. 7 I will make my covenant with you last forever. It will be between me and you and your family after you for all time to come. I will be your God. And I will be the God of all your family after you. 8 You are now living in Canaan as an outsider. But I will give you the whole land of Canaan. You will own it forever and so will all your family after you. And I will be their God.”
21

**God Gives Abraham a Son**

21 The Lord was gracious to Sarah, just as he had said he would be. The Lord did for Sarah what he had promised to do. Sarah became pregnant. She had a son by Abraham when he was old. The child was born at the exact time God had promised. Abraham gave the name Isaac to the son Sarah had by him. When his son Isaac was eight days old, Abraham circumcised him. He did it exactly as God had commanded him. Abraham was 100 years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Sarah said, "God has given laughter to me. Everyone who hears about this will laugh with me." 3

22

**God Tests Abraham**

22 Some time later God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" "Here I am," Abraham replied. Then God said, "Take your son, your only son. He is the one you love. Take Isaac. Go to the place called Moriah. Give your son to me there as a burnt offering. Sacrifice him on the mountain I will show you." Early the next morning Abraham got up and loaded his donkey. He took two of his servants and his son Isaac with him. He cut enough wood for the burnt offering. Then he started out for the place God had shown him. On the third day Abraham saw the place a long way off. He said to his servants, "Stay here with the donkey. I and the boy will go over there and worship. Then we'll come back to you." Abraham had his son Isaac carry the wood for the burnt offering. He himself carried the fire and the knife. And the two of them walked on together. Then Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father?" "Yes, my son," Abraham replied. "The fire and wood are

*ཉན་མིག་བཟོ་སོགས་པ་ལ་བོད་པ་ལ་ཨི་སཱག་ཉི་མ་བུ་རི་ལོ་*
here,” Isaac said. “But where is the lamb for the burnt offering?” 8 Abraham answered, “God himself will provide the lamb for the burnt offering, my son.” And the two of them walked on together. 9 They reached the place God had shown Abraham. There Abraham built an altar. He arranged the wood on it. He tied up his son Isaac. Abraham placed him on the altar, on top of the wood. 10 Then he reached out his hand. He picked up the knife to kill his son. 11 But the angel of the Lord called out to him from heaven. He said, “Abraham! Abraham!” “Here I am,” Abraham replied. 12 “Do not lay a hand on the boy,” he said. “Do not harm him. Now I know that you would do anything for God. You have not held back from me your son, your only son.” 13 Abraham looked around. There in a bush he saw a ram caught by its horns. He went over and took the ram. He sacrificed it as a burnt offering instead of his son. 14 So Abraham named that place The Lord Will Provide. To this day people say, “It will be provided on the mountain of the Lord.”
15 He said, "I am giving you my word that I will bless you. I will bless you because of what you have done," announces the Lord. 
16 "You have not held back your son, your only son. 
17 So I will certainly bless you. I will make the children born into your family as many as the stars in the sky. I will make them as many as the grains of sand on the seashore. They will take over the cities of their enemies. 
18 All nations on earth will be blessed because of your children. All these things will happen because you have obeyed me." 
19 Then Abraham returned to his servants. They started out together for Beersheba. And Abraham stayed in Beersheba.
If you want to know more about these things, there are many resources available on the gsungrab.org web site to help you. You can download a free copy of God’s holy word, books that explain the Christian faith, language study books, and other resource materials. May God bless you as you read or listen to them, or discuss them with your friends.