



## The Story so Far . . .

### **The beginning of God's Kingdom**

In the beginning God created a perfect world. He created human beings (Adam and Eve) to be in a relationship with Himself and to obey His words. God had a special place called Eden where He lived with His people. In the beginning, God put His people in His place and asked them to obey His words. God had established a Kingdom - God's people, living in God's place, under God's rule and blessing.

### **The ruin of God's Kingdom**

An angel from heaven called Satan rebelled against God and was thrown out of heaven to the earth. He entered the Garden of Eden and tried to destroy God's Kingdom. God gave human beings the role of ruling the world, but they failed in a big way. They wanted to be their own rulers, deciding for themselves what is right and wrong. They listened to Satan and rejected God's authority and His loving rule. The result was a broken relationship with God and the Kingdom was ruined.

### **God's punishment**

God judged human beings and threw them out of His place and did not let them go back into the Garden of Eden. The punishment was a broken relationship with God and with each other. Death entered the world. The Kingdom God had established was ruined.

### **God's promise**

But God also acted in grace and promised a Rescuer-Ruler who would come and defeat Satan and rebuild God's Kingdom. The Rescuer-Ruler would come from the family line of Adam and Eve and rescue people back into the Kingdom of God. The rest of the Bible is the progressive story of how the promised Rescuer-Ruler will come and establish God's Kingdom.

## A new beginning

In the story of Cain and Abel we saw that human rebellion had been passed on to the whole human race. We all die because we have all chosen to be the rulers of our own lives. However, human rebellion increased to the point where God decided to judge the world. In the flood God re-created the world and gave human beings a new beginning. By saving Noah He showed His commitment to restoring His Kingdom through the promised Rescuer-Ruler.

## Human rebellion again

But things soon went wrong again. People disobeyed God's words to populate and fill the earth. They tried to stay in one place and build a city for security and a tower for their own religion. Like Adam and Eve they tried to become like God, and make a name for themselves. God judged them by confusing their language, scattering people over the whole earth. God's purposes were still fulfilled.

<b>God's Kingdom</b>				
<i>Constitution:</i> <i>'I will be their God, they will be my people'</i>				
<b>God's promises</b>				
	<b>Place</b>	<b>People</b>	<b>Rule &amp; Blessing</b>	<b>King</b>
<b>Creation</b>	Eden	Adam& Eve	God's word	Adam
<b>God's Kingdom ruined</b>				