do not name them the way that the Jews do. The Jews did not have names for these books, they simply named them after the first word of the book. For instance, the book of Genesis starts with "In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth." And the Jews name it by its first word also, which is a good title for it. We call it by the Greek word "Genesis" which means "beginning." So our title is the same as theirs, but ours is a summary. I wish we called it the Book of Beginnings, instead of Genesis. Most people know what Genesis means, but why speak Greek when we could just as well speak English in describing a part of our English Bible? At any rate we use the Greek term, Genesis, and we need to always to be reminded that means "The Beginnings."

In its first eleven chapters, Genesis, contains an account of the creation of the world, of the flood, and of God's dealing with people in general. Then, with chapter twelve, it tells of one family on which God focused His attention. He set aside this family to keep the knowledge of God alive in the world, and through them to bring His Son into the world as our Saviour. So from chapter twelve on God's dealings with this family and their relations with other people is recorded. In Genesis we have the account of this family, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, ending with their going down into Egypt where God had prepared a place to keep them alive through the famine — a place where they could grow in numbers — with the great economical advantages which Egypt had for this purpose.

We also call the second book by its Greek name. The Jew call it by its first two words, "these are the names" or just "the names" since it starts with the names of the sons of Israel who went down to Egypt.