

Reading the Bible Chronologically (2017): Old Testament Survey

[7] The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple; [8] the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the LORD is pure, enlightening the eyes; [9] the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

[10] More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb. [11] Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward. [12] Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults. [13] Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression. [14] Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer. [Ps 19:7-14]

I. Why Study the Old Testament?

1. Common Myths...

- A. "The Old Testament is _____."
- B. "The OT is _____."
- C. "The OT is _____."
- D. "The OT is _____."

2. The Central Message...

- A. "The Old Testament is _____."

II. How Should We Study the Old Testament? Examining 3 Dimensions

- 1. The _____ dimension.
- 2. The _____ dimension.
- 3. The _____ dimension.

III. What is the Old Testament? The OT as Literature

1. A collection of _____ books...

- A. Traditionally classified according to _____:

- a. Law
- b. History
- c. Prophecy
- d. Poetry

- B. Rich in literary _____:

- a. Historical narratives.
- b. _____ and statutes.
- c. Prophetic oracles.
- d. Genealogies.
- e. _____.
- f. Wisdom sayings.
- g. Laments.
- h. Apocalyptic _____.
- i. Many more...

2. Written by a variety of authors...
 - A. One _____ author- the Holy Spirit.
 - B. Various human authors.
 - C. Predominantly written in _____, though some is in Aramaic.
3. Written over a span of around 1,000 years.
 - A. Earliest parts written around _____ B.C.
 - B. Latest parts written around _____ B.C.
4. How did we get the Old Testament?
 - A. Collected into a _____.
 - B. Transmitted through _____.
 - C. Translated through servants.
5. Septuagint = the _____ Old Testament.

IV. When and Where did the Events of the Old Testament Take Place? The Old Testament as History

1. The OT is a _____ story set in _____ history.
 - A. Real places.
 - B. Real _____.
 - C. Real _____.
2. Old Testament history made simple...
 - A. In the beginning.... _____, then something.
 - B. Creation... life... creatures... _____ made in God's image.
 - C. The Garden of Eden quickly becomes the location of the _____ of man (humanity).
 - D. Humankind rebels at the Tower of Babel- the result is division and dispersion.
 - E. A new beginning... God's faithfulness to _____ and his family.
 - F. Abraham's prosperity turns into Israel's slavery.
 - G. The _____ - Moses leads Israel out of Egypt.
 - H. God gives Israel the _____.
 - I. The people enter the promised _____, where they are ruled for a while by judges.
 - J. Eventually a kingdom is established, epitomized by King _____ and his son Solomon.
 - K. Solomon builds a _____, home of the ark of the covenant and center of the people's worship.
 - L. After Solomon dies, the kingdom divides into Israel (northern kingdom) and Judah (southern kingdom).
 - M. Idolatry grows.
 - N. Assyria destroys _____ in 722 B.C.
 - O. Babylon destroys _____ in 586 B.C.
 - P. Survivors are taken into exile in Babylon for the next _____ years.
 - Q. A remnant returns to Jerusalem and rebuilds the temple.
 - R. But Israel still longs for the glory it knew under David.
 - S. Thus the OT becomes a story without an _____...

[105] [Nun] Your word is a lamp to my feet and a light to my path. [Ps 119:105]