

SESSION 2: INTRODUCTION 2

A. Value of the Old Testament

→ 2 Timothy 3:15

- ◆ Gives wisdom that leads to salvation through faith in Christ

→ John 1:29

- ◆ Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

B. Five key lessons the Old Testament develops which prepare us for understanding the gospel:

1. Majesty and Glory of God.
 - a. Not just who God is.
 - b. All of our views of God fall short. The Old Testament tells us how great He actually is.
2. Reality and Nature of Sin.
 - a. God only hates one thing-sin
 - b. God meets sin with an undeviating opposition.
 - c. Therefore, we need to understand what sin is

and recognize where it leads.

3. Principle of Faith.

- a. The just shall live by faith

4. Principle of Sacrifice.

- a. Fellowship with God is always on the basis of a sacrifice.

5. Principle of Obedience.

- a. God's objective in redemption is obedience to Him from a heart of love

C. The lessons of the OT are not taught propositionally, but by watching them work out in history.

A. Ex. Proposition - God is the creator of all things

B. OT- In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...

D. What is the basic storyline of the OT?

- A. Story of Abraham's descendants.
 - a. God made a covenant with Abraham
 - b. The rest of the OT traces the progress of that covenant.

- B. Story is in three main sections. (Years given are approximate.)

FAMILY PERIOD (250 years) - Ends with family going to Egypt

- Genesis 12-50

NATIONAL PERIOD (850 years) - Begins with Exodus from Egypt and ends with the Babylonian captivity

- *Foundation Stage*: Exodus through Joshua
- *Judges Stage*: Judges, Ruth, and 1 Samuel 1-7
- *Kingdom Stage*: 1 Samuel 8 through 2 Chronicles and most of the prophets

REMNANT PERIOD (150 years) - Begins with the return from captivity and ends with Malachi

- *History*: Ezra, Nehemiah, & Esther
- *Prophets*: Haggai, Zechariah, & Malachi