

## SESSION 3: INTRODUCTION 3

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### **A. Old Testament History is the progress of a covenant with Abraham.**

#### Essentials of Abrahamic Covenant:

1. Promise of descendants.
2. Promise of a land.
3. Promise of universal blessing through those descendants.

Note this is a one sided covenant.

### **B. Old Testament storyline has two natural breaks.**

Twice the descendants are not in the land.

1. Egypt, 1850-1450 BC
2. Babylon, 586-536 BC

### **C. The two breaks mark off three distinctly different periods.**

1. **Family period.** (Patriarchs)- A family wandering in the land.
2. **National period.** - A nation ruling the land.
3. **Remnant period** - A people group ruled in the land.

### **D. National period expanded - 90% of the OT**

### Formation of the nation

1. **Dominant character** - Moses
2. **Stages of the formation**
  - a. The Exodus- The most important event in the OT
  - b. The Law - Exodus  
-Deuteronomy
  - c. The Conquest- Joshua.

### Judges (Theocracy)

1. **Books**- Joshua (end), Judges, Ruth, 1 Sam. 1-7
2. Story 350 years long but nearly ignored by OT historians.

*Kingdom. 1050-586 BC*

1. **Dominant character**- David
2. Nearly two thirds of the OT story.

## **E. The Kingdom Expanded**

### United Kingdom - 120 years

1. Saul-First king but fails to follow God.
2. David- Great king to which all other good kings are compared.
3. Solomon- Given great wisdom but departs from God.

### Divided Kingdom 931-722 BC

### Judah Alone 722-586 BC

1. Course of history
  - a. Israel - Northern Kingdom.
    - Worshiped Jehovah in an altered form.

- Spiritually went steadily downhill
- God sent prophets to call them back.
- Israel refused and went into captivity in Assyria (Iraq) in 722 BC

b. Judah - Southern Kingdom

- Continued to worship at the temple
- Spiritually up and down.
- God sent prophets to call them back
- Judah finally refused and went into captivity in Babylon (Iraq) in 586 BC

