

The Old Testament in 90 Minutes



by Dwight Edwards

www.revolutionwithin.com

Reading the Bible

Discovering the Biggest Picture

“This present life is momentary, but the state of death is eternal. How terribly important it is then, to live in the light of the eternal, since it ultimately affects all that we do or think.” **Blaise Pascal**

“Life in time remains without meaning if it does not find its meaning in eternity.”
Nicolai Berdyaev

Exploring the Greatest Drama

"The Bible is not a book for the faint of heart - it is a book full of all the greed and glory and violence and tenderness and sex and betrayal that befits mankind. It is not the collection of pretty little anecdotes mouthed by pious church mice - it does not so much nibble at our shoe leather as it cuts to the heart and splits the marrow from the bone. It does not give us answers fitted to our small-minded questions, but truth that goes beyond what we even know to ask." **Rich Mullins**

Experiencing the Ultimate Romance

“The Bible is God’s love letter to us.” **Soren Kierkegaard**

“You can sum up the Bible in two words: Come closer.” **John Eldridge**

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“I wonder what sort of a tale we’ve fallen into?” J.R.R. Tolkein

Act 1 Exuberant Godhead

Act 2 Sinister Rebellion

Act 3 Unrivalled Craftsmanship

Act 4 Paradise Lost

Act 5 Unstoppable Advance

Act 6 Paradise Regained

Act I

Exuberant Godhead

Jn. 1:1

“In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.”

Matthew 28:19

“...baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Genesis 1:26

“Then God said, “Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness...”

“God created us so that the joy He has in Himself might be ours. God doesn't simply think about Himself or talk to Himself. He enjoys Himself! He celebrates with infinite and eternal intensity the beauty of who He is as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. And we've been created to join the party!” ***Sam Storms***

“It was the whole Trinity, which at the beginning of creation said, ‘Let us make man.’ It was the whole Trinity again, which at the beginning of the Gospel seemed to say, ‘Let us save man.’” ***J.C. Ryle***

"Bring me a worm that can comprehend a man, and then I will show you a man that can comprehend the Triune God." - ***John Wesley***

“The doctrine of the Trinity means that relationship, that fellowship, that togetherness and sharing, that self-giving and other-centeredness are not afterthoughts with God, but the deepest truth about the being of God. The Father is not consumed with Himself; He loves the Son and the Spirit. And the Son is not

riddled with narcissism; he loves his Father and the Spirit. And the Spirit is not preoccupied with himself and his own glory; the Spirit loves the Father and the Son. Giving, not taking; other-centeredness, not self-centeredness; sharing, not hoarding are what fire the rockets of God and lie at the very center of God's existence as Father, Son and Spirit." **C. Baxter Kruger**

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Perichoresis: to _____.

“Each of the divine persons centers upon the others. None demands that the others revolve around him. Each voluntarily circles the other two, pouring love, delight, and adoration into them. Each person of the Trinity loves, adores, defers to, and rejoices in the others. That creates a dynamic, pulsating dance of joy and love.” **Tim Keller**

John 17:20,21 | John 10:37,38 | John 14:8-11

1. **God is stunningly and relentlessly relational.**

2. **God is a balanced _____.** “*And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”*”
Gen.2:16,17

“...behold the goodness and severity of God...” Rom. 11:22

“*Who has measured the waters in the hollow of His hand, measured heaven with a span and calculated the dust of the earth in a measure? Weighed the mountains in scales and the hills in a balance?*” Is. 40:12

“*Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father’s will. But the very hairs of your head are all numbered.*” Mtt.10:29,30

Transcendence

Wrath

Grace

Immanence

“*There do meet in Jesus Christ infinite highness and infinite condescension...There meet in Jesus Christ, infinite justice and infinite grace.*” **Jonathan Edwards**

3. God is most fiercely passionate about _____.

Numbers 14:21

“But truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the Lord.”

Habakkuk 2:13,14

“Behold, is it not of the Lord of hosts that the peoples labor to feed the fire, and nations weary themselves in vain? For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”

Isaiah 43:7

“Everyone who is called by My name, whom I have created for My glory...”

I Pet. 4:10, 11

“As each one has received a gift, minister it to one another, as good stewards of the manifold grace of God. If anyone speaks, let him speak as the oracles of God. If anyone ministers, let him do it as with the ability which God supplies, that in all things God may be glorified through Jesus Christ, to whom belong the glory and the dominion forever and ever. Amen.”

I Cor. 10:31

“Therefore, whether you eat or drink, or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God.”

Isaiah 42:8

“I am the Lord, that is My name; and My glory I will not give to another, nor My praise to carved images.”

Acts 12:21-24

“So on a set day Herod, arrayed in royal apparel, sat on his throne and gave an oration to them. And the people kept shouting, ‘The voice of a god and not of a man!’ 23 Then immediately an angel of the Lord struck him, because he did not give glory to God. And he was eaten by worms and died. But the word of God grew and multiplied.”

4. The primary question the Bible is answering is “What’s so _____ about God?”

Act II

Sinister Revolt

Isaiah 14:12-15

*“How you are fallen from heaven,
O Lucifer, son of the morning!
How you are cut down to the ground,
You who weakened the nations!
For you have said in your heart:*

*I will ascend into heaven,
I will exalt my throne above the stars of God;
I will also sit on the mount of the congregation
On the farthest sides of the north;
I will ascend above the heights of the clouds,
I will be like the Most High.’
Yet you shall be brought down to Sheol,
To the lowest depths of the Pit.”*

Ezekiel 28:12-17

*“You were the seal of perfection,
Full of wisdom and perfect in beauty.
I established you;
You were on the holy mountain of God;
You walked back and forth in the midst of fiery stones.
You were perfect in your ways from the day you were created,
Till iniquity was found in you...
And you sinned; Your heart was lifted up because of your beauty;
You corrupted your wisdom for the sake of your splendor;
I cast you to the ground...”*

Revelation 12:7-9

“And war broke out in heaven: Michael and his angels fought with the dragon; and the dragon and his angels fought, but they did not prevail, nor was a place found for them in heaven any longer. So the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who deceives the whole world; he was cast to the earth, and his angels were cast out with him.”

1. **The root cause of Satan’s fall was _____.**
2. **The sin God most fiercely despises is _____.**
3. **This earth is presently a _____ where a cosmic war of epic proportions is being waged.**
4. **Every person stands squarely in the _____ of Jn. 10:10.**

John 10:10

“The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.”

“I am staggered by the level of naiveté that most people live with regarding evil. They don't take it seriously. They don't live as though the Story has a Villain. Not the devil prancing around in red tights carrying a pitchfork, but the incarnation of the very worst of every enemy you've met in every other story. Dear God--the Holocaust, child prostitution, terrorist bombings, genocidal governments. What is it going to take for us to take evil seriously? Life is very confusing if you do not take into account that there is a Villain. That you, my friend, have an Enemy.” **John Eldredge**

“Enemy-occupied territory—that is what this world is. Christianity is the story of how the rightful king has landed, you might say landed in disguise, and is calling us all to take part in a great campaign of sabotage.” **C.S. Lewis**

Act III

Unrivaled Craftsmanship

Genesis 1:1

“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.”

Genesis 1:27

“So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.”

Colossians 1:16

“For by Him all things were created that are in heaven and that are on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or principalities or powers. All things were created through Him and for Him.”

“Earth’s crammed with heaven,
And every common bush afire with God;
But only he who sees, takes off his shoes
The rest sit round it and pluck blackberries,”

E. B. Browning

“Men go abroad to wonder at the heights of mountains, at the huge waves of the sea, at the long courses of the rivers, at the vast compass of the ocean, at the circular motions of the stars, and they pass by themselves without wondering.” **Augustine**

“Doth not all nature around me praise God? If I were silent, I should be an exception to the universe. Doth not the thunder praise Him as it rolls like drums in the march of the God of armies? Do not the mountains praise Him when the woods upon their summits wave in adoration? Doth not the lightning write His name in letters of fire? Hath not the whole earth a voice? And shall I, can I, silent be?” **Charles Spurgeon**

“God’s excellency, his wisdom, his purity and love, seemed to appear in everything: in the sun, moon, and stars; in the clouds, and blue sky; in the grass, flowers, trees; in the water, and all nature; which used greatly to fix my mind. I often used to sit and view the moon, for a long time; and so in the daytime, spent much time in viewing the clouds and sky, to behold the sweet glory of God in these things: in the meantime, singing forth with a low voice, my contemplations of the Creator and Redeemer. And scarce anything, among all the works of nature, was so sweet to me as thunder and lightning. Formerly, nothing had been so terrible to me. I used to be a person uncommonly terrified with thunder: and it used to strike me with terror, when I saw a thunderstorm rising. But now, on the contrary, it rejoiced me. I felt God at the first appearance of a thunderstorm. And used to take the opportunity at such times, to fix myself to view the clouds, and see the lightnings play, and hear the majestic and awful voice of God’s thunder: which often times was exceeding entertaining, leading me to sweet contemplations of my great and glorious God.” **Jonathan Edwards**

The primary purpose of Gen.1,2 is to deter _____.

“Take careful heed to yourselves, for you saw no form when the Lord spoke to you at Horeb out of the midst of the fire, 16 lest you act corruptly and make for yourselves a carved image in the form of any figure: the likeness of male or female, 17 the likeness of any animal that is on the earth or the likeness of any winged bird that flies in the air, 18 the likeness of anything that creeps on the ground or the likeness of any fish that is in the water beneath the earth. 19 And take heed, lest you lift your eyes to heaven, and when you see the sun, the moon, and the stars, all the host of heaven, you feel driven to worship them and serve them, which the Lord your God has given to all the peoples under the whole heaven as a heritage.” Dt. 4:15 -19

Man is relentlessly _____.

Man is fiercely _____.

Man is created _____ and _____.

Psalms 42:1,2 | Psalms 63:1 | Isaiah 55:1-3 | Jeremiah 2:13 | John 7:37
John 6:33-35 | Ecclesiastes 3:11

We thirst for a love that cannot be lost or even diminished by _____
_____.

“He will hunger for affectionate relations with people in general, namely, for a place in his group or family, and he will strive with great intensity to achieve this goal.”

Abraham Maslow

We hunger to make a difference in this world that cannot be erased or even diminished by_____.

“...we may still often (if not always) expect that a new discontent and restlessness will soon develop, unless the individual is doing what he, individually, is fitted for. A musician must make music, an artist must paint, a poet must write, if he is to be ultimately at peace with himself. What a man **can** be, he **must** be.” **Abraham Maslow**

“Man's Unhappiness, as I construe, comes of his Greatness; it is because there is an Infinite in him, which with all his cunning he cannot quite bury under the Finite.” **Thomas Carlyle**

“I married Carlyle for ambition. Carlyle has surpassed expectations, and I am a miserable woman.” **Jane Carlyle**

At the end of Genesis 2, we have a perfect _____ and a perfect _____.

Act IV

Paradise Lost

Genesis 3:24

“So He drove out the man...”

Genesis 3:17

“Cursed is the ground for your sake; ...”

Romans 8:19-21

“For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.”

“If we find ourselves with a desire that nothing in this world can satisfy, the most probable explanation is that we were made for another world.” — **C.S. Lewis**

“The beginning of men’s rebellion against God was, and is, the lack of a thankful heart.” — **Francis Schaeffer**

"So simple the act, so hard the undoing. God Himself will taste poverty and death before 'Take and Eat' become verbs of salvation." — **Derek Kidner**

Satan's Attack

1. **Casts doubt on God's *infallible word*.** "*Has God indeed said...*" Genesis 3:1
2. **Casts doubt on God's *overwhelming goodness*.** "...*You shall not eat of every tree in the garden*" Genesis 3:1 God never said that. It was only one tree. All others were wholly available. Satan always seeks to exaggerate God's strictness.
3. **Casts doubt on God's *certain judgment*.** "...*You will not surely die.*" Genesis 3:3
But die they did.
4. **Casts doubt on God's *unrivaled supremacy*.** "...*you will be like God, knowing good and evil.*" Genesis 3:5
5. **Tempted them along three lines – *lust of the flesh* (hedonism), *lust of the eyes* (materialism), and *the boastful pride of life* (egotism).** 1 John 2:15,16
"*So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate.*" Gen. 3:6

The power of Satan is in the _____. It is the fierce, stubborn belief that God-given longings can be met in a God-absent direction.

“For My people have committed two evils: they have forsaken Me, the fountain of living waters, and hewn themselves cisterns—broken cisterns that can hold no water.” Jer. 2:13

"When a man knocks at a brothel, he is really knocking for God." **George MacDonald**

Satan’s primary attack is to breed discontent. *“Because, although they knew God, they did not glorify Him as God, nor were thankful...”* Rom. 1:21

Man is a _____ . **Francis Schaeffer**

Both the _____ and the _____ fell.

Gen. 4 – Rev. 20

Retrieval of the Creature

Rev. 21,22

Retrieval of the Creation

“It is a world of magic and mystery, of deep darkness and flickering starlight. It is a world where terrible things happen and wonderful things too....Yet for all its confusion and wildness, it is a world where the battle goes ultimately to the good, who live happily ever after, and where in the long run everybody, good and evil alike, becomes known by his true name....That is the fairy tale of the Gospel with, of course, one crucial difference from all other fairy tales, which is that the claim made for it is that it is true, that it not only happened once upon a time but has kept on happening ever since and is happening still.” **Frederick Buechner**

ACT V

Unstoppable Advance

Numbers 14:21

“But truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD”

Habakkuk 2:14

“For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord, as the waters cover the sea.”

Revelation 5:9

“And they sang a new song, saying:

‘You are worthy to take the scroll,

and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,’”

“One day it will all be finished, and the weary feet, all scarred, bleeding, and sore, will cross the last mountain, tread the last trail, reach the last tribe, and win the last soul. Then He Himself will exclaim, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant!’ Let us keep our eyes steadily upon the goal! Let us not look down at our feet! For when we hear the shout from the skies, all else will fade into utter insignificance. Ere long the Lord will descend from heaven with a shout. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!” **Robert Jaffrey**

"God is pursuing with omnipotent passion a worldwide purpose of gathering joyful worshipers for Himself from every tribe and tongue and people and nation. He has an inexhaustible enthusiasm for the supremacy of His name among the nations." **John Piper**

The Relentless March of God: Genesis 4:1 – Revelation 20

In regards to the creature:

“And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise His heel.” Genesis 3:15

God will win people back to Himself without by-passing their _____.

“There are only two kinds of people in the end: those who say to God, "Thy will be done," and those to whom God says, in the end, "Thy will be done." C.S. Lewis

“Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If anyone hears My voice and opens the door, I will come in to him and dine with him, and he with Me.” Rev. 3:20

God will win people back to Himself not through force, but through

_____. Hosea 2:14 Rom. 2:4

“...then suddenly there dawns upon us the vast, entire endowment of God’s free love and forgiveness, and the reconciliation He offers us in Jesus Christ. It is this which bowls us over, frees us from the burden of guilt, transforms us, and provokes ‘metanoia’”. **Paul Tournier**

“You may be able to compel people to maintain certain minimum standards by stressing duty, but the highest moral and spiritual achievements depend not upon a push but a pull. People must be charmed into righteousness.” **Reinhold Niebuhr**

“Therefore, behold, I will allure her, will bring her into the wilderness, and speak comfort to her.” Hosea 2:14

“Or do you despise the riches of His goodness, forbearance, and longsuffering, not knowing that the goodness of God leads you to repentance?” Rom. 2:4

The Abrahamic Covenant

Its Prelude: *judgement and blessing*

Gen. 2;16,17

Gen. 3:16-21

Gen. 4:10-15

Gen. 6: 8,13

Gen. 10 – All the families of the earth recorded and accounted for

Gen. 11:3-9

Its Promise:

“I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name great; and you shall be a blessing. I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” Genesis 12:2,3

The Certainty of the Blessing – *“I **will** bless...all the nations will be blessed”*

The Breadth of the Blessing – *“**all**nations”*

The Instrument of the Blessing – *“**in you**”*

Genesis 18:18 | Genesis 22:18 (*“in your seed”*) | Genesis 26:4 (Isaac) |

Genesis 28:14 (Jacob)

The backdrop for the Abrahamic covenant is Gen. 10, 11

The Abrahamic Covenant is as much about _____ of Israel as it is about Israel.

Abrahamic Covenant is the first _____ of the great commission.

The Abrahamic Covenant is the _____ of the bible.

The Abrahamic Covenant Continued and Fulfilled

“I will bless those who bless you, and I will curse him who curses you; and in you all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” **Genesis 12:3, Genesis 18:18, Gen.22:18, Gen. 26:4 (Isaac), Gen. 28:14 (Jacob)**

“Moreover, concerning a foreigner, who is not of Your people Israel, but has come from a far country for Your name’s sake (for they will hear of Your great name and Your strong hand and Your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this temple, hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this temple which I have built is called by Your name.” **I Kings 8:41-43**

“All the ends of the world shall remember and turn to the LORD, and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.” **Psalms 22:27**

“God be merciful to us and bless us, and cause His face to shine upon us, that Your way may be known on earth, Your salvation among all nations. Let the peoples praise You, O God; let all the peoples praise You. Oh, let the nations be glad and sing for joy for You shall judge the people righteously, and govern the nations on earth.” **Ps. 67:1-4**

“Indeed He says, ‘It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, that You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.’” **Isaiah 49:6**

But the Lord said, “You have had pity on the plant for which you have not labored, nor made it grow, which came up in a night and perished in a night. And should I not pity Nineveh, that great city, in which are more than one hundred and twenty thousand persons who cannot discern between their right hand and their left—and much livestock?” **Jonah 4:10,11**

For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name shall be great among the Gentiles; in every place incense shall be offered to My name, and a pure offering; for My name shall be great among the nations,” says the Lord of hosts. **Mal.1:11**

“Then He said to them, “Follow Me, and I will make you fishers of men.” **Mtt. 4:19**

“And this gospel of the kingdom will be preached in all the world as a witness to all the nations, and then the end will come.” **Matthew 24:14**

“And Jesus came and spoke to them, saying, ‘All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, even to the end of the age.’” **Matthew 28:18-20**

“But you shall receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you shall be witnesses to Me in Jerusalem, and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth.” **Acts 1:8**

“You are sons of the prophets, and of the covenant which God made with our fathers, saying to Abraham, ‘And in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed.’ To you first, God, having raised up His Servant Jesus, sent Him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from your iniquities.” **Acts 3:25, 26**

“And so I have made it my aim to preach the gospel, not where Christ was named, lest I should build on another man’s foundation, but as it is written: ‘To whom He was not announced, they shall see; and those who have not heard shall understand.’” **Rom. 15:20,21**

“You are worthy to take the scroll, and to open its seals; for You were slain, and have redeemed us to God by Your blood out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation,” **Revelation 5:9; 7:9,10**

Genesis: A tire_____ . *Dr. Bruce Waltke*

Exodus → Deuteronomy (Pentateuch)

The establishment of the greatest spectacle on earth.

The *preparation* of the burning bush.

Moses and the burning bush – Exodus 3:1-7

1. The bush_____the presence of God.
2. The bush_____the word of God.
3. The bush provoked_____.

**What the bush was to Moses, Israel was to be to the
_____ around her.**

Exodus 19:6 | Deuteronomy 4:6-8 | Ezekiel 16:1-14

“Your fame went out among the nations because of your beauty, for it was perfect through My splendor which I had bestowed on you, says the Lord God.”

Ezekiel 16:14

“Moreover, concerning a foreigner, who is not of Your people Israel, but has come from a far country for Your name’s sake (for they will hear of Your great name and Your strong hand and Your outstretched arm), when he comes and prays toward this temple, hear in heaven Your dwelling place, and do according to all for which the foreigner calls to You, that all peoples of the earth may know Your name and fear You, as do Your people Israel, and that they may know that this temple which I have built is called by Your name.” **1 Kings 8: 41-43**

Exodus – The_____of God’s burning bush.

Focuses upon the *power* of God.

Leviticus – The _____ of God’s burning bush.

Focuses upon the *holiness* of God.

Numbers – The _____ of God’s burning bush.

Focuses upon the *faithfulness* of God.

Deuteronomy – The _____ of God’s burning bush.

Focuses upon the *character* of God.

The most important thing about Israel’s obedience to the laws of God was what it did for God’s name; especially among those outside of Israel.

The people of Israel were to be God’s “_____” to the nations outside of Israel; God’s marketing agency to the world.

The 10 commandments were to reflect two central messages:

1. **God matters most** – unrivaled trust and love in a single, unseen God. (First 4 commandments)
2. **People matter much** – uncommon concern for one’s fellow man. (Last 6 commandments)

“Jesus said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” Mtt. 22:37-40

Greatest drama on earth: the actors were the people of God; the script was the word of God.

Joshua – the *homestead* of the burning bush.

Setting _____ for the greatest spectacle on earth.

“I have given you a land for which you did not labor, and cities which you did not build, and you dwell in them; you eat of the vineyards and olive groves which you did not plant. Now therefore, fear the Lord, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the Lord!”
Joshua 24:13,14

Judges → Esther – the *history* of the burning bush.

A _____ ride.

“In those days there was no king in Israel; everyone did what was right in his own eyes.”
Judges 21:25

“And the Lord said to Samuel, “Heed the voice of the people in all that they say to you; for they have not rejected you, but they have rejected Me, that I should not reign over them...Now therefore, heed their voice. However, you shall solemnly forewarn them, and show them the behavior of the king who will reign over them.” I Samuel 8:7-9

Psalms – the *songs* of the burning bush.

“We are not human beings having a spiritual experience. We are spiritual beings having a human experience.” **Pierre Teilhard de Chardin**

“I have had great experience of God's hearing my Prayers, and returning comfortable Answers to me... I have found my heart through his goodnes enlarged in Thankfulness to him... I have often been perplexed that I have not found that constant Joy in my Pilgrimage and refreshing which I supposed most of the servants of God have... Yet have I many Times sinkings and droopings, and not enjoyed that felicity that somtimes I have done...” **Anne Bradstreet** “To My Dear Children”

Different types of Psalms (by Hermann Gunkel)

Hymns: Many of the psalms are simple hymns or songs of praise. For example, Psalm 8 is a hymn that begins, “Lord, our Lord, / how majestic is your name in all the earth!” (verse 1).

Lament or Complaint Psalms: These include songs that express sadness to God or complaints against God’s enemies. For example, Psalm 3 is a lament psalm that begins, “Lord, how many are my foes! / How many rise up against me!” (verse 1).

Royal Psalms: Several psalms were performed in the presence of kings or dignitaries. Psalm 18:50 states, “He gives his king great victories; / he shows unfailing love to his anointed, / to David and to his descendants forever.”

Thanksgiving Psalms: These songs of thanks include both thanksgiving from individuals (such as Psalms 30, 32, and 34) and from the community (such as Psalms 67 and 124). One of the best-known thanksgiving psalms is Psalm 100. Verses 4–5 proclaim, “Enter his gates with thanksgiving / and his courts with praise; / give thanks to him and praise his name. / For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; / his faithfulness continues through all generations.”

Wisdom Psalms: While many psalms discuss aspects of wisdom, certain psalms such as Psalms 1, 37, and 49 focus on the theme of wisdom, speaking of the fear of the Lord or offering words of wisdom. Psalm 1:1–3 is a great example: “Blessed is the one / who does not walk in step with the wicked / or stand in the way that sinners take or sit in the company of mockers, / but whose delight is in the law of the Lord, / and who meditates on his law day and night. / That person is like a tree planted by streams of water, / which yields its fruit in season / and whose leaf does not wither— / whatever they do prospers.”

Smaller Genres and Mixed Types: Some psalms include a mix of types. Psalms 9, 10, and 123 are examples. Other psalms have only a small number in their category, such as psalms regarding the stories of Israel (Psalms 78, 105, and 106). The Songs of Ascent, written to be sung by worshipers on their way up to Jerusalem, also represent a smaller genre that includes mixed types (Psalms 120—134).

Job, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon – the *wisdom* of the burning bush.

Wisdom – the ability to live life skillfully. A life of extraordinary quality and enduring value.

Pinnacle of Israel’s Success – “And men of all nations, from all the kings of the earth who had heard of his wisdom, came to hear the wisdom of Solomon.” I Kings 4:34

Prophets – the *caretakers* of the burning bush.

Purpose of the prophets:

God beckoning His waning people to return to their _____
_____. They encouraged the righteous and warned the wicked.

Pre-exilic prophets – before being taken captive to Babylon. Primary message – “turn.” Turn *from* and turn *to*. “Trade Up” = “repent”

Isaiah

Jeremiah

Hosea

Joel

Amos

Obadiah

Jonah

Micah

Nahum

Habakkuk

Zephaniah

Exilic prophets – while in Babylon. Primary message – “Thrive.”

Ezekiel

Daniel

Jeremiah

Post-exilic Prophets – after being released from Babylon. Primary message – “Rebuild.”

Haggai

Zechariah

Malachi

Rebuild the _____.

Rebuild the _____.

Rebuild the _____.

The New Covenant

“Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah—³² not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day that I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt, My covenant which they broke, though I was a husband to them, says the LORD.³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put My law in their minds, and write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people.³⁴ No more shall every man teach his neighbor, and every man his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they all shall know Me, from the least of them to the greatest of them, says the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and their sin I will remember no more.” Jer. 31:31-34

“No one sews a piece of unshrunk cloth on an old garment; or else the new piece pulls away from the old, and the tear is made worse. And no one puts new wine into old wineskins; or else the new wine bursts the wineskins, the wine is spilled, and the wineskins are ruined. But new wine must be put into new wineskins.”

Mark. 2:21,22

“You go near and hear all that the Lord our God may say, and tell us all that the Lord our God says to you, and we will hear and do it. Then the Lord heard the voice of your words when you spoke to me, and the Lord said to me: ‘I have heard the voice of the words of this people which they have spoken to you. They are right in all that they have spoken. Oh, that they had such a heart in them that they would fear Me and always keep all My commandments, that it might be well with them and with their children forever!’” Deuteronomy 5:27-29

“And the Lord your God will circumcise your heart and the heart of your descendants, to love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul, that you may live.” Deuteronomy 30:6

“And I will sanctify My great name, which has been profaned among the nations, which you have profaned in their midst; and the nations shall know that I am the LORD,” says the Lord GOD, “when I am hallowed in you before their eyes... Then I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean; I will cleanse you from all your filthiness and from all your idols.²⁶ I will give you a new heart and put a new spirit within you; I will take the heart of stone out of your flesh and give you a heart of flesh.²⁷ I will put My Spirit within you and cause you to walk in My statutes, and you will keep My judgments and do them.” Ezekiel 36:23-27

1. God's people are still going to be His _____ .
2. The New Covenant is God's "I will" to our "_____."
_____."
3. Handiwork worthy of the name of God can only be done _____ .
4. God will accomplish His *I will* through His *I AM*.

"Through the whole of the Old Covenant there was always one trouble: man's heart was not right with God. In the New Covenant the evil is to be remedied. Its central promise is a heart delighting in God's law and capable of knowing and holding fellowship with Him."

Andrew Murray, *The Two Covenants*

[400 years of silence]