



SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT I
SB 102

Supplemental Notes

SCHOOL *of the* BIBLE

COURSE DESCRIPTION:

Survey of the Old Testament I

Prerequisite: N/A

This course is a survey of the Books of Law (Genesis through Deuteronomy) and the Historical Books (Joshua through Esther) of the Old Testament. The main theme of each book is highlighted along with other significant features including key words, key verses, and pictures of Christ.

The textbook for this course is recommended in addition to the Student Notebook. Textbook acquisition is not mandated, but is strongly recommended to provide the student supplemental reading and instruction, and also to aid the student in building a personal Bible resource library.

The following textbook is recommended and available through the Crown Bookshop (1-877-MY-CROWN):

- **SB102 Survey of the Old Testament I**

Exploring the Scriptures by John Phillips

Goals

Upon completion of this course in the School of the Bible program, students will be able to:

- 1) Explain the overall structure of the Old Testament and the themes of each book
- 2) Engage in personal Bible study using proper methods of interpretation
- 3) Speak to others about their faith in Christ and show others the way of salvation
- 4) Provide biblical answers concerning key subjects of Bible doctrine
- 5) Employ effective methods in teaching the Word of God to others
- 6) Follow biblical principles in establishing a Christian home that is honoring to Christ

SURVEY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT I

SB102

List of Assignments & Due Dates:

- Memorize the books of the Old Testament in order and in their respective areas, such as Law, Poetry, Prophecy, History
DUE DATE: __ **September 6, 2021** __
- Prepare a time line of at least 20 major events of the Old Testament
DUE DATE: __ **September 13, 2021** __
- List 10 major places found in the Old Testament
DUE DATE: __ **October 7, 2021** __
- List 10 major people found in the Old Testament
DUE DATE: __ **October 14, 2021** __
- List 10 major facts found in the Old Testament
DUE DATE: __ **October 21, 2021** __
- List 10 major names of God found in the Old Testament
DUE DATE: __ **November 4, 2021** __
- Students are required to turn in **Four (4) Sermon Outlines** from their pastor's messages....these may be written or typed in outline form. Students should list the church, pastor, location, and the date/time of the sermon being outlined. These will be collected at the end of the 12-weeks course.
DUE DATE: __ **November 11, 2021** __
- Memorize the KEY VERSE of each book of the Old Testament (Workbook Notes)
DUE DATE: __ **November 18, 2021** __
- Complete the Student Workbook on each book of the Old Testament with the following information:
DUE DATE: __ **November 25, 2021** __
 1. *Author*
 2. *Date*
 3. *Theme*

Old Testament Survey - The Pentateuch

Book by Book Content

	Genesis	Exodus	Leviticus	Numbers	Deuteronomy
Key Word	<i>Beginnings</i>	<i>Redemption</i>	<i>Atonement (Worship & Holiness)</i>	<i>Wilderness Wanderings</i>	<i>Remembrance (2nd Giving of the Law)</i>
	Part I - Ch. 1-11	Ch. 1 Approx. 350 years pass until a Pharaoh came who "knew not Joseph"	5 Offerings	"Numbering" of the people	Moses Looks Back Historical - Ch. 1-4
	• Creation		1. Burnt	Men Numbered 20 yrs. old & above	Times of Unbelief, Journeyings, & Victories
	• Curse		2. Meat	Not Numbered-Levites, women, & the children under 20 yrs. old	
	• Catastrophe	Ch. 2 The Birth of Moses	3. Peace	Book covers some 40 yrs. of "wandering in the wilderness"	Moses Looks Within Practical - Ch. 5-26
	• Coalition	Ch. 3 The Call of Moses	4. Sin	THE OLD GENERATION <i>Set Aside</i> (Ch. 1-20)	• Testimonies (5-11) • Statutes (12-18) • Judgments (19-26)
		Ch. 4-12 The 10 Plagues	5. Trespass	• Counted	
	Part II - Ch. 12-50	1. Water into Blood	(BMPST)	• Counseled	Moses Looks Ahead Prophetical - Ch. 27-30
<u>The Patriarchs</u>	• Abraham	2. Frogs		• Chastise	• Blessings & Curses
	• Isaac	3. Lice		• Condemned	• Repentance & Return
	• Jacob	4. Flies	7 Feasts		
	• Joseph	5. Livestock	1-Passover	THE NEW GENERATION <i>Set Apart</i> (Ch. 21-36)	
		6. Boils	2-Unleavened Bread	• Journeyings	Moses Looks Up Personal - Ch. 31-34
<u>12 Sons of Jacob</u>	1. Reuben	7. Hail	3-Firstfruits	• Numberings	• New Leader
	2. Issachar	8. Locusts	4-Pentecost	• Offerings	• New Song
	3. Naphtali	9. Darkness	5-Trumpets	• Dividings	• New Blessing
	4. Gad	10. Death of the Firstborn	6-Atonement		• New Home
	5. Simeon	Ch. 12-13 A Lamb, The Lamb, Your Lamb	7-Tabernacles		
	6. Levi	Ch. 14 Crossing the Red Sea			
	7. Asher	Ch. 20 The Ten Commandments			
	8. Dan	"OUR GOD NOW SHOWS HIS KIDS ABOUT SIN WITH COMMANDMENTS"			
	9. Joseph				
	10. Judah	Ch. 25-40 The Tabernacle			
	11. Benjamin	1-Brazen Altar 2-Laver 3-Golden Candlestick			
	12. Zebulon	4-Table of Shewbread 5-Golden Altar of Incense			
		6-Ark of the Covenant 7-Mercy Seat			

Old Testament Survey - Historical Books

Book by Book Content - Joshua - 2 Samuel

	Joshua	Judges	Ruth	1 Samuel	2 Samuel
Key Word	<i>Conquest/Victory</i>	<i>Anarchy/Apostasy</i>	<i>Kinsman Redeemer</i>	<i>The First King-Saul</i>	<i>The Second King-David</i>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 1 Joshua Succeeds Moses & Promised GOOD Success • Chapter 2 Rahab & the Spies • Chapter 3 Crossing the Jordan • Chapter 4 Gilgal & 12 Stones • Chapter 5 Passover Renewed 	<p>God's Repeated Dealings with Israel Reveals a Pattern of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SIN • SUFFERING • SUPPLICATION • SALVATION 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 1 Ruth's Choice • Chapter 2 Ruth's Service • Chapter 3 Ruth's Romance • Chapter 4 Ruth's Reward 	<p><i>From Theocracy to Monarchy</i></p> <p>The Story of Four Men:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eli • Samuel • Saul • David 	<p>The Davidic Covenant</p> <p>2 Samuel 7:4-17</p> <p>This Covenant was given to King David, through Nathan the Prophet, at Jerusalem. It contains 3 promises.</p> <p>1. A House. Vs. 13. That is the posterity of David shall never be destroyed.</p> <p>2. A Throne. Vs. 13. The Kingdom of David shall never be destroyed. Since the "Captivity" but one King of the Davidic family has been crowned and He with "thorns" (Matt 27:29).</p> <p>3. A Kingdom. David's Son is to have an earthly "sphere of rule." It will be over the Millennial Earth.</p> <p>The "Sign" of this Covenant is a Son. (Luke 1:30-33; 2:12).</p> <p>This Covenant extends to the "<i>End of Time.</i>"</p>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chapter 6 Jericho Conquered • Chapter 7 Sin of Achan • Chapter 10 Sun Stood Still • Chapter 20 6 Cities of Refuge • Chapter 24 Joshua's Final Counsel 	<p>THE JUDGES</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Othniel 2. Ehud 3. Shamgar 4. Deborah 5. Barak 6. Gideon 7. Tola 8. Jair 9. Jephthah 10. Ibzan 11. Elon 12. Abdon 13. Samson <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pattern He Should Have Never Established • Place He Should Have Never Visited • Person He Should Have Never Met • Price He Should Have Never Paid 	<p>Main Characters:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ruth • Boaz • Naomi • Elimelech • Orpah • Mahlon • Chilion • "Shoeless Joe" 	<p>Hannah</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Barren • Burdened • Broken • Blessed 	
			<p>Kinsman Redeemer</p> <p>The kinsman-redeemer is a male relative who, according to various laws of the Pentateuch, had the privilege or responsibility to act on behalf of a relative who was in trouble, danger, or in need. The Hebrew term (go el) for kinsman-redeemer designates one who delivers or rescues (Gen. 48:16; Ex. 6:6) or redeems property or person (Lev. 27:9-25, 25:47-55).</p> <p>The kinsman who redeems or vindicates a relative is illustrated most clearly in the book of Ruth, where the kinsman-redeemer is Boaz.</p>		

Old Testament Survey - Historical Books

Book by Book Content - 1 Kings - Esther

	1 Kings	2 Kings	1 & 2 Chron.	Ezra	Nehemiah	Esther
Key Word	<i>The Divided Kingdom</i>	<i>Kingdom Captivity</i>	<i>Highlights of David's Life & Solomon's Successors</i>	<i>Return & Restoration</i>	<i>Rebuilding the Wall</i>	<i>Providential Care</i>
			<i>Family Trees & Histories</i>			
	<p><u>Kingdom Divided</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Northern Kingdom</u> (Ten Tribes) • <u>Southern Kingdom</u> (Two Tribes) <p>Judah & Benjamin</p>	<p><u>History of the Divided Kingdoms</u></p> <p>Covers the time period of the Minor Prophets (Hosea-Malachi)</p>	<p>The word "chronicle" means "a continuous and detailed account of historical events arranged in order of time."</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Restoration Under Zerubbabel-ch. 1-6 • Reformation Under Ezra-ch. 7-10 <p>Ezra was the second of three key leaders to leave Babylon for the reconstruction of Jerusalem. Zerubbabel reconstructed the temple (Ezra 3:8), Nehemiah rebuilt the walls (Nehemiah chapters 1 and 2) and Ezra restored the worship. Ezra was a scribe and priest sent with religious and political powers by the Persian King Artaxerxes to lead a group of Jewish exiles from Babylon to Jerusalem (Ezra 7:8, 12).</p> <p>The book of Ezra continues from where 2 Chronicles ends, with Cyrus, king of Persia, issuing a decree which permits the Jews of his kingdom to return to Jerusalem after seventy years of captivity. God is universally sovereign and can use a polytheistic king of Persia to make possible His people's release. He also used Artaxerxes, another Persian king, to authorize and finance the trip and Ezra to teach God's people His Law. This same king also helped Nehemiah restore some measure of respectability to God's holy city.</p>	<p>Nehemiah was in Persia when the word reached him that the Temple in was being rebuilt. He grew anxious knowing there was no wall to protect the city.</p> <p>He asked God to use him to save the city. God answered his prayer by softening the heart of the Persian king, Artaxerxes, who gave not only his blessing, but also supplies to be used in the project. Nehemiah returns to Jerusalem, where he is made governor.</p> <p>In spite of opposition and accusations the wall was built in a remarkable 52 days. He reestablished true worship through prayer and by encouraging the people to revival by reading and adhering to the Word of God.</p> <p><u>THE 12 GATES OF JERUSALEM</u> (Neh. - Ch. 3 and 12)</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The Valley Gate 2. The Fountain Gate 3. The Sheep Gate 4. The Fish Gate 5. The Old 6. The Dung Gate 7. The Water Gate 8. The Horse Gate 9. The East Gate 10. The Gate Miphkad 11. The Gate of Ephraim 12. The Prison Gate 	<p>The Book of Esther can be divided into three main sections.</p> <p><u>Ch. 1:1-2:18 - Esther replaces Vashti</u></p> <p><u>Ch. 2:19-7:10 - Mordecai overcomes Haman</u></p> <p><u>Ch. 8:1-10:3 - Israel survives Haman's attempt to destroy them.</u></p> <p>The Book of Esther displays the providence of God, mainly in regard to His chosen people, Israel.</p> <p>Esther risked her own life as she realized what was at stake. She willingly made a bold maneuver and took on the second-in-command of her husband's kingdom, Haman.</p> <p>Esther also records the institution of the Feast of Purim. It was read to commemorate the great deliverance of the Jewish nation brought about by God through Esther. Jews today still read Esther during Purim.</p>
	<p><u>Main Events:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Solomon's Reign (40 years)</u> • <u>Building of the Temple</u> • <u>Division of Israel into Two Kingdoms</u> 	<p><u>Main Events:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Captivities of each kingdom</u> • <u>Elijah's Translation</u> • <u>Elisha's Ministry</u> • <u>Naaman's Healing</u> 	<p>5 Overall Looks at both Books:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incomplete Register • Inspired Religion • Incompetent Rulers • Inconclusive Revivals • Increasing Rebellion 			
	<p><u>Ministry of Elijah</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • REGULAR MAN • RIGHTEOUS MAN <p>Cp. James 5:16-18</p>	<p><u>Ministry of Elisha</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HIS CALL His Preparation The Parting Gift of Elijah • HIS CAREER His Private Ministry His Public Ministry 				
			Differences in Kings & Chronicles			
			KINGS	CHRONICLES		
			Written <i>before</i> Captivity	Written <i>after</i> Captivity		
			<i>Embraces</i> History of Northern Kingdom	<i>Ignores</i> History of Northern Kingdom		

Approximate Timeline of the Old Testament

Important Old Testament Dates:

1. Adam (About 4000 B.C.)
2. The Flood (About 2400 B.C.)
3. Abraham (About 2000 B.C.)
4. Jacob (About 1900 B.C.)
5. Joseph (About 1800 B.C.)
6. Moses (About 1450 B.C.)
7. Ruth (About 1150 B.C.)
8. Samuel (About 1100 B.C.)
9. Saul (About 1053 B.C.)
10. David (About 1013 B.C.)
11. Solomon (About 973 B.C.)
12. Division of the Kingdom (About 933 B.C.)
13. Galilee Captivity (About 734 B.C.)
14. Captivity of Israel (About 721 B.C.)
15. Babylon Conquers Judah (About 606 B.C.)
16. Jehoiachin's Captivity (About 597 B.C.)
17. Destruction of Jerusalem (About 586 B.C.)
18. Return from Captivity (About 536 B.C.)
19. Temple Rebuilt (About 520 B.C.)
20. Esther is Queen of Persia (About 478 B.C.)
21. Ezra goes to Jerusalem (About 457 B.C.)
22. Nehemiah builds the Wall (About 444 B.C.)

Introductory Notes to the Old Testament

I. Name

The word “testament” means “covenant,” referring to an agreement between men or between God and men. As far as the Bible is concerned, the Old Testament is the record of the old covenant, the covenant God made with the Jews at Mt. Sinai; and the New Testament is the record of the new covenant that Christ made through His blood. From a literary standpoint, the OT begins with Genesis and ends with Malachi, while the NT begins with Matthew and ends with Revelation. However, from a doctrinal and dispensational point of view, this is not the case; for the old covenant really began in Ex. 20 and was set aside at the cross (Col. 2:14). The new covenant began with the death of Christ and will continue with God’s people forever. In a broad sense, we might say that the OT is the record of God’s dealings with His earthly people under law, and the NT is the record of God’s dealings with His heavenly people (the church) under grace. The dividing line is the cross, not the blank page between Malachi and Matthew!

II. Purpose

Too many Christians avoid the OT, thinking that it has no message for them or that it is too difficult to understand. But please realize that the OT was the only Bible that Christ, the apostles, and the early church possessed. When Paul referred to “Scripture,” he was thinking of the OT books. Practically every book in the OT is quoted or referred to in the NT writings. Consider the fourfold purpose of the OT writings:

A. Foundation

We would have no information concerning the origin of the universe, the origin of man, the beginnings of sin, the birth of the Hebrew nation, or the purposes of God for the world, were it not for the OT record. Every NT doctrine can be traced back to OT history. An understanding of the OT record is necessary if we are to interpret the NT correctly.

B. Preparation

The OT reveals God’s preparation for the coming of His Son into the world. In Genesis we see the need for a Savior and the promise that He will come through the woman, through the Jewish nation, and through the tribe of Judah. The rest of the OT amplifies these basic facts and shows how Satan tried to destroy the Jewish nation to prevent the birth of Christ. Genesis 3:15 indicates that there are two “seeds” in conflict in the world, the seed of Satan and the seed of Christ, and we see this conflict from Genesis 4 onward.

C. Illustration

The OT is God’s picture gallery, in which He often shows His truth in types and symbols. Each NT doctrine has an OT illustration. The Passover Lamb of Ex. 12 is a picture of Christ (John 1:29; 1 Cor. 5:7). The OT tabernacle illustrates the resurrection; the anointing oil pictures the Holy Spirit; etc. As you study the OT, be sure to use the light of the NT to dispel the shadows (Col. 1:17), and be sure to look for the Person and work of Christ.

D. Demonstration

The OT is a practical book, showing the failures and successes of the people of God. We see God demonstrating His power in the lives of people, but we also see what sin and unbelief will do to people. God recorded these sins and successes for our benefit (1 Cor. 10:11). As we see men like Abraham, Moses, and David overcoming their problems by faith, we have encouragement and hope (Rom. 15:4). The prayers of the Psalms and the practical counsels of Proverbs can help us in our daily lives if we will “trust and obey.”

Dr. Griffith-Thomas in his excellent book *Methods of Bible Study* suggests that the OT is a book of: (1) unfulfilled prophecies, (2) unexplained ceremonies, and (3) unsatisfied longings. In the NT we have the fulfillment of these prophecies, the explanation of these ceremonies, and the satisfying of these longings; and, of course, all of this was accomplished through the birth, life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

III. Analysis

In each division of the Bible, you find historical events, personal experience, and prophetic expectation. The OT gives us the history of God's earthly people, Israel, as they prepared the way for Christ's birth, and the NT gives us the history of the church as God's people live for Christ and look forward to His coming again. You may outline the main messages of the OT as follows:

- *Foundation*—Genesis-Deuteronomy: the foundation for the rest of the Bible record.
- *Demonstration*—Joshua-Esther: God at work in individual lives and in the nation.
- *Aspiration*—Job-Song of Solomon: the longings of God's people for personal experience with their Lord.
- *Expectation*—Isaiah-Malachi: prophecies of the coming Christ and the righteous kingdom of God.

IV. Principles of Study

A. Progressive revelation

In the OT divine truths are revealed gradually, and we do not come into the full light of God's truth until we come to the NT. Therefore, beware of building doctrines on isolated OT verses, especially from Ecclesiastes and Psalms, and ignoring the clear teachings of the NT. Remember the old adage: "The New is in the Old concealed; the Old is by the New revealed." God's principles do not change, but His dispensations do.

B. Christ

Our Lord Jesus Christ is the key to the Bible, and it is impossible to understand the OT apart from Him. As Graham Scroggie aptly puts it, "*Christ is predicted in the OT, present in the Gospels, proclaimed in the Acts, possessed in the Epistles, and predominant in the Revelation.*" The experiences of the Jewish nation in the OT are links in the chain that leads to His birth at Bethlehem. Every type and symbol is a picture of Him. Look for Christ and the OT will become a new book to you!

C. Cross references

Follow your OT cross references straight to the NT. You may want to purchase R.A. Torrey's classic work *The Treasury of Scripture Knowledge*, a book of half-a-million cross references covering nearly every verse in the Bible. Be sure that you study each OT person, event, or doctrine in the light of the NT revelation. This will add a whole new dimension to your study.

D. Obedience

It is not enough to study the OT and find wonderful truths about Christ and His salvation. We must learn the practical lessons and put them to work in our lives! "All Scripture . . . is profitable for . . . instruction in righteousness . . ." (2 Tim. 3:16-17), and this includes the OT. It is wonderful to understand historical truth, doctrinal truth, and dispensational truth, but if our study fails to lead to practical truth—godly living—it is in vain.