



Asbury Church

THE
BIBLE
for
GROWN-UPS

NOVEMBER 17, 2019
SERMON NOTES
"THE OLD
TESTAMENT"

I. Introduction

- A. If you don't know the story **of** the _____, it's easy to discount the stories **in** the Bible.
- B. The Gentiles interest in the Jewish text was not _____ or cultural.
- C. The Gentiles interest in the Jewish text was _____.

II. The story of the Hebrew people

- A. In Genesis, God begins as creator, and then assumes the role of _____.
- B. The Mount Sinai _____ was a moral and civil code that when understood in its ancient context was brilliant.
- C. The nation of Israel got kings and eventually a _____ just like the surrounding nations.

III. A divine means

- A. Isaiah reminded the Jewish people that they were a divine _____ to an end.
- B. The Old Testament is the story of God preparing the world for their _____, our savior.
- C. By the second century, the Gentile church _____ the Jewish scripture as Christian scripture and began using it in worship.

Things I would like to remember about this message:

Asbury Daily Study Guide

INTRODUCTION

The Old Testament chronicles God's redemptive, sequential activity in history. It's a fabulous gritty, epic history of the Hebrew people in which over and over, Israel is reminded that they are a divine means to an end. So instead of seeing the Old Testament as a spiritual guide book or a storyline that needs to be tidied up, maybe we should see it as something even better – the history of God preparing the world for a savior.

Monday: I Samuel 15:1-3

This is a very difficult passage to read in the Old Testament. What's the difference in seeing the Old Testament as a spiritual guidebook versus a history of the Hebrew nation?

Tuesday: Genesis 17

The Old Testament is the history of the Hebrew people and how God used them as a divine means to an end. What do you associate with the following words from the Old Testament: Abraham, Moses, Sinai Covenant, Kings, Temple, Prophets?

Wednesday: Exodus 19:1-9

Which of the following ideas is the most surprising or meaningful to you with regard to the Sinai Covenant? What do these ideas change about the way you see God? What do they change about your view of the purpose of the Old Testament?

- The covenant represented a moral and civil code that ascribed inherent dignity in every person.
 - The covenant included a sexual ethic that protected the weak and the vulnerable.
 - The covenant viewed humanity as the pinnacle of creation because every person is made in God's image.
 - Women, servants, foreigners, and children all fared better under the Hebrew law than did their counterparts in the surrounding nations.
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Thursday: Isaiah 53:5-11

Occasionally, a prophet would speak their historical context to a future day when God would do something through a nation for all the nations. What is the most meaningful image to you in this passage?

Friday: Galatians 4:4-5

What does it mean that Jesus would redeem those under the law? What is different about the relationship we can have with God versus the relationship an ancient Jew could have with him?

MOVING FORWARD

The storyline of the Old Testament should cause us to drop to our knees in gratitude. There is no need to tidy it up or sand off the rough edges. It's not a spiritual guidebook. It's a story of our God who waded into the mess in order to write a story of redemption. This week, write Galatians 4:4-5 on a notecard and think about what these verses mean for you.

Answers to the sermon notes:

- IA) Bible, B) historical, C) Christological.
- IIA) founder, B) covenant, C) Temple.
- IIIA) means, B) messiah, C) adopted.