Unleashing the Old Testament

with Alan Gilman
Bible Teacher

Begins January 13, 2021 @ 7 p.m. Eastern Time

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Unleashing the Old Testament

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Session 1

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Session 1 Outline

- Scope & Purpose
- Course outline
- Introduction to the OT

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Unleashing the Old Testament

Scope

- Intro to the Old Testament
- Understand the basic OT storyline
- Overview of Old Testament books
- Intro to major OT themes and concepts

Purpose

- Better equipped to read, study, & apply the OT (& NT)

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Course Outline

Introduction to the Old Testament

- What Is the Old Testament?
- Old Testament Contents
- Why Study the Old Testament?
- The Old Testament Storyline
- Is the English Bible the Word of God?

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Course Outline

Torah/Books of Moses

- Genesis: Creation & Rebellion
- From Abraham to Joseph
- Exodus – Deuteronomy
- Storyline & book overview
- Key themes

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Course Outline

Torah/Books of Moses

- Exodus – Deuteronomy: Key themes
  - Sinai Covenant
    - Sacrificial system
    - Feasts
  - Is the Torah for today?

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Course Outline

Historical Books

- Pre-monarchy
  - Joshua
  - Judges/Ruth

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Course Outline

Historical Books (continued)

- The transition to the monarchy
- Saul, David, & Solomon
- The Temple
- The Divided Kingdom
- Exile & Return

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Course Outline

The Prophets

- Introduction & Key Themes
- Isaiah–Malachi (Book overviews)
- Messianic Prophecy

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Course Outline

Wisdom Literation

- Introduction
- Psalms
- Job – Song of Songs

Final Wrap-up

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What is the Old Testament?

- Collection of books
- Divinely inspired
- Primarily Hebrew
- Reveals God
- Creation and humanity
- People of Israel
- Basis of the New Testament

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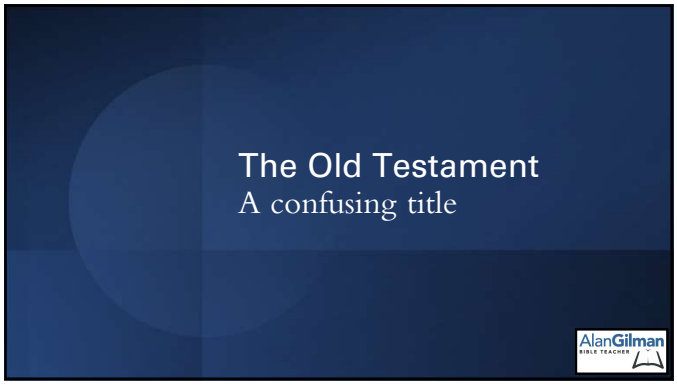
The Old Testament
A confusing title
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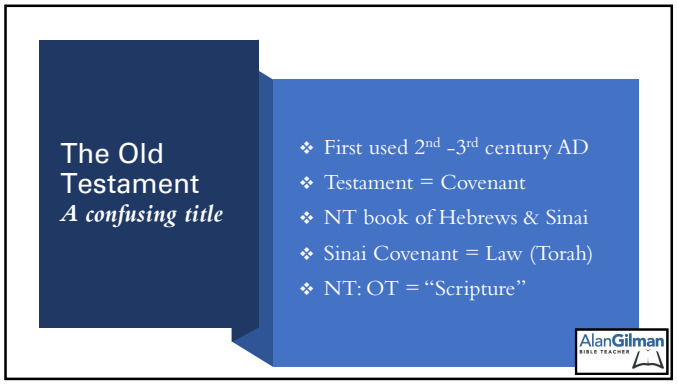
The Old Testament
A confusing title
First used 2nd -3rd century AD
Testament = Covenant
NT book of Hebrews & Sinai
Sinai Covenant = Law (Torah)
NT: OT = "Scripture"
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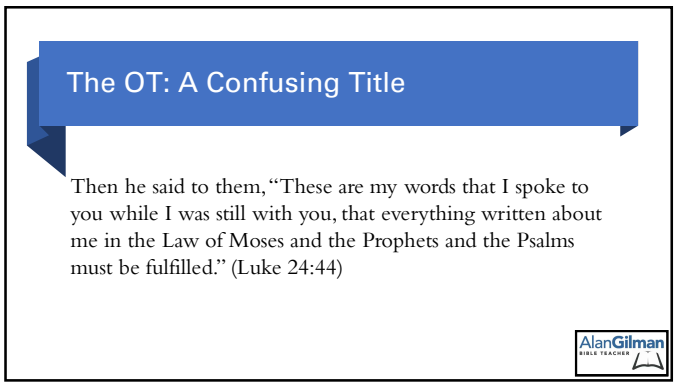
The OT: A Confusing Title
Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled." (Luke 24:44)
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The OT: A Confusing Title

- Torah: Law, Teaching, Instruction
- Nevi'im: Prophets
- Ketuvim: Writings

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Tenach

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The OT: A Confusing Title

- Tenach
- Hebrew Scriptures
- The Old Testament

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Contents of the Old Testament

- Hebrew vs. Septuagint (LXX)
- Various Christian traditions
  - Eastern Orthodox
  - Roman Catholic
  - Protestant

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Why Study the Old Testament?

- God's inspired Word
- Anticipates Jesus & the NT
- Provides God's perspective on life & living

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Why study the Old Testament?

God's inspired word

But as for you, continue in what you have learned and have firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the sacred writings, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. All Scripture is breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work. (2 Timothy 3:14-17)

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Why study the Old Testament?

Anticipates Jesus & the New Testament

Do not think that I will accuse you to the Father. There is one who accuses you: Moses, on whom you have set your hope. For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe my words? (John 5:45-47)

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Why study the Old Testament?

Anticipates Jesus & the New Testament

And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ [Messiah] should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

(Luke 24:25-37)

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Why study the Old Testament?

Anticipates Jesus & the New Testament

- OT predicts Jesus
- OT foreshadows (typifies) Jesus

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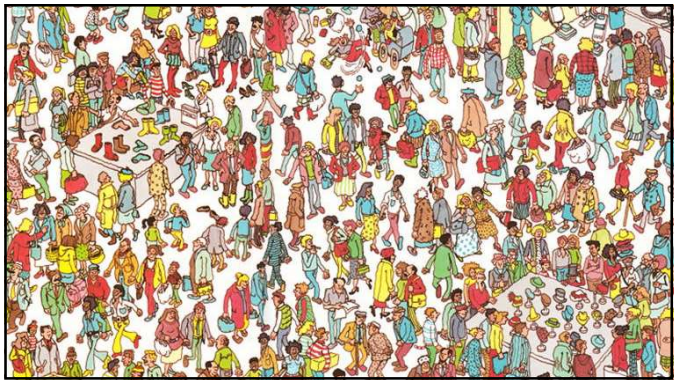

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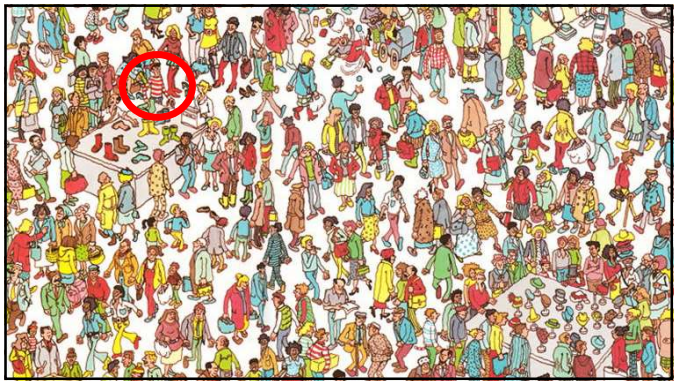

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Why study the Old Testament?

Anticipates Jesus & the New Testament

- OT predicts Jesus
- OT foreshadows (typifies) Jesus
- OT provides context for and understanding of Jesus

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Why study the Old Testament?

Provides God's perspective on life & living

OT provides life examples

Now these things took place as examples for us, that we might not desire evil as they did. Do not be idolaters as some of them were; as it is written, "The people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play." We must not indulge in sexual immorality as some of them did, and twenty-three thousand fell in a single day. We must not put Christ to the test, as some of them did and were destroyed by serpents, nor grumble, as some of them did and were destroyed by the Destroyer. Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down for our instruction, on whom the end of the ages has come. (1 Corinthians 10:6–11)

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Why study the Old Testament?

Provides God's perspective on life & living

OT is the basis of New Testament living

So whatever you wish that others would do to you, do also to them, for this is the Law and the Prophets. (Matthew 5:12)

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Why study the Old Testament?

Provides God's perspective on life & living

OT is the basis of New Testament living

And one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which is the great commandment in the Law?" And he said to him, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets." (Matthew 22:35-40)

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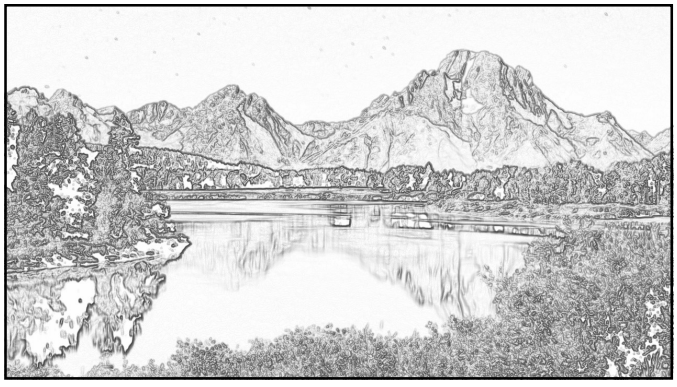

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Why Study the Old Testament? (Summary)

- The Scriptures = Old Testament
- The OT is inspired by God
- The OT imparts "salvation wisdom"
- Points to Jesus as Messiah (King and Savior)
- Enables us to understand Jesus
- The OT effectively equips God's people for life

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The Old Testament Storyline
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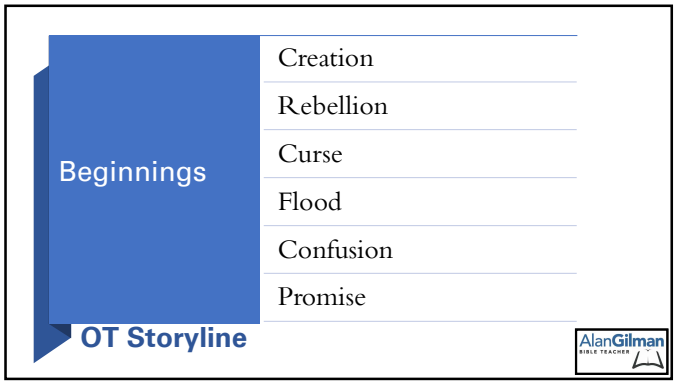
Beginnings
Creation
Rebellion
Curse
Flood
Confusion
Promise
OT Storyline
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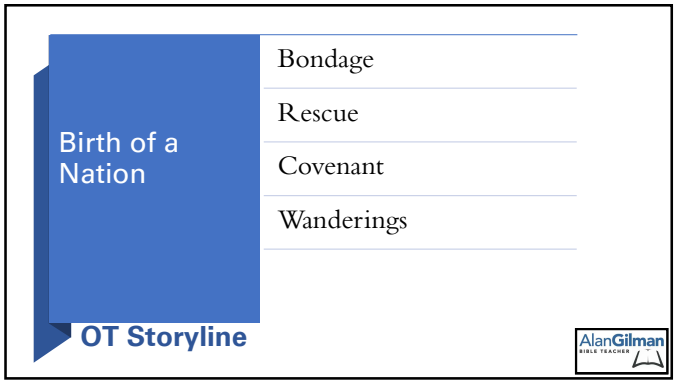
Birth of a Nation
Bondage
Rescue
Covenant
Wanderings
OT Storyline
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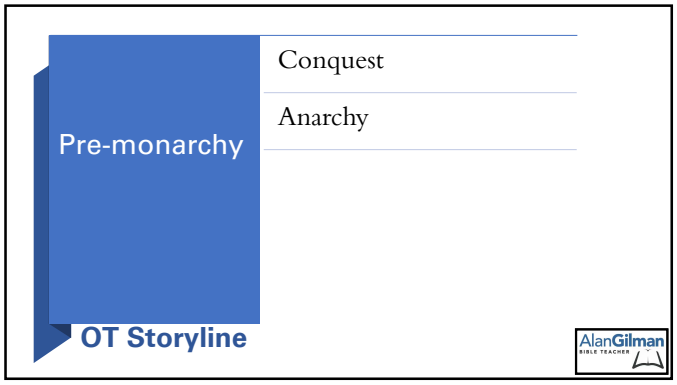
Pre-monarchy
Conquest
Anarchy
OT Storyline
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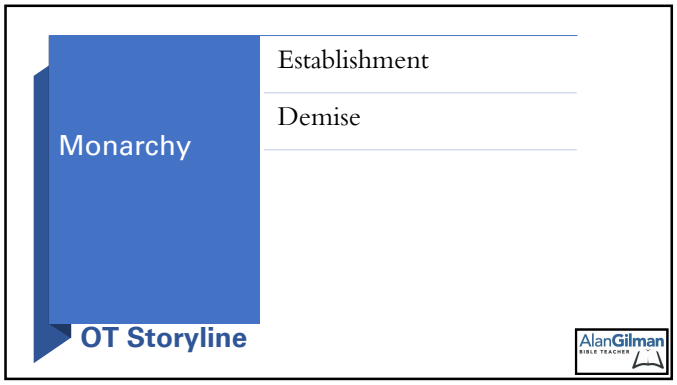
Monarchy
Establishment
Demise
OT Storyline
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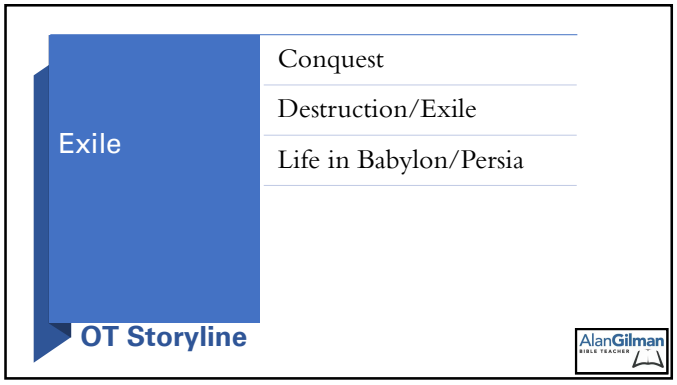
Exile
Conquest
Destruction/Exile
Life in Babylon/Persia
OT Storyline
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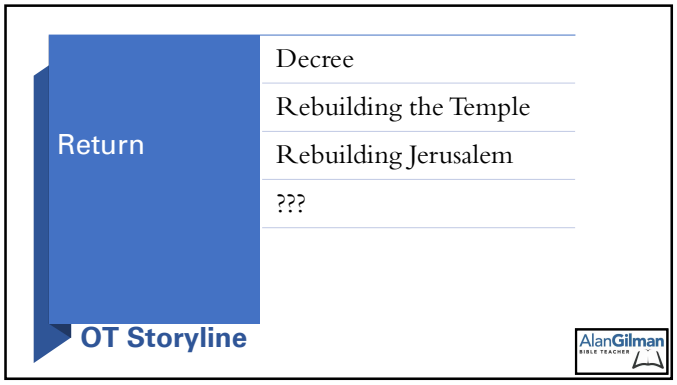
Return
Decree
Rebuilding the Temple
Rebuilding Jerusalem
???
OT Storyline
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Session 1
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