



History Books

THE PREPARATION FOR CHRIST

A survey through the Bible 8 Week Study

▶ Purpose:

- ▶ An 8-week survey through the eight major sections of Scripture, revealing God's salvific plan in Christ as the central theme. Luke 24:26-27 Jesus explains how He can be revealed in the OT.

▶ Goals:

- ▶ Reveal God's plan through each section of Scripture
- ▶ Encourage a habit of Bible reading, as the continuity and chronology come into focus
- ▶ Allow personal understanding of the Word result in sharing His gospel

History Books (Joshua – Esther)



| Before Kingdom | Kingdom | Post Kingdom |
|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| Joshua | 1/ 2 Samuel | Ezra |
| Judges | 1/2 Kings | Nehemiah |
| Ruth | 1/2 Chronicles | Esther |

History Books (Joshua – Esther)

- ▶ Timeline of writing: 1370BC - 400BC +/- 30 years
- ▶ Timeline of events: Entering promised land, settling land, unification/division/dissolution of kingdom, exile and return from exile.
1400BC +/- 30 years - 430BC
 - ▶ 1405–1390 BC Conquest of Canaan (Joshua)
 - ▶ 1390–1050 BC Settlement of the Tribes (Judges)
 - ▶ 1050–1010 BC Kingship of Saul (1 Samuel)
 - ▶ 1010–970 BC Kingship of David (2 Samuel)
 - ▶ 970–931 BC Kingship of Solomon (1 Kings 1–11)
 - ▶ 931–586 BC Kings of Israel and Judah (Kings and Chronicles)
 - ▶ 605–535 BC Babylonian Captivity (Kings and Chronicles)
 - ▶ 486–464 BC Dispersion of the Jews (Esther)
 - ▶ 458–430 BC Return from Exile (Ezra and Nehemiah)

History Books (Joshua – Esther)

- ▶ Theological significance:
 - ▶ God's relationship to man is viewed over nearly a thousand years, as His providence, preservation, judgment, and grace toward man are revealed.
 - ▶ This is not just for Israel; we see examples of others being brought under God's protection and plan.
 - ▶ Though the history books focus on the nation of Israel, God's interactions with all mankind are observed.

God's plan revealed through each subsection:

- ▶ God's love, protection, provision, etc. are available to ALL who seek and obey Him.
 - ▶ Joshua, Judges, Ruth
 - ▶ Total surrender brings victory, disobedience brings calamity
 - ▶ Rahab – Canaanite
 - ▶ Ruth – Moabite
 - ▶ Samuel, Kings, Chronicles
 - ▶ Faithfulness, or lack thereof, to God is revealed in various leaders
 - ▶ Direct consequences to those under their leadership
 - ▶ God is patient to bring His righteous judgement
 - ▶ God is quick to bring relief when offenders are repentant
 - ▶ Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther
 - ▶ God is working even when all seems lost
 - ▶ God has no geographic, political, or ethnic limitations

How to Interpret:

- ▶ Utilize basic interpretive principles (OICA)
 - ▶ Observation, Interpretation, Correlation, Application
- ▶ Use these books to observe how God interacts with man.
 - ▶ Allow the text to answer “why would God...” type questions
 - ▶ Note the time period and focus of the book
 - ▶ Pay attention to the context:
 - ▶ Is Israel being faithful to God?
 - ▶ Is Israel being faithful to herself?
 - ▶ Conduct of those outside Israel
 - ▶ How is God interacting with Israel?
 - ▶ How is God interacting with those outside of Israel?

Analyze and apply a passage:

▶ 2 Kings 5:1-19

- ▶ What happened
- ▶ What do you observe or learn about man?
- ▶ What do you observe or learn about God?
- ▶ How is this relevant to man today?
- ▶ Is this historical account in any direct way connected to the Gospel?
- ▶ How can you use this story to share the Gospel?



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