



Old Testament Overview Part 1

Aims:

At the end of this course, the student should -

- Have a clearer grasp of Old Testament history
- Understand Old Testament passages in their historical setting
- Understand God's dealings with individuals and nations
- Know how the covenants and types of the Old Testament relate to the New Testament
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1) Creation to Abraham

- A) **God the Creator**
- B) **Man the Image of God**
 - Vocation in Eden
 - Institution of Marriage
- C) **The Existence of the Devil**
- D) **The Fall and its Consequences**
 - Temptation
 - Adam and Eve - Sin and Rebellion
 - Separation
 - Curses
- E) **Adam's Offspring**
 - Abel the first Man of Faith
 - The Way of Cain
 - Seth and the Righteous Line
- F) **The Flood**
 - Sinful Mankind
 - God's Judgement
 - God's Covenant with Noah
- G) **Origin of Nations**
 - Shem and Canaan
 - Distribution of People
- H) **Babel**
 - The City
 - The Tower
 - The Judgement

2) Abraham to Joseph - The Covenant of Promise

- A) **Abraham**
 - Origin
 - Call, Promise and Covenant
 - Melchizedek
 - Ishmael
 - Circumcision
 - Faith and testing
 - Later years
 - New Testament references
 - Abraham's posterity
- B) **Lot**
 - Sodom and Gomorrah
- C) **Isaac**
 - God provides a wife
 - The well digger
 - God's Covenant with Isaac
- D) **Jacob = Israel**
 - Jacob the Cheat
 - Jacob meets with God
 - Jacob in Paddan-Aram
 - Jacob wrestles with God
 - Jacob's later life

- E) **Esau and Edom**
- F) **Joseph - Dreamer, Prophet and Ruler**

3) Moses - The Covenant of Law

- A) **The Call of Moses**
- B) **The Escape from Egypt**
 - The Plagues
 - The Passover
 - Crossing the Red Sea
- C) **The Law**
 - God's appearance
 - Moral Laws
 - Social Laws for Community
 - The Tabernacle
 - Sacrifices
 - Offerings
 - Ceremonial and Medical Laws
 - Feasts and Special Days
 - The Land and Place of Worship
 - The Covenant of Law
- D) **Events in the Desert**
 - God's Provision
 - God's Guidance
 - The Golden Calf
 - The Spies in Canaan
 - Rebellion

4) Joshua and Judges - The Conquest of the Land

- A) **Joshua's Call**
- B) **Spies and Rahab**
- C) **Jordan and Gilgal**
- D) **Taking the Land**
 - Jericho
 - Ai and Achan
 - Ebal and Gerazim
 - Gibeonites
 - Campaigns in South and North
- E) **Occupation of the Land**
 - Division of the Land
 - Tribes Across Jordan
 - Cities of Refuge and Levites
 - Worship
- F) **Judges**
 - The leadership of the Judges
 - The Enemies of Israel
 - Deborah
 - Gideon
 - Jephthah
 - Samson
- G) **Idolatry and Immorality**
- H) **Ruth**
- I) **Eli**

5) Saul, David and Solomon - The Covenant of Kingdom

- A) **Samuel**
- B) **Saul - The King who lost his Crown**
 - Saul's promising start
 - Saul's rebellion and sin
 - Saul's afflicted by evil spirits
- C) **David**
 - Early Life
 - Friend of Saul
 - The Fugitive
 - King in Hebron
 - King in Jerusalem
 - God's Covenant with David
 - David's sin and later life
- D) **Solomon**
 - Early Reign
 - Wisdom
 - The Kingdom
 - The Temple and covenant
 - Splendour
 - His downfall



Old Testament Overview Part 2

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6) Old Testament Poetry

A) Job

- Authorship
- Job's suffering
- Three comforters
- Elihu
- God's words
- Job's Restoration
- Lessons from Job

B) Psalms

- Authorship
- Books of Psalms
- Types of Psalms
- Praise and Worship
- Poetry in the Psalms

C) Song of Songs

D) Proverbs

- Pursuit of wisdom
- Proverbs
- Instructions
- Proverbs of Solomon/Men of Hezekiah
- Words of Agur
- The good wife

E) Ecclesiastes

7) The Divided Kingdom

A) The Kingdom Divides

- Kings and Chronicles

B) History of Northern Kingdom (Israel)

- Jeroboam and line of evil Kings
- Ahab
- Elijah and Elisha
- Prophetic Warnings
- Israel taken by Assyrians

C) History of Southern Kingdom (Judah)

- Rehoboam - Zeal before Wisdom
- Asa
- Jehoshaphat - Victory by faith
- Josiah - Repairing the Temple
- Hezekiah - King who prayed
- Josiah - The book of the law
- Jeremiah
- Judah taken by Babylon

8) Old Testament Prophets

A) Prophets in the Bible

- Various Prophets
- Prophets who wrote
- New Testament Prophets

B) The Task of a Prophet

- Exposing Sin

- Warning of Judgement
- Call to Repentance and Righteous living
- Promise of Restoration
- Revelation of the mind of God (Forthtelling)
- Describing the future (Fortelling)
- Encouragement and hope for the future
- Advising those in Government
- Leading God's People
- Interpreting Dreams
- Confronting others fearlessly
- Interceding for people and individuals
- Working Miracles

C) The Character of the Prophet

- Call
- Prayer
- Lifestyle
- Conviction
- Godliness

D) The Methods of O.T. Prophets

- Listening to God
- Transmitting the Message
- The Personality and experience of the Prophet
- The Holy Spirit

E) Scope of the Old Testament Prophets

- Law of Prophetic Perspective
- Law of Double Reference
- Major subjects

F) False Prophets

- Warnings about
- Examples
- Tests

G) Prophecies Relating to Jesus

9) Exile and Restoration

A) Babylonian Empire

- Emergence of Babylon
- Exiles and Ezekiel
- Daniel

B) Mede and Persian Empire

- Cyrus - an instrument of the Lord

C) Rebuilding the Temple

- Zerubbabel
- Haggai & Zechariah

D) Return of the Law

- Ezra

E) Rebuilding the City

- Nehemiah

F) Esther

10) Exile to John the Baptist - Making Way for the Messiah

A) Four World Empires

- Babylon
- Mede and Persian
- Greek
- Roman

B) Political History of the Jews

- Persian Rule
- Macedonian Rule
- Egyptian Rule
- Syrian rule
- Antiochus Epiphanes
- Maccabean Rising
- Hasmonians
- Roman Rule
- Herods

C) Religious History of the Jews

- The Temple
- The Synagogues
- The Pharisees
- The Sadducees
- The Scribes
- The Resurrection
- The Messianic Hope
- Essenes and Dead Sea Scrolls

D) John the Baptist