

## OT Survey II

### Foundations for a chosen people living in a hostile world

1. Overview and themes
2. Kings and Prophets: The Divided Kingdom (Elijah/Elisha, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah)
3. Kings and Prophets: The Fall of Israel (Isaiah, Micah, Hosea)
4. Kings and Prophets: The Fall of Judah I (Jeremiah, Nahum, Zephaniah, Habbakuk)
5. Kings and Prophets (catch up)
6. Israel in Exile I (Ezekiel)
7. Easter break April 12
8. Israel in Exile II (Daniel, Chron, Esther) April 19
9. Israel Returns I (Ezra, Nehemiah) April 26
10. Israel Returns II (Zechariah, Haggai, Malachi, and the Song) May 3
11. The Writings May 10
12. The Psalms May 17
13. The Promised Messiah May 24

# **Class Handout: Introduction to Old Testament Survey II**

*Participation in the Story of God*

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**Why Old Testament Survey?**

**Act One: Eternal Love**

**Act Two: The Entrance of Evil**

**Act Three: The Battle for The Heart**

**Act Four: The Kingdom Restored**

**Epilogue: The Road Before Us**

# Old Testament Survey

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An Introduction:  
Participation in the Story of God

## Why Old Testament Survey?

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- What is Your Favorite Movie or Book?
- Imagine Starting in the Middle of that Movie or Book?
- What Would Happen?
- “Life for most of us feels like a movie we showed up to 40 minutes late” - John Eldridge, *Epic*
- You Are Here:

## Why Old Testament Survey?

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## Act One: Eternal Love

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- Why Does Every Story Begin with “Once Upon a Time”?
- “In the Beginning” Genesis 1:1 → Act Three
  - John 1:1 → Heroic Fellowship, The Trinity
    - ← Trinity →
    - Time Before Time
    - God Alone? No, He Has Always Been Trinity
- Relational Origins
  - All Our Best and Most Sorrowful Memories Involve Other People
  - Longing to Be Invited Into the Intimacy of the Trinity
  - Born Out of The Laughter of The Trinity – “Let Us Make Man...”

## Act Two: The Entrance of Evil

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- Why Does Every Story Have a Villain?
  - The Villain of Every Story is a Warning to Us
  - To Understand Our Story We Must Understand That We Have an Enemy
- God Created the Angels
  - Lucifer Betrays God (Is. 14:12-17; Ez. 28:13-19; Luke 10:18)
  - Lucifer Thrown Down, But Not Destroyed (Rev. 9:1; 12:3-9)
  - Michael Replaces Lucifer as Captain of the Heavenly Armies (Rev. 12:7-9)
- Doubt About God's Character Lingers
  - Is God Good? Can We Trust Him? "Did God Really Say...?" Is He Holding Out On Us?
  - Power Is Not The Same Thing as Goodness

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- "In (our) the Beginning" (Genesis 1 & 2)
  - Mankind on Display For The Angels (1 Cor. 4:9; Heb. 1:14; 13:2; 1 Pet. 1:12)
  - Original Glory
- A World Made For Romance
  - The Winsomeness of God
  - Mankind Given the Power to Love
  - God Wants Lovers Not Puppets
- Mankind Betrays God (Genesis 3)
  - Man Believes the Same Lie Satan Used for Angels
  - Winter Comes to Narnia (1 John 5:19)

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- The Battle for the Human Heart [Genesis 3 – Revelation 20]
- Every Story Has a Rescue
- Majestic King Falls For a Humble Maiden – Soren Kierkegaard
- Genesis 1-11 Focus on Humanity in General
- The Seed of The Woman (Genesis 3:15)
  - Eve May Have Thought Cain was The Messiah (Genesis 4:1)

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- Cain and Abel – Those Who Serve God and Those Who Don't
  - “Sin Crouches at the Door” (Genesis 4:7)
  - Dominion of Sin in the Heart
- Satan Attempts to Corrupt the Seed (Genesis 6:1-7)
- God Floods the Earth to Rescue the Plan
- Noahic Covenant of the Rainbow – Never to Flood the Earth
  - Sons of God who Left “Their Proper Domain” (Jude 1:6)
- The Tower of Babel
  - People Scattered to Rescue the Plan

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- Genesis 12-50 Focus on Humanity in Specific
- The Call of Abraham (2166-1991 BC)
  - Nations Rebel, God creates 1 Nation to Bless All the Others to Rescue the Plan
  - “In You All the Nations Will Be Blessed” (Genesis 12:3)
  - This Sets Out The Program for The Rest of the OT
- God Continues to Invite Participation In His Plan
  - Isaac (2066-1886 BC)
  - Jacob (2006-1859 BC)
  - Joseph (1916-1806 BC)
  - Moses (1526-1406 BC)

## Acts Three: The Battle For The Heart

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Torah (Teaching)	<b>TaNaK</b> Nevi'im (Prophets)	Ketuvim (Writings)
Genesis	Joshua	Psalms
Exodus	Judges	Proverbs
Leviticus	Samuel	Job
Numbers	Kings	Song of Songs
Deuteronomy	Isaiah	Ruth
	Jeremiah	Lamentations
	Ezekiel	Ecclesiastes
	The Twelve Minor Prophets	Esther
		Daniel
		Ezra/Nehemiah
		Chronicles

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- Torah
  - God's Dealings with Humanity in General and the Hebrews in Particular
  - Ultimate Questions: Who Are We? Where Did We Come From? Why Are We Here?
  - First Steps of the Human Journey to Find God
- Nevi'im
  - Israel's Story in the Promised Land
  - Israel's Failure of Prophets, Kings, and Priests.
  - Blessings of God Through the Line of David
- Ketuvim
  - Links Into Key Themes from Torah/Nevi'im

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- Exodus
  - God's People Rescued from Slavery
  - The Founding Vow/Laws of This Nation
  - "I will be your God; you will be My people"
- Leviticus
  - The Priestly Laws
  - The Way of Holiness – Be Ye Holy For I Am Holy
- Numbers
  - The Numbering of the Army of Israel
  - Preparation for Conquering the Land
  - Mistrust of God at Kadesh Barnea



## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- Deuteronomy
  - Second Giving of the Law
  - People About to Enter the Promised Land
  - Blessings and Curses
- Joshua
  - Taking the Land
- Judges
  - Failing to Rule the Land and the Nation
  - “Everyone Did What Was Right in Their Own Eyes”
  - “Your Eyes Will Be Opened,” The Serpent Said

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- Ruth
  - Ray of Hope
  - Connecting Past Promises with the Continuing Narrative
  - Great grandmother of King David (Ruth 4:18)/Ancestress of Jesus of Nazareth
  - During the Time of the Judges (1:1)
  - Gentile Marries Hebrew Boaz – Picture of All Nations Being Blessed
- I and II Samuel
  - Finding the Right King – The Davidic Covenant (Seed Becomes a King)
  - Transition from Judges to Kings
  - Reign of David – His Victories and Moral Failures
    - Serpent’s Lie Still Rules the Human Heart
    - He is Not The Christ

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- I and II Kings
  - Perspective of the Prophets
  - The Kingdom Divided - Israel North/Judah South
  - Fall of Israel 722BC
- I and II Chronicles
  - Priestly Perspective
  - Parallel Account to 1-2 Samuel and 1-2 Kings
  - Fall of Judah/Jerusalem 586 BC
  - 70 Years of Exile
  - Return to the Land/Temple 540 BC

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- Ezra
  - Rebuilding the Temple Under Zerubbabel (515 BC)
  - Solomon's Temple (966 BC)
  - Ezra Leads Second Contingent of Jews Back to the Promised Land
- Nehemiah
  - Rebuilding the Wall
- The Major and Minor Prophets
  - They Speak the Word of God and Call Israel to Covenant Faithfulness/Warn of Judgement

## Act Three: The Battle For The Heart

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- 400 Years of “Silence”
  - Greek Period 331-167 BC
  - Hasmonean Period 164-63 BC
- Gospels
  - Messiah’s Ministry of Redeeming the Human Heart
- Acts/Epistles
  - Messiah’s Followers Continuing His Ministry
- Revelation
  - End Times

## Act Four: The Kingdom Restored

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- “And They Lived Happily Ever After”
- Why Do Some of Our Favorites Story’s Endings Bring Us to Tears?
- Because God Has Set Eternity into Our Hearts (Ecclesiastes 3:11)
- Paradise Regained – “I Make All Things New” (Revelation 12:5)
  - Everlasting Church Service?
  - All Creation Groans (Romans 8)
  - We Get the Kingdom Back!

## Epilogue: The Road Before Us

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- Yahweh is a God of Invitation
  - Remember the Day He Invited You Into An Everlasting Relationship with Him?
  - He Even Continues to Invite Us Into Deeper Fellowship and Participation in His Story (Revelation 3:20)
- Closing Remarks From John Eldridge:
  - (1) Things Are Not What They Seem
  - (2) We Are At War
  - (3) You Have a Crucial Role to Play
- God's Side Wins the War, But Does God's Side Win Every Battle?
  - God Desires All to Be Rescued (1 Timothy 2:4; 2 Peter 3:9)
  - This War is High Stakes