



## Reasons to Study the OT

1. The Old Testament was the Scripture of Jesus and is three-fourths of the Bible.
2. The Old Testament heavily influences our understanding of important biblical teachings.
3. The Old Testament presents the same God as the New Testament.
4. The Old Testament announces the same gospel as the New Testament.
5. The Old Testament calls for love, and we can learn much about love from the Old Testament.
6. Jesus came to fulfill the Old Testament.
7. Jesus said that all of the Old Testament points to him.
8. We are called to know and understand “the whole counsel of God” (Acts 20:27).
9. The New Testament says that God gave the Old Testament for New Testament believers.
10. The New Testament commands pastors and teachers to preach and teach the Old Testament.<sup>1</sup>

## Presuppositions

### Unity of Substance

The Canon of Scripture is unified because, even though there are many human authors, there is only one divine author.

### Sensus Plenior

*Sensus plenior* is related to the meaning of a text. Since there is a divine author superintending over all the human authors, there is a meaning that the human authors did not understand. There can be a fuller meaning intended by God that the human author did not understand at the time of writing.

## New Testament Perspectives on the Old Testament

Only the New Testament can give us the proper way to approach the Old Testament. The New Testament presents Christ as the center of the Bible.

Five presuppositions that undergird the New Testament’s interpretation of the Old Testament:

1. Corporate solidarity or representation is assumed.
2. Based on corporate solidarity or representation, Christ is the one that represents the *true Israel* of the OT *and* the true Israel – the church – in the NT.

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<sup>1</sup> Jason S. DeRouchie, *How to Understand and Apply the Old Testament* (Phillipsburg, NJ: P&R Publishing, 2017), 6-10.



3. *History is unified* by a wise and sovereign plan so that the earlier parts are designed to correspond and point to the later parts.
4. The age of *eschatological fulfillment* has come but has not been fully consummated in Christ.
5. As a consequence of eschatological fulfillment not yet being fully consummated, we can deduce that the later parts of biblical history function as the broader context to interpret earlier parts *because they all have the same, ultimate divine author, who inspires the various human authors.*

### Jesus and the Old Testament

- John 5:39-40
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Luke 24:27
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- John 8:56
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Galatians 3:7-8
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Genesis 12:3
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- John 5:46

### Peter and the Old Testament

- 1 Peter 1:10-12

### Paul and the Old Testament

- Galatians 3:10-12
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Galatians 4:21-26
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
- Romans 7:12



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Four reasons why we can say the Mosaic covenant was gracious in character.

1. The Mosaic covenant included pictures of grace.
  
  2. The Mosaic covenant was set in a context of grace. Exodus 19:4-6
  
  3. The Mosaic covenant shows our need of grace.
  
  4. The Mosaic covenant shows us how to respond to grace. Deuteronomy 7:6-11
- 2 Corinthians 3:6-18

### **John and the Old Testament**

- John 1:17
  
- John 1:16-18