

OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

	<u>Book</u>	<u>Key character/event</u>	<u>Key points and lessons to be learned</u>
PENTATEUCH (History)	Genesis	Adam and Eve Cain and Abel, Seth Tower of Babel Noah and the Flood Abraham and Sarah Isaac Jacob and Esau Joseph and 12 tribes	Creation and demonstration of the Power of God Fellowship with God; obedience, sin and punishment; God's plan Power of unity; man's goal to be like God; different languages Extent of wickedness, one righteous man; plan to teach obedience God's prophecy and promise; faith and consequences of doubt; miracle Trust and obedience Respect and fear of God; consequences of deceit Prophecy of leadership; humility, patience and trust in God; to Egypt
"	Exodus	Moses, wilderness	Israelites multiplied in Egypt, became slaves, lived there for 430 years God's plan to deliver Israelites, preparation and fulfillment 80yrs
"	(Leviticus – laws)		Miraculous deliverance, provision and protection in the desert God's laws and sacrifices for sin; directions for worship - tabernacle
"	Numbers	Wilderness experience	Punishments for disobedience and complaining – 40 years
"	(Deuteronomy – laws and promises)		
(History)	Joshua	Joshua The Promised Land	Faith and obedience Conquering the land and learning to live there
"	Judges	Deborah Gideon Samson	God's guidance and correction for disobedience and going astray
"	Ruth	Ruth	Faith and commitment; ancestor of David
"	1,2 Samuel	Samuel Saul David Solomon	Last prophet; faithfulness; preparation for rule by kings First king; self-importance and pride lead to disobedience Faith and dependence on God; sin but repentance and forgiveness Blessings of wisdom; building of the temple
"	1,2 Kings	Divided Kingdom	North – Israel; South - Judah
"	1,2 Chronicles	Elijah Elisha Hezekiah Josiah Nebuchadnezzar	Ungodly kings; judgment and punishment for disobedience God's miraculous provision and power through faithful prophets A few good kings; prophecies of punishment by enemies
"	Ezra	Ezra	Key figures in rebuilding of Jerusalem and temple after the Exile
"	Nehemiah	Nehemiah	Teaching on restoration and fulfillment of God's promises
"	Esther	Esther	Story from Babylonian Exile of 70 years; example of faith
(Poetry)	Job	Job	Oldest book; faithfulness, testing, and God's eventual blessing
"	Psalms		Written by David and others to praise and worship God and encourage
"	Proverbs		Written probably by Solomon; words of wisdom and encouragement
"	Ecclesiastes		Probably written by Solomon late in life; reflections on life
"	Song of Solomon		Probably written by Solomon; love poem showing God's love
(Major Prophets)	Isaiah	Isaiah	Prophecies directed to nations and referring to future events and Jesus
"	Jeremiah	Jeremiah	Prophecies to Judah of rebuke and divine judgment by exile
"	(Lamentations -	Written by Jeremiah; sad reflections)	
"	Ezekiel	Ezekiel	Prophecies of warnings to repent and be restored to God
"	Daniel	Daniel	Events during the 70 year exile in Babylon; end time prophecies
(Minor prophets)	Hosea – Malachi		Prophecies to various nations inc. Israel, also re Jesus and End Times

OLD TESTAMENT COURSE FOR PASTORS AND LEADERS

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LESSON 1 – THE IMPORTANCE OF THE BIBLE AND HOW IT CAME TO US

A. WAYS

2 Timothy 3:16 – All scripture is inspired by God.

Exodus 31:18, Exodus 32:16, Daniel 5:24,25 – Parts were written by God Himself.

Revelation 1:19 – Scriptures written down as ordered by God.

1 Chronicles 9:1 – Written in historical records.

B. REASONS

Luke 1:1-4 – So that we know the truth.

Romans 15:4 – Written to encourage us and give us hope.

1 Corinthians 10:11 – Written to warn us.

John 20:31 – Written so that we can believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

1 John 5:13 - Written so that we can know that we have eternal life.

C. ORIGIN AND GROWTH OF THE BIBLE

1) Scriptures originally written by hand - in Hebrew, Greek or Aramaic.

2) Ancient copies – made by hand in Hebrew, Greek or Aramaic. Most still preserved today are from the 4th century A.D.

3) Ancient versions of collected scriptures – the SEPTUAGINT was the translation of the OT Hebrew scriptures into Greek made in Alexandria, about 285 B.C. The VULGATE was the entire bible translated into Latin by Jerome in Bethlehem about 400 A.D.

4) English versions – the Latin Vulgate bible was the standard bible used for 1,000 years in the church, although it could not be understood by the common people. In 1380 JOHN WYCLIFFE in England translated the NT from Latin into common English and his friends finished the whole bible translation after his death. WILLIAM TYNDALE, the great reformer, had access to Greek texts and other helps as well as the Latin Vulgate, and so had translated the NT and the Pentateuch by 1530. But persecution was great and he was martyred before the OT translation was completed. However within the next few years Tyndale's companions completed the work and several translations of the Bible were made available in English. In 1611 a team of 47 scholars worked together with previous versions and Hebrew and Greek texts to write the KING JAMES or AUTHORIZED Version of the Bible, which remained the main bible version used in the English-speaking world for over three centuries. The REVISED VERSION completed in 1884 made use of some of the most ancient copies that had been discovered by that time.

5) New versions – more recent discoveries such as the Rosetta Stone and the Dead Sea Scrolls have enabled better understanding of some biblical texts. Also, since all languages tend to evolve and change over centuries there has been a need to produce the Bible in a way that is more easily understood by the common man of the 21st century. As a result, several commissions and groups of scholars have made completely new translations of the Bible in recent years to make use of the best available Hebrew, Aramaic and Greek texts, and also to use language more commonplace today. Such new translations include the AMPLIFIED BIBLE, the NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION and the NEW LIVING TRANSLATION, as well as several others.

LESSON 2 – THE DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE

A. OLD TESTAMENT (with 39 books)

1) The Jews divide it into 3 parts:

- a) The Law – the first 5 books known as the Pentateuch and believed to be written by Moses.
- b) The Prophets – Ezekiel, Isaiah etc and the historical books such as Kings.
- c) The Scriptures or Writings – the remaining OT books including Psalms, Proverbs, Job, Ezra etc.

2) The Christians divide it into 4 parts:

- a) The Law – the first five books from Genesis to Deuteronomy.
- b) The Historical Books – the twelve books from Joshua to Esther.
- c) The Books of Wisdom and Poetry – the five books from Job to Song of Solomon.
- d) The Prophets – the five major prophetic books of Isaiah to Daniel; and the twelve minor prophetic books from Hosea to Malachi.

B. NEW TESTAMENT (with 27 books)

- a) The Gospels – the first four books that tell of the life of Jesus Christ.
- b) The Historical Book – the book of the Acts of the Apostles.
- c) The Pauline Epistles (or Letters) – the thirteen books from Romans to Philemon.
- d) The General Epistles – the eight books from Hebrews to Jude.
- e) The Prophetic Book – Revelation.

Note – The Bible is NOT written in exact chronological order and so it is important to study the WHOLE Bible and not just one section. Also, the ancient manner of Jewish writing was to start with a summary and then the story was written again in greater detail, sometimes more than once. This does not mean that the same event occurred twice – just that it was written about several times to draw attention to the importance of the story or point.

LESSON 3 – THE BEGINNING

A. CREATION – Genesis 1,2

Everything was created perfectly just by the WORD of God.

Words have power – especially the Word of God.

God created man in a way that was different to the animals, and in the IMAGE of God.

God created man with a special purpose – to fellowship and talk with, to love God, and to carry out God's plans on the earth.

God gave man free will and only ONE law to obey. (**Genesis 2:16.17**)

B. THE FALL – Genesis 3:1-6

Temptation by Satan – to doubt the Word of God.

Satan lied to Eve (v.4,5)

The original sin – to want to be equal to God.

Eve chose to believe Satan rather than God.

C. THE RESULTS OF SIN – Genesis 3:7-24

Shame - of being naked because their minds were opened to bad thoughts.

Fear – so they tried to hide from God.

Excuses – they tried to blame others instead of admitting the truth.

Punishment – **Genesis 3:16-19, 23,24** and **Romans 6:23**.

D. MAN AND SIN ARE MULTIPLIED – Genesis 4:1 – 6:5

Cain's disobedience and his unwillingness to be corrected by God – **Genesis 4: 3-8**.

The multiplication of mankind – **Genesis 5**.

The multiplication of sin – **Genesis 6:5**.

E. NOAH AND THE FLOOD – Genesis 6:6 – 9:29

God's warning and commandment to Noah – **Genesis 6:13...**

Noah's obedience – **Genesis 7:1-7**.

Salvation by God – **Genesis 7:23**.

God's first covenant – **Genesis 9:9-17**.

LESSON 4 – THE PATRIARCHS

A. MULTIPLICATION AND DIVISION – Genesis 10,11

1) Multiplication of Noah's family - Genesis 10

Japheth – to the north (Europe and Russia)
Ham – to the south (Canaan, Babylonia, Egypt and Africa)
Shem – in the middle (Arabia)

2) Division by languages – Genesis 11

The reason – v.4,6 they wanted to reach to the sky and to make a name for themselves
The result – v.7-9 God confused their languages and they were scattered around the world

B. GOD CHOOSES ABRAM

1) The call – Genesis 12:1-5 Abram was 75 years old

2) The promise to his descendants – Genesis 12:7; Genesis 13:14-17

3) The promise of his own son – Genesis 15:4-6 Abram was 85 years old and Sarai was 75

4) The covenant of circumcision – Genesis 17 Abram was 99 years old They were given new names – Abraham and Sarah The promise that Sarah would conceive and give birth to a son, Isaac, in one year

5) The promise fulfilled – Genesis 21:1-5

6) Abraham is tested – Genesis 22 Isaac was probably in his twenties and much stronger than Abraham, who was 100 years older, so Isaac must have also had faith in God to permit his father to put him on the altar and not run away! **Hebrews 11:17-19** Abraham believed that God was going to fulfill all his promises

C. ISAAC

1) Accepts the wife chosen by God – Genesis 24 Isaac was 40 years old

2) Prays because of his wife's barrenness – Genesis 25:21 Isaac was 60 years old

3) The covenant repeated with Isaac – Genesis 26:2-5 In spite of the famine Isaac stayed in the land and was blessed v.12,13

D. JACOB

1) Chosen to lead – Genesis 25:22,23

2) Esau did not value his birthright – Genesis 25:29-34 Jacob took the opportunity

3) Jacob deceived Isaac to receive the blessing – Genesis 27

4) God's promise to Jacob – Genesis 28:10-15

5) God multiplies and blesses Jacob – Genesis 29-31

6) God changes his name from Jacob to Israel – Genesis 32:22-30 Jacob knew he had stolen the blessing originally and now wanted to be given it directly from God

LESSON 5 – GOD MULTIPLIES HIS PEOPLE

A. THE PROMISE

- 1) To Abraham – **Genesis 15:4,5**
Genesis 17:4-8
- 2) To Isaac – **Genesis 26:2-4**
- 3) To Jacob – **Genesis 28:13-15**
Genesis 35: 11,12

B. THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL (JACOB)

- 1) Twelve sons – **Genesis 35:23-26**
- 2) Joseph chosen by God – **Genesis 37:5-11**
- 3) Joseph rejected by his brothers – **Genesis 37:12-28** Joseph was 17 years old
- 4) Joseph blessed by God in spite of more misfortune – **Genesis 39:1-6** as a slave in Potiphar's house
Genesis 39:20-23 innocently sent to prison
Genesis 41:37-43 in Pharaoh's service at the age of 30
- 5) Joseph's brothers seek help in Egypt – **Genesis 42-44**
- 6) Joseph reunited with his family – **Genesis 45,46**
Genesis 45:3-8; Genesis 50:19-21 Joseph shows forgiveness
- 7) Israel and his family enter Egypt – **Genesis 46:26,27; Acts 7:14** (70-75 in total)
Genesis 47:11,12 they were given the best land in the country to live in

C. MULTIPLICATION

- 1) The Children of Israel are fruitful and multiply – **Exodus 1:6-14,20** From God's promise to Abraham until the entrance into Egypt was 215 years, and God multiplied them to be about 70 people
- 2) The story of Moses – **Exodus 2-4**
- 3) The Children of Israel leave Egypt – **Exodus 12:37; Numbers 1:45-47** More than 603,550 men (not counting the tribe of Levi). In the 215 years they were in Egypt God multiplied them from 70 to millions!
600,000 men each with one wife and four children = 3,600,000 people!!!

OLD TESTAMENT COURSE FOR PASTORS AND LEADERS

EXAM #1

Each student should choose and circle ONE answer that seems to be the best answer to each question.

1. In which language was the main part of the Old Testament written originally?
 - a) Greek
 - b) Hebrew
 - c) Latin

2. What name is given to the first 5 books of the Old Testament?
 - a) the Gospels
 - b) the History
 - c) the Pentateuch

3. How many books is there altogether in the Bible?
 - a) 39
 - b) 56
 - c) 66

4. Which of the following is NOT a reason why God gave us the Bible?
 - a) so we can believe that everyone will go to heaven
 - b) so that the scriptures can give us advice
 - c) so we can know the truth of His Son Jesus Christ

5. What did Satan tempt Eve to do?
 - a) to lie to God
 - b) to doubt the Word of God
 - c) to have sex outside of marriage

6. Which was NOT a son of Noah?
 - a) Japheth
 - b) Ham
 - c) Seth

7. How old was Sarah when she gave birth to Isaac?
 - a) 75
 - b) 90
 - c) 100

8. Who was the father of Esau?
 - a) Jacob
 - b) Isaac
 - c) Abraham

9. After arriving in Egypt as a slave, in whose house did Joseph work?
 - a) Pharaoh's
 - b) Potiphar's
 - c) The keeper of the prison's

10. How many descendants of Abraham entered Egypt with Joseph's family?
 - a) about 70
 - b) 215
 - c) more than 3 or 4 million

Answer this for extra points: Who is called the Father of the Faithful?

- a) Moses
- b) Abraham
- c) Noah

LESSON 6 – GOD LEADS HIS PEOPLE TO THEIR LAND

A. A LEADER IS PREPARED

- 1) Moses grows up in the house of Pharaoh – **Exodus 2:1-10; Acts 7:20-22**
- 2) Moses wants to fight for his people – **Exodus 2:11-15; Acts 7:23-29**
- 3) He lives in the desert for 40 years – **Acts 7:30**
- 4) The situation in Egypt worsens – **Exodus 2:23-25**
- 5) God calls Moses – **Exodus 3,4**
 - The commandment – **Exodus 3:10**
 - Excuses and answers – **Exodus 3:11-14; Exodus 4:1,10-14**
 - Accepted by the Israelites – **Exodus 4:29-31**

B. THE FIGHT TO LEAVE EGYPT

- 1) The Egyptians don't believe Moses – **Exodus 5** The Israelites are made to work harder
- 2) The ten plagues – **Exodus 7-12**
 - The Israelites are protected
 - The Egyptian magicians can only copy but not stop the plagues
 - Pharaoh continually hardens his heart
 - The death of the firstborn – and the Passover protecting the Israelites
- 3) The Red Sea – **Exodus 14**
 - Pharaoh changes his mind – **v.5-7**
 - The Israelites are terrified and blame Moses – **v.10-12**
 - The promise – **v.13,14**
 - The miracle – **v.19-31**
- 4) The blessings of the fight
 - Gold, silver and clothes from the Egyptians - **Exodus 12:35,36**
 - The plagues and miracles as signs for the future – **Joshua 2:10; Joshua 9:9**

C. THE JOURNEY THROUGH THE DESERT

- 1) God supplies water and food – **Deuteronomy 8:2-4**
 - Exodus 15:22-27; Exodus 17:1-7**
 - Exodus 16:11-15; Joshua 5:10-12**
- 2) Mount Sinai – the 10 commandments and other laws - **Exodus 19** through Leviticus
- 3) The mission of the 12 spies – the good news - **Numbers 13:23,26,27**; the bad news – **v.28-33**
 - The Israelites rebel – **Numbers 14**
 - The faith of Joshua and Caleb – **Numbers 14:7-9**
 - The punishment – **Numbers 14:20-35**
- 4) The 40 years in the desert – **Numbers 15-26**
 - The second census at the end of the 40 years 601,730 men – **Numbers 26:51,63-65**
 - Joshua succeeds Moses and becomes leader of the Promised Land – **Numbers 27:12-23; Deuteronomy 34:4-9**

LESSON 7 – GOD TEACHES HIS PEOPLE THROUGH THE LAW

A. THE TEN COMMANDMENTS AND OTHER LAWS

- 1) Moses encounters God on Mt. Sinai – **Exodus 19**
The people hear the voice of God – **Exodus 19:9,16-20**
- 2) God gives the 10 commandments – **Exodus 20**
- 3) God gives other laws – **Exodus 21-23**
- 4) The Israelites promise to obey God – **Exodus 24:3,7**
- 5) The golden calf – **Exodus 32**
- 6) The covenant renewed – **Exodus 33,34**
God shows himself to Moses – **Exodus 34:5-7**
Two new tablets – **Exodus 34:27,28; Deuteronomy 10:4,5**

B. THE TABERNACLE AND SACRED VESSELS

- 1) Instructions to build it
Voluntary offering received – **Exodus 25:1,2**
Offering of gold, fabric, oil etc – **Exodus 25:3-7** (compare to the things received from the Egyptians)
- 2) The ark of the covenant – **Exodus 25:10-22**
- 3) The tabernacle – **Exodus 26,27**
- 4) The sacred garments for the priests – **Exodus 28**
- 5) The tabernacle is completed –and it is filled with God’s glory **Exodus 40:34-38**

C. OTHER LAWS AND COMMANDMENTS – **Leviticus; Deuteronomy 12-26**

- 1) Various types of offerings and sacrifices – **Leviticus 1-7**
- 2) Clean and unclean animals – **Leviticus 11**
- 3) Various laws – **Leviticus 12-22**

D. SOLEMN FEASTS AND SPECIAL EVENTS – **Exodus 23:14-17; Leviticus 23-25**

- 1) Feast of Passover and Unleavened Bread – **Leviticus 23:5-8** to remember the Exodus from Egypt (about 14th April)
- 2) Feast of Firstfruits – **Leviticus 23:9-14** to thank God for the harvest
- 3) Feast of Pentecost (or Weeks) – **Leviticus 23:15-21** to commemorate the giving of the Law (about 6th June)
- 4) Feast of Trumpets – **Leviticus 23:23-25** (about 1st October)
- 5) Day of Atonement – **Leviticus 23:26-32** to receive forgiveness of sins (about 10th October)
- 6) Feast of Tabernacles – **Leviticus 23:33-43** to remember the life in the desert (about 15th-22nd October)
- 7) The Year of Rest – **Leviticus 25:1-7** to give the land rest every 7 years
- 8) The Year of Jubilee – **Leviticus 25:8-55** to redeem land, property and servants every 50 years

E. THE PURPOSE OF THE LAW – **Galatians 3:19-26** to train us until Christ came to fulfill it **Matthew 5:17-20**

F. THE HEART OF THE LAW – **Matthew 7:12; Galatians 5:14** the Golden Rule

LESSON 8 – THE FULFILLMENT OF THE PROMISE

A. A NEW LEADER

- 1) Moses sees the promised land and dies – **Deuteronomy 34:1-7**
- 2) Joshua is chosen – **Deuteronomy 31:7,8**
God's commandment and promise – **Joshua 1:1-9**
The people agree to obey – **v.16,17**

B. THE FIRST BATTLE

- 1) The two spies encounter Rahab – **Joshua 2**
Rahab believes in God – **v.9-11**
- 2) The first miracle through Joshua – crossing the flooded River Jordan – **Joshua 3**
God shows that he is with Joshua – **Joshua 3:7**
The people cross over the River Jordan on dry ground – **Joshua 3:14-17**
The Israelites eat the fruit of the land for the first time – **Joshua 5:10-12**
- 3) The plan of God
An angel speaks with **Joshua 5:13-15**
The plan – **Joshua 6:2-5**
The commandment to be silent – **Joshua 6:10**
- 4) The miracle – **Joshua 6:15-27**
The shout – **v.16**
The walls fall in their place – **v.20**

C. A BATTLE LOST

- 1) The Israelites lose the battle in Ai – **Joshua 7:2-5**
- 2) The reason – **Joshua 7:11,12**
The punishment - **v.24,25**
- 3) The victory – **Joshua 8**
- 4) The people are reminded of the Law – **Joshua 8:34,35**

D. THE LAND CONQUERED – **Joshua 9-12**

- 1) The sun stands still - **Joshua 10:12-14**
- 2) The whole land is taken – **Joshua 11:23**
- 3) 31 kings are conquered – **Joshua 12**

E. THE LAND IS DIVIDED AMONG THE TWELVE TRIBES – **Joshua 13-22**

LESSON 9 – THE PERIOD OF THE JUDGES

A. DISOBEDIENCE

- 1) Final words of advice from Joshua – **Joshua 23:14-16**
The people renew the covenant - **Joshua 24:24-27**
- 2) The Israelites do not destroy all their enemies – **Judges 1:27-33**
- 3) God speaks – **Judges 2:1-4**
- 4) The second generation sins – **Judges 2:7,10-12**
- 5) The punishment – **Judges 2:14,15**

B. GOD SENDS JUDGES – **Judges 2:16-19**

- 1) The period of the Judges – 1425 – 1125 B.C.
About 14 judges in all used by God to:
 - free His people
 - destroy His enemies
 - show the power of God
 - lead the people back again to God
- 2) Deborah – **Judges 4**
 - She judges the people – **v.4,5**
 - She speaks forth a prophecy from God – **v.6,7**
 - Barak has fear, but Deborah goes with him – **v.8,9**
 - Victory – **v.15**
- 3) Gideon – **Judges 6-8**
 - Chosen by an angel – **Judges 6:11,12**
 - His excuses and the Lord's response – **v.13-18**
 - Signs from God – **v.21, 36-40**
 - Gideon's army reduced in size – **Judges 7:2-7** (note the size of the enemy in **Judges 8:10** – 135,000)
 - God's plan – trumpets and pitchers **Judges 7:16**
 - The miracle – **Judges 7:20-22; Judges 8:10**
 - The Israelites ask Gideon to be king – **Judges 8:22,23**
- 4) Samson – **Judges 13-16**
 - Chosen since before his conception – **Judges 13:2-5**
 - His weakness is women – **Judges 14:1-4**
 - His strength – **Judges 14:6,19; Judges 15:14,15**
 - Deceived by Delilah – **Judges 16**
 - Victory in death – **Judges 16:27-30**

LESSON 10 – THE FIRST KING

A. THE LAST JUDGE - SAMUEL

- 1) His birth – 1 Samuel 1
Anna makes a vow to God – v.11
She trusts in the authority and blessing of the priest, Eli – v.17,18
Her prayer is answered and she fulfills her vow – v.20,24-28
- 2) His youth
The sins of Eli's sons – 1 Samuel 2:12-17,22
Samuel's life pleasing to God – 1 Samuel 2:26
God calls Samuel – 1 Samuel 3
Samuel the prophet – 1 Samuel 3:19,20
- 3) His ministry
Samuel leads the people to repentance – 1 Samuel 7:3
God gives them victory over the Philistines – 1 Samuel 7:10-13
Samuel the judge – 1 Samuel 7:15-17
The people ask for a king – 1 Samuel 8:5,19,20
Samuel anoints Saul – 1 Samuel 9; 10:1

B. THE FIRST KING – SAUL

- 1) Chosen and blessed by God
Young, handsome and from a good family – 1 Samuel 9:1,2
Anointed by Samuel – 1 Samuel 10:1
The Holy Spirit upon him – 1 Samuel 10:6,7,9
Accepted by the people – 1 Samuel 10:24; 13:1
- 2) First act of disobedience – 1 Samuel 13
He doesn't wait for Samuel to offer the sacrifice – v.8,9
His punishment prophesied – v.13,14
- 3) Second act of disobedience – 1 Samuel 15
He does not destroy all the enemy – v.9
He tells a lie – v.13-16
God's response – v.22,23
The punishment – 1 Samuel 16:14

C. DAVID CHOSEN TO BE THE SECOND KING

- 1) Anointed by Samuel – 1 Samuel 16:10-13
- 2) Prepared to be king by being in service to Saul – 1 Samuel 16:21-23
- 3) David becomes a hero – 1 Samuel 17
His trust in God – v.36,37
He kills Goliath – v.48-51
He obeys King Saul – 1 Samuel 18:5
Saul's jealousy – 1 Samuel 18:8-12
God's blessings – 1 Samuel 18:13,14
- 4) David continues to respect Saul because he is king
He spares Saul's life in the cave – 1 Samuel 24:2-12
He spares Saul's life in the field – 1 Samuel 26:7-12
- 5) David laments the death of Saul and Jonathan
After seeking advice from a witch, Saul dies – 1 Samuel 28; 31:4
David mourns – 2 Samuel 1:11,12

LESSON 11 – THE MOST FAMOUS KING, DAVID

A. DAVID – THE HERO

- 1) Courageous leader under Saul
Kills Goliath – **1 Samuel 17**
Is successful – **1 Samuel 18:13-16**
- 2) King of Judah
Anointed – **2 Samuel 2:1-4**
Fights against Saul's son, Ishbosheth – **2 Samuel 2:10,11; 3:1**
- 3) King of Israel as well
Anointed – **2 Samuel 5:1-5**
Takes the city of Jerusalem for his capital – **v.6-12**
Overthrows the Philistines – **v.17-25**

B. DAVID – THE GOOD KING

- 1) Brings the ark of God to Jerusalem
Great joy – **2 Samuel 6:12-15**
David values God's opinion more than that of men – **v.21**
- 2) Wants to build a temple to God – 2 Samuel 7
The blessing of God – **v.9-11**
The promise to his son – **v.12,13**
- 3) More victories – 2 Samuel 8-10

C. DAVID – THE SINNER

- 1) He falls into sin – 2 Samuel 11:1-5
- 2) David tries to fix his problems
David's plan – **2 Samuel 11:6-8**
Uriah, a man of great integrity – **v.9-13**
- 3) David sins again
Causes the death of Uriah – **v.14-17**
The situation is resolved, but is not pleasing to God – **v.27**
- 4) David is reprimanded
Nathan's parable – **2 Samuel 12:1-9**
God's punishment – **v.10-12,14**
David repents – **v.13**
The baby dies – **v.18**
David's response – **v.19-24**
David's feelings – **Psalm 51**
More problems in David's family – **2 Samuel 13-19**

OLD TESTAMENT COURSE FOR PASTORS AND LEADERS

EXAM #2

Each student should choose and circle ONE answer that seems to be the best answer to each question.

1. Whom did God choose to free the Israelites from slavery in Egypt?
 - a) Abraham
 - b) Joseph
 - c) Moses

2. Why did the Israelites have to stay in the desert for 40 years?
 - a) because they kept on complaining
 - b) because they did not trust in God to help them overcome the people living in the Promised Land
 - c) because they made a golden calf to worship

3. In which book of the Bible can we read about all the laws and rules of God?
 - a) Deuteronomy
 - b) Genesis
 - c) Leviticus

4. What was the name of the woman who hid the two spies in Jericho?
 - a) Ruth
 - b) Rahab
 - c) Rebecca

5. Why did the Israelites lose their 2nd battle in the Promised Land?
 - a) because they did not walk around the city 7 times
 - b) because they did not fast and pray before fighting
 - c) because not everyone had obeyed God in Jericho

6. How many judges were there in all over Israel?
 - a) 3
 - b) 14
 - c) 40

7. Who was the last judge?
 - a) Saul
 - b) Samson
 - c) Samuel

8. Why did God reject Saul as king?
 - a) because as king, Saul believed he could do whatever he wanted
 - b) because he never was chosen by God, only by the people
 - c) because God preferred David

9. Why did David not kill Saul?
 - a) because he was afraid of him
 - b) because he never had a good opportunity
 - c) because he refused to hurt one who was anointed by God

10. Which part of the people first received David as king?
 - a) Israel in the north
 - b) Judah in the south
 - c) the Philistines

Answer this for extra points: What was the ark of the covenant for?

- a) it was an altar for special sacrifice
- b) it represented the presence of God and contained the tablets
- c) it was the throne of Moses

LESSON 12 – THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

A. THE KINGDOM INCREASES UNDER SOLOMON

- 1) Solomon, the man
 - God appears to him – **1 Kings 3:5,7-9**
 - God's promise to him – **1 Kings 3:10-14**
 - Immediate proof of his wisdom – **1 Kings 3:16-28**
 - His wisdom and knowledge – **1 Kings 4:29-34**
- 2) Solomon builds the temple – **1 Kings 5-7**
 - The glory of God – **1 Kings 8:9-11**
 - The dedication – **1 Kings 8:62,63**
- 3) Solomon extends his kingdom
 - He receives great wealth – **1 Kings 10:10,11,14,15**
 - His influence spreads around the world – **1 Kings 10:23-29**
 - He marries and makes agreements with many countries – **1 Kings 11:1-3**

B. DIVISION COMES

- 1) Solomon's sin
 - Idolatry – **1 Kings 11:4-8**
 - God's anger – **v.9-13**
- 2) Solomon's son, Rehoboam
 - Rejects the advice of the elders – **1 Kings 12:6-8**
 - Prophecy about the kingdom being divided – **1 Kings 11:29-36**
 - The division – **1 Kings 12:20**

C. THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

- 1) The Northern Kingdom
 - Called Israel with Samaria as its capital
 - Consisted of 10 tribes
 - Its history told in the books of **Kings**
 - The majority of its kings were wicked and the people quickly returned to idolatry
 - Received prophecies from **Hosea** and **Amos**
 - Judged by God and its people taken away captive to Assyria in 722 B.C.
 - The kingdom lasted about 200 years
- 2) The Southern Kingdom
 - Called Judah with Jerusalem as its capital
 - Consisted of land given to the tribes of Judah, Simeon and Benjamin
 - Its history told in the books of **Kings** and **Chronicles**
 - Some of its kings were good, some were wicked, but eventually the people returned to idolatry
 - Received prophecies from **Jeremiah**, **Micah** and **Zephaniah**
 - Judged by God and its people taken away captive to Babylon in 6-7 B.B.
 - The kingdom lasted about 300 years

LESSON 13 – THE PROPHETS

WHAT IS A PROPHET? – He speaks the words of God – **Jeremiah 1:4-8**
He speaks the truth – **Deuteronomy 18:18-22**

A. PROPHETS OF THE DIVIDED KINGDOM

- 1) To Israel
Hosea
Amos
- 2) To Judah
Isaiah
Micah
Jeremiah
Zephaniah
- 3) Other prophets
Some who warned people in surrounding nations – such as **Jonah, Nahum**
Some who warned God's people later, during their exile in Babylon – such as **Haggai, Zechariah**

B. ELIJAH

- 1) Ahab, a wicked king of Israel worse than all others before him - **1 Kings 16:29-33**
- 2) Elijah's 1st prophecy – **1 Kings 17**
There will be no rain – **v.1**
He obeys God and goes to the brook Cherith **v.2-6** (note **1 Kings 18:7-10**)
Miracles in the widow's house – **v.7-24**
- 3) Elijah's 2nd prophecy – **1 Kings 18**
Told to go to King Ahab – **v.1-4**
The challenge on Mt. Carmel – **v.18,19**
The confrontation – **v.21-35**
The miracle – **v.36-39**
God shows himself to Elijah – **1 Kings 19:7-18**

C. ELISHA

- 1) Chosen by Elijah – **1 Kings 19:19-21**
Remains faithful – **2 Kings 2:1-8**
- 2) Receives a double portion of the Spirit – **2 Kings 2**
Elisha asks for it – **v.9,10**
Elijah is taken up in a chariot of fire – **v.11,12**
Elisha repeats a miracle of Elijah – **v.13,14**
Recognized by other prophets – **v.15**
- 3) Repeats other miracles
Multiplies the widow's oil – **2 Kings 4:1-7**
Raises a dead boy – **2 Kings 4:32-36**
- 4) Other miracles
Poisonous stew made fit to eat and food multiplied – **2 Kings 4:40-44**
Healing of Naaman's leprosy – **2 Kings 5**
Capture of the enemy army – **2 Kings 6:15-23**

LESSON 14 – THE CAPTIVITY

A. THE NORTHERN KINGDOM – 2 Kings 17

- 1) The capital, Samaria, is besieged for 3 years – v.5
- 2) The people are carried away to Assyria in 722 B.C. – v.6-8
- 3) Their land was filled with strangers – v.24

B. THE SOUTHERN KINGDOM – 2 Kings 24,25

- 1) The king captured – 2 Kings 24:12
- 2) Temple treasures and officials carried away – 2 Kings 24:13-17
- 3) Jerusalem falls in 587 B.C. – 2 Kings 25
Nebuchadnezzar takes the city after 18 months of siege – 2 Kings 25:1,2
The army flees and is scattered – v.3-7
The city is destroyed and the people carried into exile – v.8-12
Gedaliah is made governor – v.22
Gedaliah is killed and the remaining Jews flee to Egypt – v.25,26; Jeremiah 43:6,7

C. BABYLON

Believed to have been constructed over the ruins of the Tower of Babel
Magnificent buildings with over 50 different temples
Famous for its Hanging Gardens – one of the 7 wonders of the ancient world
Hundreds of tablets and carved stones recording dates and facts have been discovered
Daniel remained there for 72 years, from the 1st year of captivity until 2 years after many returned to Jerusalem

D. THE BOOK OF DANIEL

- 1) Proof about the food – Daniel 1:8,12-15,17,20
- 2) Daniel interprets Nebuchadnezzar's dream – Daniel 2:3-6,12-19
- 3) The fiery furnace – Daniel 3:1,7,12-18,22-30
- 4) The madness and healing of Nebuchadnezzar – Daniel 4:30-34
- 5) Writing on the wall – Daniel 5:1-7,17,26-31
- 6) The den of lions – Daniel 6
- 7) Daniel's dreams and visions – Daniel 7-12

LESSON 15 – THE RESTORATION OF JERUSALEM

A. THE 1ST GROUP RETURNS TO JERUSALEM

- 1) The proclamation of King Cyrus – **Ezra 1:1-4** (about 536 B.C.)
Propheesied some 200 years previously – **Isaiah 44:26-28; Isaiah 45:13; Jeremiah 29:10-14**
- 2) The Jews receive gifts to take back with them – **Ezra 1:5-7,11**
- 3) Arrival at Jerusalem
About 50,000 people return to Jerusalem – **Ezra 2:64-67**
Donations are given to rebuild the temple – **Ezra 2:68-70**
Years of opposition – **Ezra 4:1-5**
- 4) The decree from Darius – **Ezra 6** (about 516 B.C.)
The rebuilding continues and the temple is dedicated – **v.13-17**
Sacrifices and religious feasts are restored – **v.18-22**

B. THE 2ND GROUP RETURNS (about 457 B.C.)

- 1) Ezra leads them – **Ezra 7:6,7**
The support of King Darius (Artaxerxes) – **v.20,26**
A group of about 1,754 men – **Ezra 8:1-14**
Special request for Levites to serve in the temple – **Ezra 8:15-20**
Much gold and silver – **Ezra 8:26,27**
Prayer and trust in God rewarded – **Ezra 8:21-23,31**
- 2) Problems on arrival – **Ezra 9:1-3**
Ezra's prayer – **v.5-15**
Repentance and a new covenant – **Ezra 10:1-5**

C. THE 3RD GROUP RETURNS (about 444 B.C.)

- 1) Nehemiah leads them – **Nehemiah 1:1-4**
Support from King Artaxerxes – **Nehemiah 2:5-9**
Nehemiah encourages the people to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem – **Nehemiah 2:17-20**
- 2) The people build – **Nehemiah 3**
Different groups help, men and women both rich and poor – examples **v.5,8,12**
Their enemies laugh at them but they continue – **Nehemiah 4:1-3,6**
More problems – **Nehemiah 4:7-12**
The people are ready to fight – **Nehemiah 4:13-18**
The walls are finished in less than 2 months – **Nehemiah 6:15,16**
- 3) The people are reminded of the Law
Ezra reads the Law to everyone – **Nehemiah 8:1-3**
The people understand it and celebrate – **v.8-12**

D. THE STORY OF ESTHER

- 1) Mordechai and Esther are Jews - **Esther 2:5-7,10**
Esther is chosen to be queen – **v.17**
A plot to kill the king – **v.21-23**
- 2) The decree to kill all the Jews – **Esther 3:8-10,13**
One important law – **Esther 4:11**
Mordechai's advice to Esther and her answer – **Esther 4:13-16**
Haman plans but Mordechai receives the honor – **Esther 5:12-14; Esther 6:1-3,10,11**
- 3) The prayers answered
Esther speaks to the king – **Esther 7:3-5**
Haman is killed and a new decree given – **Esther 7:9,10; Esther 8:11,17**

LESSON 16 – THE WAY IS PREPARED FOR JESUS

A. **PROPHECIES OF THE MESSIAH** (more than 40 in the whole Old Testament)

- 1) As a conquering king
 - He will overcome Satan – **Genesis 3:15**
 - He will be seated at the right hand of God – **Psalm 110:1**
 - His names – **Isaiah 9:6,7**
 - He will be worshipped by and reign over all – **Daniel 7:13,14**
- 2) His birth and life
 - He will be born of a virgin – **Isaiah 7:14**
 - From the lineage of Abraham, Judah and David – **Genesis 22:18; Genesis 49:10; Isaiah 9:7**
 - He will be born in Bethlehem – **Micah 5:2**
 - He will bring honor to Galilee – **Isaiah 9:1**
 - His ministry – **Isaiah 61:1-3**
 - The triumphal entry into Jerusalem – **Zechariah 9:9**
- 3) His suffering and death
 - His rejection – **Psalm 118:22; Isaiah 53:3**
 - His betrayal – **Psalm 41:9; Zechariah 11:12,13**
 - His suffering – **Isaiah 52:13,14; Psalm 69:21**
- 4) As the Savior
 - The sacrifice for our sins – **Isaiah 53**
 - He will overcome death and hell – **Psalm 16:10**
 - He will bring salvation to the whole world – **Isaiah 49:6**

B. **THE SITUATION IN THE CENTURIES BEFORE THE BIRTH OF JESUS**

- 1) about 440 B.C. – Jerusalem was rebuilt with the temple, walls and other buildings; priests and sacrifices
- 2) about 330 B.C. – Alexander the Great introduced the Greek culture and in the following 200 years almost all the people in the known world came to speak Greek, and the Jews lived in peace, although at times they were annexed to Egypt or Syria
- 3) about 250 B.C. – The Septuagint Version of the Old Testament was translated into Greek, making the scriptures available to more people – in reality it was the first "Bible"
- 4) about 168 B.C. – The temple in Jerusalem was destroyed by Antiochus, who wanted to exterminate the Jews and their religion. He profaned the temple and constructed altars to other gods in its place. Various groups rebelled to try to free the Jews and finally in 165 B.C. Judas Maccabeus regained control for the Jews and cleansed and consecrated the temple again
- 5) about 63 B.C. – The Roman general Pompey captured Jerusalem and the land was divided into provinces that were governed by different rulers.
- 6) About 37 B.C. – Herod the Great became ruler (or king) of Judea and Samaria and by the time of Jesus' birth he was ruler over all Palestine. He rebuilt the temple in 20 B.C. and probably died about the same year as Jesus' birth, and then the province was divided between his three sons

LESSON 17 – A REVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

A. THE OLD TESTAMENT DIVIDED INTO 7 PARTS

<u>Theme</u>	<u>Key events/people</u>	<u>Books of the Bible</u>	<u>Date</u>
1) Creation	the Fall, the Flood, Babel	Genesis	4000 B.C. – 2500 B.C.
2) The Patriarchs	Abraham to Joseph	Genesis	2000 B.C. – 1700 B.C.
3) The Law	Moses and the wilderness	Exodus, Leviticus Numbers, Deuteronomy	about 1440 B.C.
4) The Promised Land	Joshua and the Judges	Joshua, Judges	1400 B.C. – 1200 B.C.
5) The Kingdom	Saul, David, Solomon, divided kingdom	Samuel, Kings, Chronicles	1100 B.C. – 700 B.C.
6) The Captivity	prophesied, the Exile, Daniel	Daniel, Esther	600 B.C. – 530 B.C.
7) Restoration	the temple, Jerusalem, and the people	Ezra, Nehemiah	530 B.C. →

B. OTHER BOOKS OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

1) History

Ruth – story took place in the days of the Judges; was possibly written by Samuel; a story of love and faithfulness; God chose a Gentile woman to be in the lineage of Jesus

Job - possibly the oldest book of the Bible; written originally in a poetic form; shows us that Satan can attack the faithful but God is in charge of it all

Jonah - story probably took place at the time of the divided kingdom; shows us that prophets still battle with human emotions, and shows the great mercy that God has towards all people

2) Poetical books

Psalms - songs and poems used for centuries in the temple and in churches; written by various people but especially: David (wrote 73), Asaph – a leader in David’s time (12), and the Sons of Korah – in the time of Moses (11); some remind of stories, others encourage worship

Proverbs – probably mostly written or collected by Solomon; instructions for a life that is pleasing to God, especially in relation to wisdom, justice and sin

Ecclesiastes – probably written by Solomon later in life; shows the struggle within man between the desires to enjoy oneself and responsibilities to God

Song of Solomon – a poem originally written by Solomon; represents the spiritual relationship between Jesus Christ and His Church

3) Prophetic books

Isaiah - known as the prophet of Redemption who prophesied to Judah during the reigns of various kings such as Ahaz (about 760 B.C.); warned of the captivity, but the 2nd part contains promises and prophecies about the time after the Exile and until the coming of the Messiah

Jeremiah – known as the “Weeping Prophet” because he mourned the sins of the people; he prophesied to the people of Judah from the end of the reign of the last good king (Josiah) until the Captivity

Lamentations – was the sequel, also written by Jeremiah, lamenting the destruction of Jerusalem; originally a poem

Ezekiel – a book of mystery written at the time of the Captivity; prophecies about how the nation would be restored

Hosea - he lived at the same time as Isaiah but prophesied to the Northern Kingdom, Israel; he used the example of an adulterous spouse to show that the Jews had sinned against God

Joel - prophesied to Judah of the future invasion of their enemies; told of judgment, repentance and the blessings afterwards

Amos - he was from the Judean desert of the same period as Isaiah; he used stories and illustrations

Obadiah – not much known about him; speaks of an ancient feud between Israel and neighboring Edom; shows how God cares for His people

Micah - he was from Judah but prophesied to both Judah and Israel in the time of Isaiah; he warned them of their sins, but also spoke of restoration and the coming Messiah

Nahum – followed after Jonah and prophesied of the fall and punishment of Nineveh because they returned to their sins after repenting at Jonah's preaching

Habakkuk – was probably written about 600 B.C. and speaks of the mysteries of God's purposes

Zephaniah – a descendant of King Hezekiah, he prophesied to Judah during the reign of the last good king, Josiah; he warned of judgment but at the end foretold a day of glory and freedom in Israel

Haggai – called the "Prophet of the Temple" he was born in exile in Babylon and returned to Jerusalem with the 1st group; he reprimanded the people for not rebuilding the temple, but then encouraged them to do so

Zechariah – he lived at the same time as Haggai and also encouraged the people to rebuild the temple; he also prophesied of the Messiah and a new era

Malachi – he probably lived in the days of Nehemiah; he preached the need to reform and change the way of tithing and giving to God, and prophesied blessings for obedience

OLD TESTAMENT COURSE FOR PASTORS AND LEADERS

FINAL EXAM

Each student should choose and circle ONE answer that seems to be the best answer to each question.

PART A

1. When God asked Solomon what he wanted to receive from God, what was Solomon's reply?
 - a) riches
 - b) a beautiful wife
 - c) wisdom
2. What was Solomon's sin?
 - a) idolatry
 - b) adultery
 - c) blasphemy
3. Who received a double portion of the Spirit?
 - a) Elijah
 - b) Elisha
 - c) Solomon
4. Which man maintained his faith throughout the whole captivity in Babylon?
 - a) Nehemiah
 - b) Elisha
 - c) Daniel
5. To which city were the people of Judah taken away captive?
 - a) Assyria
 - b) Samaria
 - c) Babylon
6. Who overthrew and destroyed the city of Jerusalem?
 - a) Gedaliah
 - b) Nebuchadnezzar
 - c) Rehoboam
7. Which foreign king was prophesied to help rebuild the temple in Jerusalem?
 - a) Cyrus
 - b) Darius
 - c) Ezra
8. Who encouraged the people to rebuild the walls of Jerusalem?
 - a) Nehemiah
 - b) Ezra
 - c) Daniel
9. In which book of the Bible do we read especially about the suffering of the Messiah and the price he paid to save us?
 - a) Psalms
 - b) Micah
 - c) Isaiah
10. Which culture and language extended over Israel and almost all the countries in that part of the world in the last centuries before Christ?
 - a) the Roman culture
 - b) the Greek culture
 - c) the Persian culture

PART B

1. What ceremonial act was instituted by Abraham to confirm the covenant between God and His chosen people?
 - a) tithing
 - b) circumcision
 - c) sacrificial offering
2. How many people entered Egypt along with Joseph's family?
 - a) about 40
 - b) about 70
 - c) about 215
3. Why did the Israelites have to wander in the desert for 40 years?
 - a) because they complained so much
 - b) because they made a golden calf
 - c) because they didn't have faith in God to help them take the Promised Land
4. Which feast remembers the deliverance from Egypt?
 - a) Pentecost
 - b) Passover
 - c) Tabernacles
5. What was the first miracle done through Joshua?
 - a) the walls of Jericho falling
 - b) the sun standing still
 - c) the people crossing the River Jordan
6. In which years was the period of the Judges?
 - a) 1925-1700 B.C.
 - b) 1575-1400 B.C.
 - c) 1425-1125 B.C.
7. Who brought the ark of God and set it up in Jerusalem?
 - a) Samuel
 - b) David
 - c) Solomon
8. How many tribes formed the Northern Kingdom?
 - a) 2
 - b) 6
 - c) 10
9. About how many years were the Jews held captive in Babylon?
 - a) 70
 - b) 120
 - c) 300
10. In about which year was the translation completed of the Septuagint Version of the Old Testament from Hebrew into Greek?
 - a) 250 B.C.
 - b) 100 B.C.
 - c) 100 A.D.

PART C - To receive an extra 5 points put into chronological order the following bible characters:

- | | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|--------|-------|-------|-------|---------------------|
| a)___ | Ezra | b)___ | Joshua | c)___ | David | d)___ | Noah | e)___ | Elijah |
| f)___ | Samson | g)___ | Eve | h)___ | Daniel | i)___ | Jacob | j)___ | Alexander the Great |