

Why Don't You Believe In The Old Testament?

Romans 15:4

A quote:

'A man who buys a book is not only buying a few ounces of paper, string and printer's ink; he may be buying a whole new life' – Anon.

Even more true of God's Words

Two extreme views of OT

- Some turn to Psalms or Isaiah to learn about salvation or worship.
- Some ignore OT ('we're no longer under it').
- Paul did not ignore it –Ro:15:4

I. For Whatever Things

2 Tim.3:16-17

- Specific reference to OT; **all** is profitable
- Originally for Jews, but NT prophets and apostles used OT
- One cannot reject OT and accept NT
 - Ro.15:3-4 → Ps.69:9
 - Gn.1-2 → Mt.19:4-6

Variety of OT writings

- Law: Genesis – Deuteronomy

1. Lv.19 demands right response to God, idols, days, family, religion, poor, criminals, guests, etc.

No better rules of
conduct for society

Variety of OT writings

- Law: Genesis – Deuteronomy.
 1. Lv.19
 2. Ro.7:7-13, Law . . .
 - a. **Identifies** sin, 7. New; clear.
 - b. **Indicts** sinner, 8-10.
 - c. **Illustrates** consequences of sin, 13.
 - d. **Introduces** true nature of God.

Variety of OT writings

- Law: Genesis – Deuteronomy.
- History: Joshua – Esther.
 1. OT blesses obedience, punishes disobedience
 2. Math book states rule, then gives examples

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Variety of OT writings

- Law: Genesis – Deuteronomy.
- History: Joshua – Esther.
- Poetry: Job – Song Sol.
- Prophecy: Isa.-Malachi. Ro.15:7-13
 - Lk.24:27, 44. TaNaK
 - Gn.3:15 – 49:10 – 2 Sm.7 – Is.7 ...
 - Nations: Assyria, Babylon, Tyre ...

I. For Whatever Things

II. Were Written...

God writes

- Ex.31:18; 32:16 . . . John 8:6

I have written for him the great things of My law, but they were considered a strange thing – Ho.8:12.

- 2 Tim.3:16, *scripture* – 50 times
 - ‘What is written’ (Mt.4:1-11)
 - Equal to God’s spoken words, Jer.36.

I. For Whatever Things

II. Were Written...

III. Before

'Written before' – to write beforehand

- Old books are usually better
- BUT: Hb.8:6, new is better
- Is OT of no value to us?
 - Hebrews quotes OT 37+ times

I. For Whatever Things

II. Were Written...

III. Before

IV. Were Written
For Our Learning

Ro.12:7. Teaching, instruction, 'to teach us'

- Light, Pr.6:23
- Mirror, 2 Co.3:18; Ja.1:23-25
- Critic, Hb.4:12
- Food, Hb.5:11, 12-14
- Laver, Ep.5:26

'...that He might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word' – Ep.5:26

Laver



- Stood between tabernacle and worshipper.
- Means of cleansing from defilement that rendered one unfit for God's presence.
- Word provides laver of cleansing.

Value of OT

- Greatest historical document in world.
 - If we reject Genesis, make man 'like other animals' and destroy basis for society

Value of OT

- Greatest historical document in world.
- Aids in study of NT.

'OT is NT concealed;
NT is OT revealed.'

'New is in the Old contained;
Old is by the New explained.'

Jn.1:29; 1 Co.5:7;
Hb.5:10-11 (Gn.14)

Value of OT

- Greatest historical document in world.
- Aids in study of NT.
- Introduces us to Christ.
 - Deity.

‘You search the Scriptures, for in them you think you have eternal life; and these are they which testify of Me’ –Jn.5:39

- Ac.8 – Is.53.

Value of OT

- Greatest historical document in world.
- Aids in study of NT.
- Introduces us to Christ.
- Book of examples to warn/instruct.
 - 1 Co.10:6, 11-12

‘Indeed we count them blessed who endure. You have heard of the perseverance of Job and seen the end intended by the Lord – that the Lord is very compassionate and merciful’

–Ja.5:11

Value of OT

- Greatest historical document in world.
- Aids in study of NT.
- Introduces us to Christ.
- Book of examples to warn/instruct.
- Gives hope. Ro.15:4, 'That': purpose
 - 1) Patience, steadfast endurance...
 - 2) Comfort, encouragement...
 - 3) Hope, 15:12-13