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IN SUMMARY...

- The Old Testament is about God's plan for saving the world (we call this salvation history)
- This plan of salvation is accomplished through the establishment of covenants leading up to Jesus'.
- God uses major people and events to prefigure Jesus and the Church

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FACTS ABOUT THE OLD TESTAMENT

- There are forty-six books in the Old Testament
- The books of the OT were written over a period of nearly 1500 years, from the time of the Exodus through about a century before the coming of Christ.
- The OT was primarily written in Hebrew, with some portions written in Greek and Aramaic

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CANON OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

- Canon- official list of books of the bible
- Protocanonical- books of the Bible that were included in the Jewish canon of scripture
- Deuterocanonical- Books of the Bible which were thrown out of the Jewish canon, but appear in the Septuagint
 - Jews began to exclude the deuterocanonical OT books at the Jewish Council of Jamnia around 95 AD
 - Early Christians kept these books as part of their Bible
- Septuagint- Greek translation of the Old Testament from the Hebrew language by Jewish scholars living in Alexandria who were commissioned by the Ptolemies

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BIBLE TIMELINE (IN BC)

Years BC	Period
4000-2120	Primeval Period – creation, Adam, Eve
2120-1900	Patriarchal Period- Noah, Abraham, Jacob
1900-1500	Egyptian Period- Captivity in Egypt
1500-1050	Tribal Period- Exodus and conquest of the Promised Land
1050-900	Davidic Period- David's United Kingdom
930-600	Divided Kingdom Israel Falls to Assyrians 722 BC
600-540	Babylonian Period- Judah falls to Babylonians 586 BC
540-330	Persian Period- Conquest by Cyrus of Persia
330-170	Greek Period- Conquest by Alexander the Great
170-70	Maccabean Period- Jews overthrow occupation by Seleucids (Greeks)
70BC-100AD	Roman Period- Conquest by Rome & occupation of Holy Land

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BIBLE TIMELINE (IN BC)

Years BC	Period	Books Written
4000-2120	Primeval Period	Genesis
2120-1900	Patriarchal Period	
1900-1500	Egyptian Period	
1500-1400	Exodus and Journey	Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Job
1400-1050	Conquest of the Promised Land	Joshua, Judges, Ruth
1050-900	Davidic Period	1-2 Samuel, 1 Kings, 1-2 Chronicles, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Wisdom
930-600	Divided Kingdom	1 Kings, 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles, Tobit, Isaiah, Jeremiah, Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah
600-540	Babylonian Period	Judith, Lamentations, Ezekiel, Daniel
540-330	Persian Period	Ezra, Nehemiah, Esther, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi, Sirach
330-170	Greek/ Maccabean Period	1-2 Maccabees

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Reading Scripture

1. Prayer

2. Literal Sense

- **What is the literary form (poetry, narrative, historical)?**
- **What is the historical & cultural context?**

3. Spiritual Sense

- **How does it point to Jesus?**
- **How does it inform me to live?**
- **What does it say about my journey towards heaven?**

4. In line with the rest of Scripture and teachings of the Church.

5. Encounter- prayer, contemplation, and conversation

CCC 109-119

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THE SENSES OF SCRIPTURE

- The first is the **literal sense**, it is the sense from which all other senses derive; it is what the words themselves directly signify.
 - Proper Literal Sense- the words mean what they say
 - “it rained a lot today”
 - Improper Literal Sense- uses metaphors, similes, allegory, fable to express a truth
 - “it rained like cats and dogs today”
 - Similes, metaphors, hyperboles, parables, allegories, fables

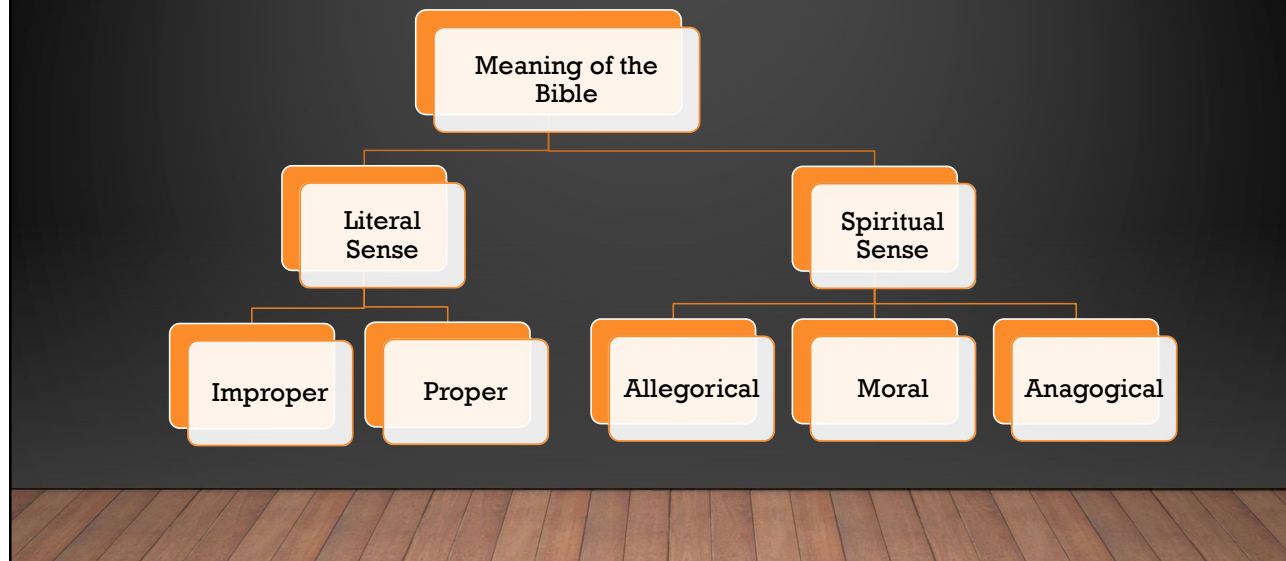
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THE SENSES OF SCRIPTURE

- The second is the **spiritual sense**, which are the events and realities conveyed by the literal sense; it has three divisions:
 - The **allegorical** points to how the text is fulfilled in light of Christ,
 - the **moral** points to how one should act justly and live righteously,
 - the **anagogical** sense reads the text with the eternal destiny in mind (the eschatological sense).
- The literal sense of the entire bible is God's fatherly covenantal plan for salvation history.

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SENSES OF SACRED SCRIPTURE



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DIVISIONS OF THE BIBLE

OLD TESTAMENT

- Law (Pentateuch)
- History
- Wisdom
- Prophecy

NEW TESTAMENT

- Gospels
- Acts
- Epistles
- Revelations

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THE LAW: (A.K.A. THE PENTATEUCH)

- Traditionally they are known as the Law or the Torah or Pentateuch from the Greek word meaning “five books”
- Moses is traditionally considered the author of these books
- They contain the history of the creation of the world through the Journey of the Israelites from Egypt and up to their entry into the Promised Land
 - Genesis= “origins” or beginning
 - Exodus= “going out”
 - Leviticus= Priestly manual for the Levites
 - Numbers= Israel’s census and continued journey
 - Deuteronomy= Second Constitution

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HISTORICAL

- The Historical books tell the history of the Israelites; beginning with the conquest of Canaan (the Promised Land) through the rise, fall and restoration of the Kingdoms of Judah and Israel

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WISDOM

- The wisdom books contain many different kinds of books with different themes varying from praising God to wisdom on how to live a holy and upright life
- Most wisdom books are written in verse (poetic form)
- Some passages in wisdom books were sung or created for liturgical worship (i.e. the Psalms)

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PROPHETIC

- Prophets are persons sent by God to deliver his message among people. The Prophetic books contain these messages of the prophets
- Often the prophets were sent to warn the kingdoms of Israel and Judah about impending doom and the need for repentance from sin
- Most importantly the prophetic books deal with the coming of the Messiah and the promise of salvation he would bring.
- The prophets used typology of past events and people to explain how God was dealing with them and would deal with them in the future
 - The Book of Revelations is written in a similar fashion

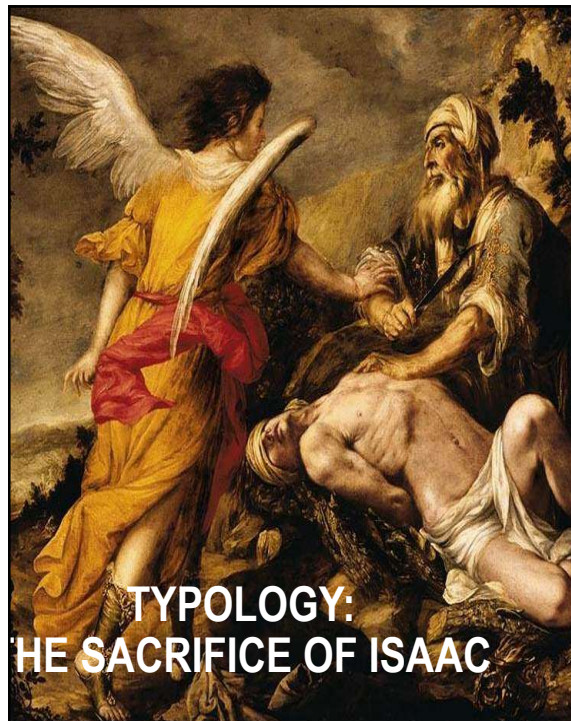
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WHAT IS TYPOLOGY?

- **Typology**- looks at events and persons from the Old Testament, and considers how they foreshadow Jesus either by similarity or dissimilarity (CCC 128).
- Typology helps us understand how the New and Old Testaments are related
- Typology in the Bible shows us how every event, person or story revolves around Jesus.
 - **The bible is Christocentric**=
“centered on Christ”



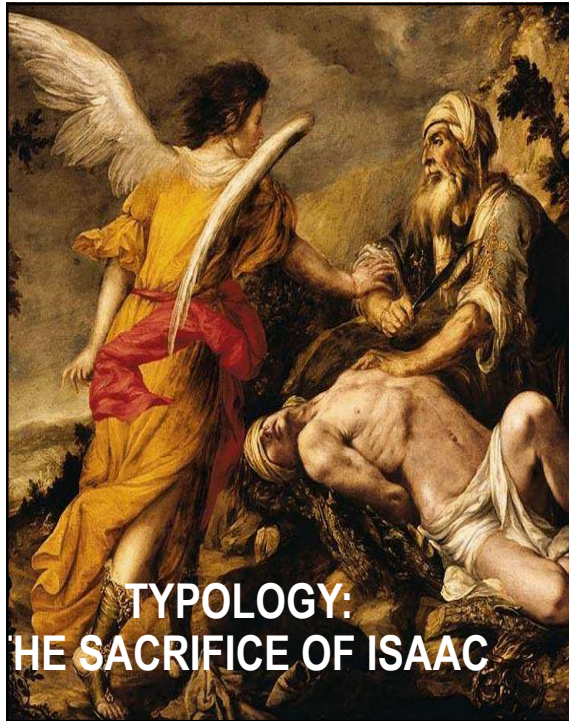
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**TYPOLGY:
THE SACRIFICE OF ISAAC**

Isaac	Jesus
Isaac is Abraham's "Only Son" whom he loves	
God asks Abraham to sacrifice Isaac on a mountain	
Isaac goes as a willing and innocent victim	
Isaac carries the wood for the sacrifice up the mountain	
Isaac is tied to the wood for the offering	
Abraham reassures Isaac that God will provide a lamb for the sacrifice	

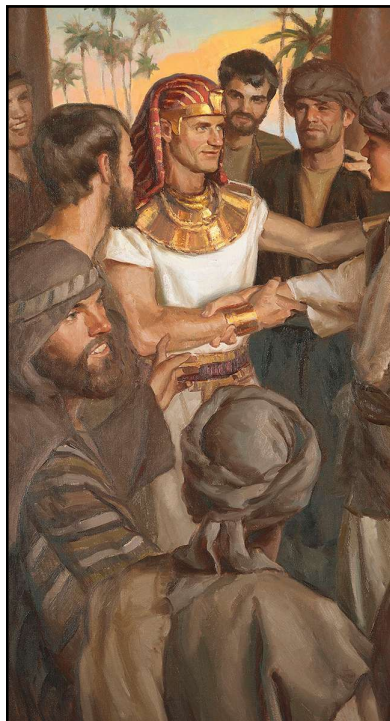
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**TYOLOGY:
THE SACRIFICE OF ISAAC**

Isaac	Jesus
Isaac is Abraham's "Only Son" whom he loves	Jesus is God's only, beloved son
God asks Abraham to sacrifice Isaac on a mountain	Jesus' is sacrificed on Mount Calvary
Isaac goes as a willing and innocent victim	Jesus is a willing and innocent victim
Isaac carries the wood for the sacrifice up the mountain	Jesus carries the wood of the cross up the mountain
Isaac is tied to the wood for the offering	Jesus is nailed to the cross
Abraham reassures Isaac that God will provide a lamb for the sacrifice	Jesus is the "Lamb of God" who is sacrificed for us

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Joseph	Jesus
Is sent to live as a slave in Egypt	
12 brothers in his family	
Is betrayed by his brothers for silver	
Is tempted by Potiphar's wife and unjustly sent to prison	
Becomes the prime minister in Egypt	
Has prophetic dreams and interprets them	
sees his hardships as a way of saving his family and Egypt	

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Joseph	Jesus
Is sent to live as a slave in Egypt	The Holy Family goes to Egypt
12 brothers in his family	12 Apostles
Is betrayed by his brothers for silver	Is betrayed by Judas for silver
Is tempted by Potiphar's wife and unjustly sent to prison	Is tempted by the Devil and unjustly accused and punished
Becomes the prime minister in Egypt	Has God's authority and power
Has prophetic dreams and interprets them	Interprets God's teachings
sees his hardships as a way of saving his family and Egypt	Sees his suffering as the way God saves all people

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DISCUSSION

- What are some recurring themes you see in the Bible?

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CYCLE OF REDEMPTION

Event	Creation	Exodus	Kingdom
God's Initiative	God creates the world	God delivers the Israelites thru Moses	God establishes kingdom thru David
Sin	Adam & Eve's Original Sin	Israelites make the Golden Calf	Idolatrous practices of Pagans
Punishment	Banished from the Garden of Eden	Wander in the Desert 40 years	Kingdom is divided and conquered
Redemptive Promise	Gen 3:15 Protoevangelium	Entry into the Promised Land	Messiah will restore kingdom

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COVENANTS

- Contract vs. Covenant
- **Covenant** - refers to a family kinship bond.
 - When a covenant is made, the participating parties are not only bound to an agreement, but they become members of the each other's family.
- God repeatedly makes covenants with His people
- History is ordered in such a way as to reveal God's salvation plan. This is called Salvation History.
 - This is demonstrated by looking at the series of covenants from Adam until Christ.

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COVENANTS

- "Cutting a Covenant" not making one
- Covenants involve Oath-making. An oath (**sheba** = "to seven oneself") is a solemn commitment between two parties, with God as both witness and executor of judgment if the vows of the covenant are broken.
- In Hebrew culture curses were often invoked while making the oath
- Covenants involve an exchange of persons instead of property= the two parties become family
- A covenant is sacred and has legal, social, and liturgical dimensions. Sometimes there is a ritual/ceremony involved



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COVENANTS AND SALVATION HISTORY



	Adam	Noah	Abraham	Moses	David	Jesus
Role	Husband	Patriarch	Chief	Judge	King	Royal High Priest
Group	Marriage	Household	Tribe	Nation	Kingdom	International Kingdom
Sign	Sabbath	Rainbow	Circumcision	Passover	Throne	Eucharist

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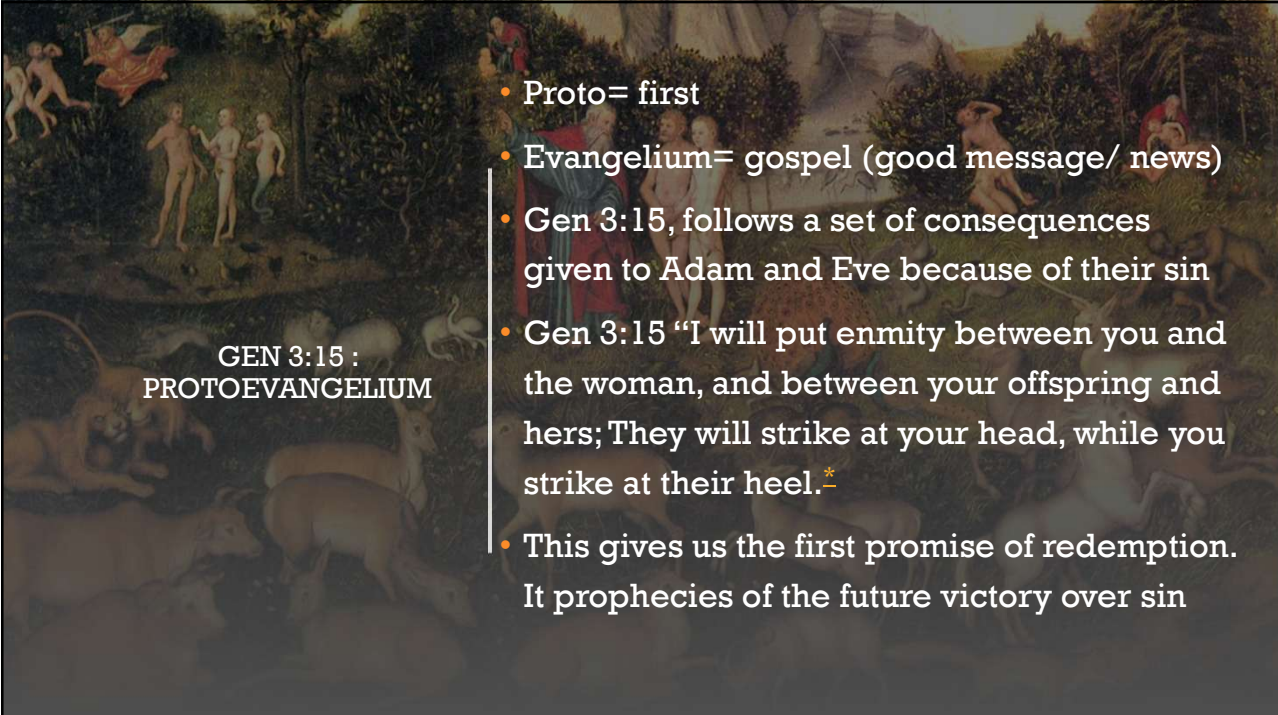
THE FALL: GENESIS 3

Consequences of Original Sin

- Weakening of the Intellect
 - Harder to understand world and God
- Weakening of the Will
 - At war with one another
 - Harder to follow God
- Physical Decay and Death
 - Corruption of the Earth (physical death)
 - Concupiscence= a tendency to sin (spiritual death)
- Pain in childbirth
- Work is difficult



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GEN 3:15 :
PROTOEVANGELIUM

- Proto= first
- Evangelium= gospel (good message/ news)
- Gen 3:15, follows a set of consequences given to Adam and Eve because of their sin
- Gen 3:15 “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and hers; They will strike at your head, while you strike at their heel.*”
- This gives us the first promise of redemption. It prophesies of the future victory over sin

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CAIN & ABEL: SIN SPREADS

- Once evil entered the world thru Original Sin, it affected everyone
- Abel offers the better sacrifice and God blesses him
- Out of envy, Cain kills Abel
- Sin begins to take on more and more evil forms
- Adam & Eve have another son, Seth



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COVENANTS AND SALVATION HISTORY



	Adam	Noah	Abraham	Moses	David	Jesus
Role	Husband	Patriarch	Chief	Judge	King	Royal High Priest
Group	Marriage	Household	Tribe	Nation	Kingdom	International Kingdom
Sign	Sabbath	Rainbow	Circumcision	Passover	Throne	Eucharist

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NOAH AND THE FLOOD

- Sin becomes so widespread that God decided to make a new start with Noah
- God sends the flood to cleanse the earth
- It rains 40 days/nights
- At the end, God sends a rainbow as a sign of his covenant
- Noah and his family still pass on original sin and its consequences

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JOSEPH- GEN 45:5-10



“God, therefore, sent me on ahead of you to ensure for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives in an extraordinary deliverance... So it was not really you but God who had me come here; and he has made me ... lord of all his household, and ruler over the whole land of Egypt. You can settle...where you will be near me”

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COVENANTS AND SALVATION HISTORY



	Adam	Noah	Abraham	Moses	David	Jesus
Role	Husband	Patriarch	Chief	Judge	King	Royal High Priest
Group	Marriage	Household	Tribe	Nation	Kingdom	International Kingdom
Sign	Sabbath	Rainbow	Circumcision	Passover	Throne	Eucharist

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ABRAM BEFORE ABRAHAM



- Abraham and his wife Sarah were known as Abram and Sarai
- They lived as nomads
- Abram and Sarai are unable to have children
- Abraham is the first person to whom God reveals that He is the only God- monotheism
- God has a special plan in mind for Abe. God will establish a great covenant with him but first he tests his faith in several ways

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ABRAHAM'S BLESSING: GEN 12:2-7

- God issues a three-fold blessing that will come to fulfillment both in the Old Testament and thru Christ:
 - Nation
 - Name
 - Blessing

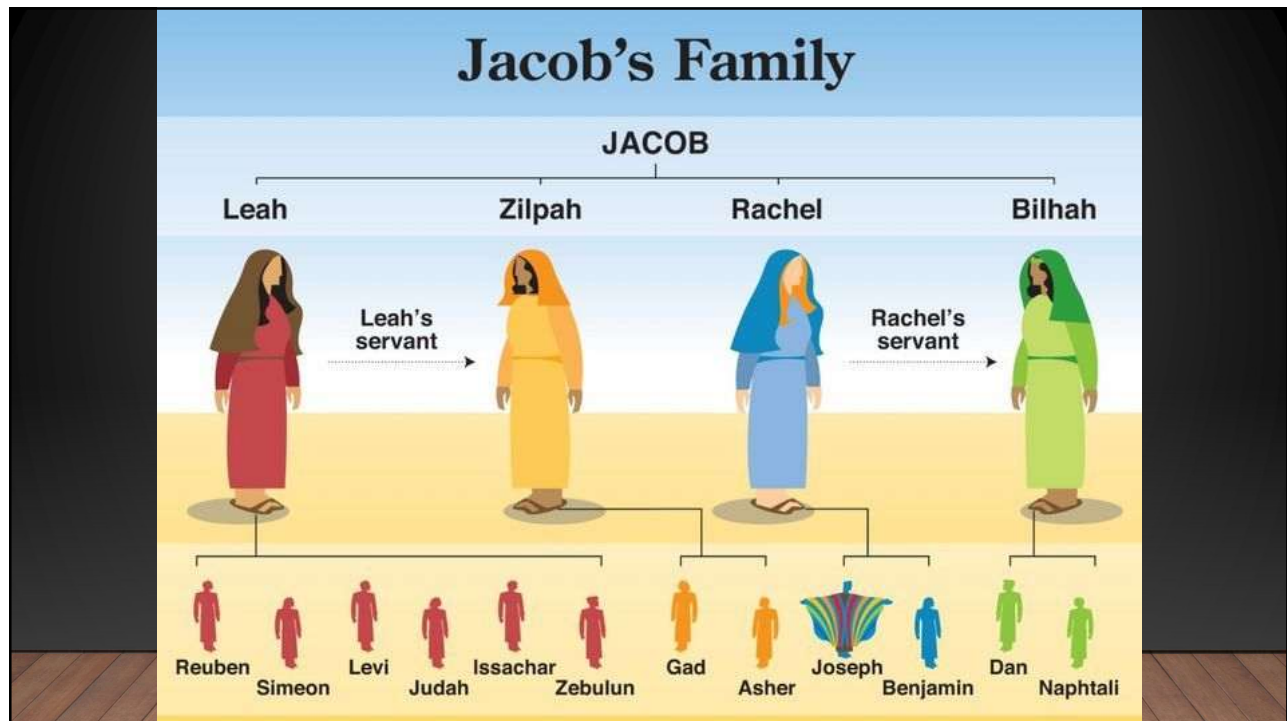
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THE PATRIARCHS

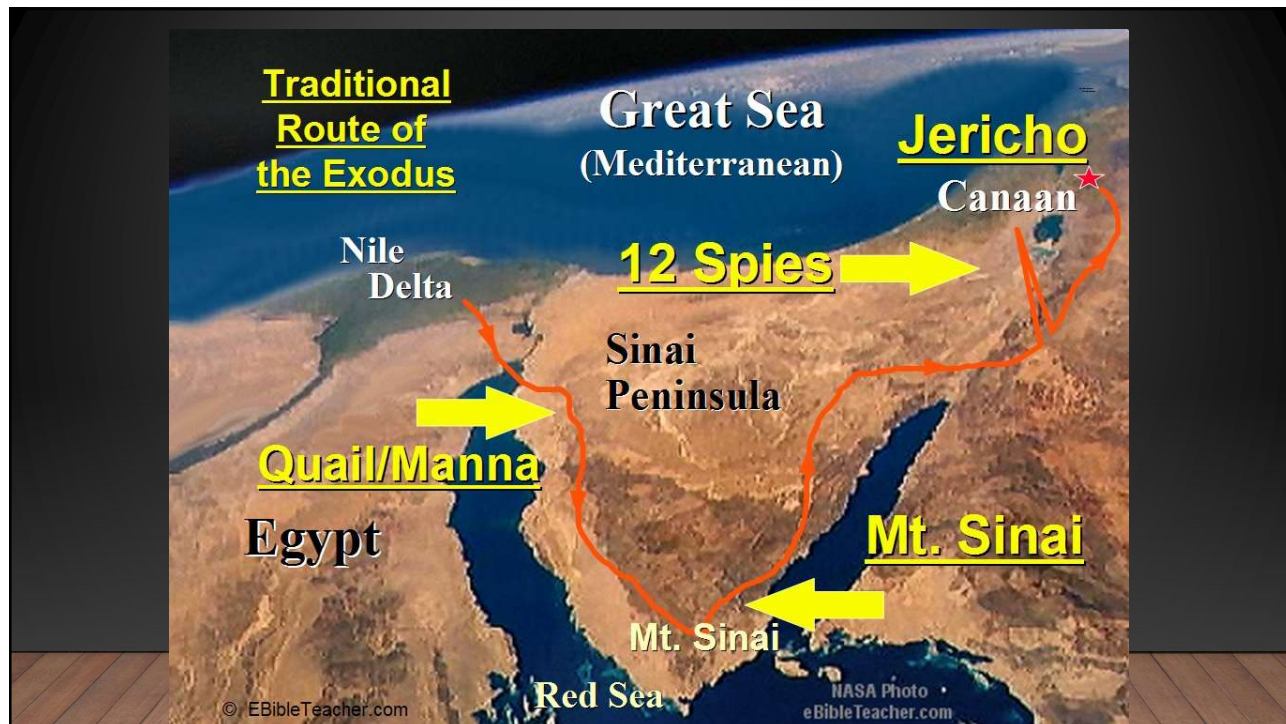
- Ishmael & Isaac
- Isaac & Rebekah
- Jacob & Esau
- Jacob (Israel) & Rachel, Leah, Zilpah, Bilhah
- 12 Sons/ 12 Tribes
- Joseph in Egypt



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TIMELINE

1. God sends the 10 Plagues
2. Exodus from Egypt
3. God gives the 10 Commandments
4. Covenant ratified on Sinai
5. Moses with God for 40 days
6. Israel builds Golden Calf
7. The Levites become priests
8. Leviticus is given to Israel
9. Israelites send 12 spies into Canaan
10. Israel is sentenced to wander for 40 years
11. Israel commits idolatry at Beth-Peor
12. God gives Deuteronomy
13. God makes his 2nd covenant with Israel
14. Joshua leads entry into Promised Land

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DEUTERONOMY

- After 40 years of wandering, Israelites again prepare to enter the Promised Land
- Just like the generation before them, they commit idolatry (worship a golden calf), this time at Beth-Peor (on the plains of Moab)
- God punishes them by establishing a second but inferior covenant
 - A sign of this is that Moses begins to allow divorce
- God also gives Deuteronomy (second/ law) as a constitution to govern Israel as they enter the promised Land
- God instructs them to conquer the promised Land by driving out the Canaanites and staying away from their practices which would lead them away from God
- God promises that if they keep to the covenant by following the 10 commandments, they will live in peace and be prosperous

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DISCUSSION

- How does God's faithfulness throughout the Old Testament give us hope for today?

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JUDGES

- When Israel enters the Promised Land Moses passes his leadership to Joshua (the judges)
- Their job is to lead Israel politically and spiritually by following the commandments/ Levitical laws/ etc
- Some are good, some fail.
- God told Israel to drive out the Canaanites and to stay away from foreigners when taking possession of the promised land.
- Israel disobeyed and intermarried with these people.
- This brings about sin and downfall later

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ISRAEL BECOMES A KINGDOM

- After fully conquering the Promised Land (Canaan) Israel tells God that they want to be a kingdom just like other nations
- God is supposed to be their king, but they ask him for a human king so that they can be like other nations
 - = they reject God
- God grants them their request, but warns them that their human kings will fail them and eventually lead to their ruin

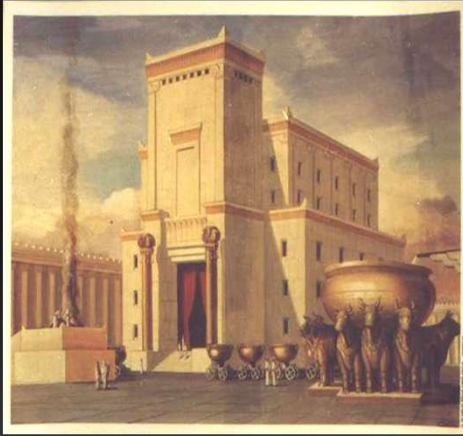
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UNITED KINGDOM OF ISRAEL

- First King: Saul, tribe of Benjamin
 - Loses kingdom for himself and his son (Jonathan) because of his disobedience
- Second King: David, tribe of Judah
 - Renowned king of Israel, God establishes a covenant with him on Mt Zion
- Third King: Solomon, David's Son tribe of Judah
 - Known for his wisdom, starts out a virtuous king, but his many wives bring about his down fall

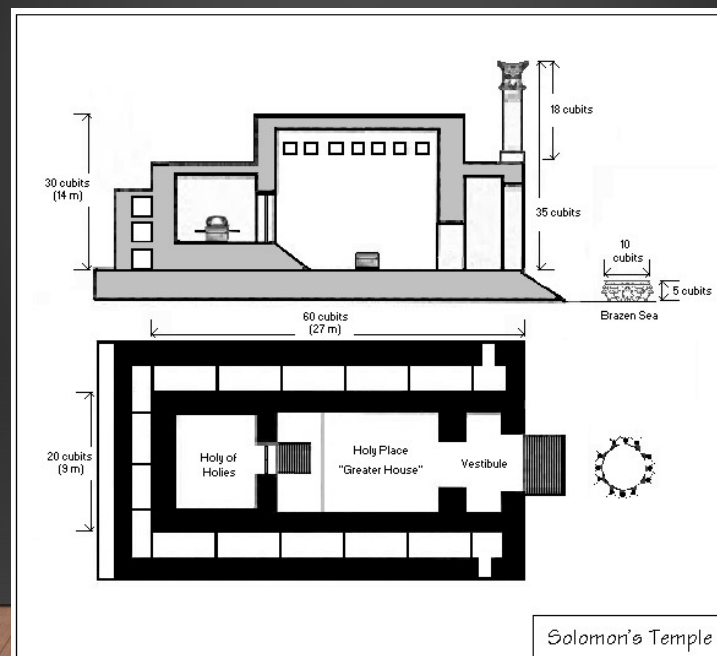
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SOLOMON BUILDS THE TEMPLE



- Solomon builds the Temple that was part of God's covenant with David
- The temple was to be the permanent home of the Ark of the Covenant and the house of worship and sacrifice
- It was built on the same spot where Abraham was going to sacrifice Isaac
- The temple was a place of welcome for Gentile worshippers

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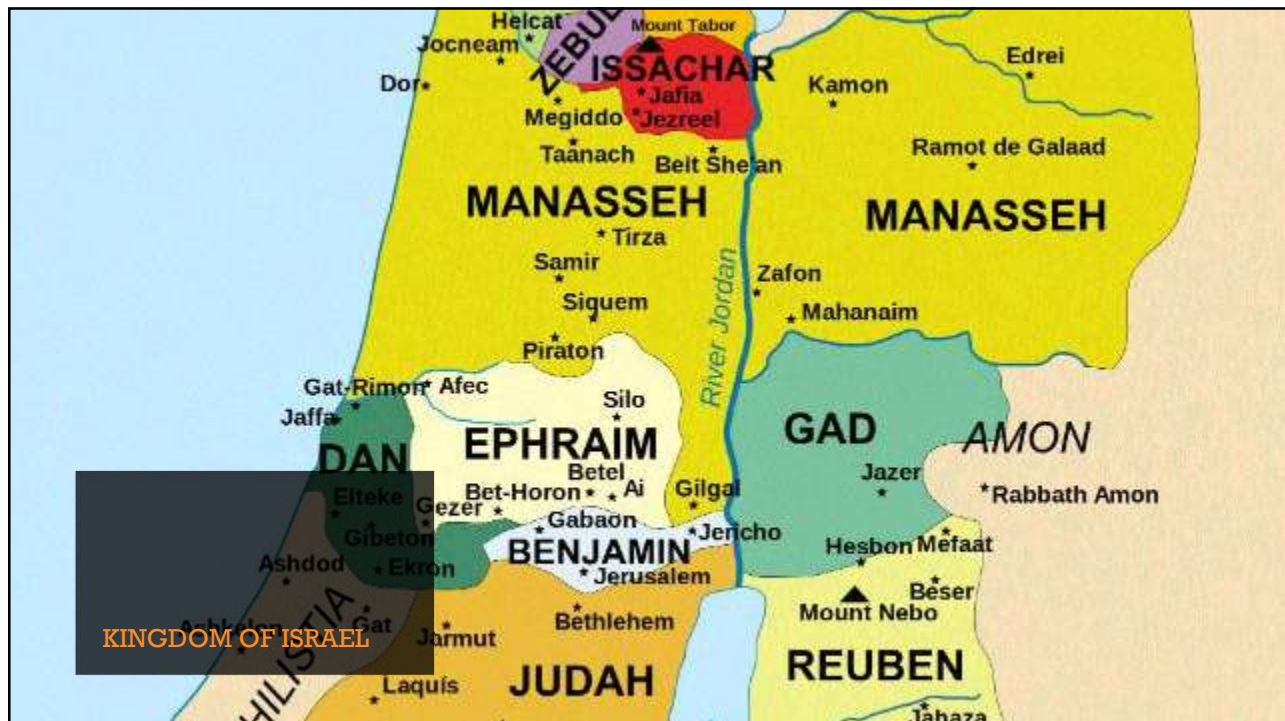


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KING SOLOMON

- Solomon's kingdom was an internationally famous
- Many sought out his Wisdom
- Solomon took 700 wives and 300 concubines from all nations
- This is not how God intended the kingdom to be "international"
 - ✓ The wives persuaded him to build temples to their gods
- Solomon began to heavily tax the people and force them into labor

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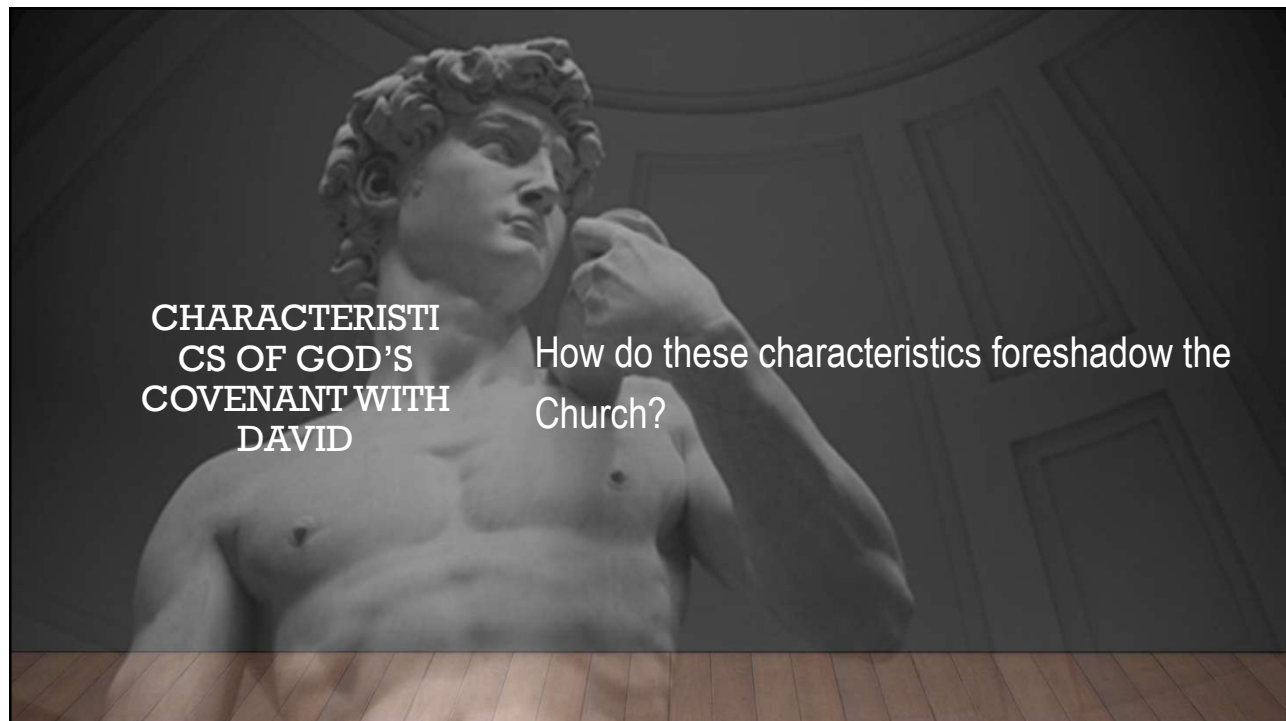
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CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD'S COVENANT WITH DAVID

1. David's line will have a Kingdom with an everlasting dynasty
2. The king becomes adopted as God's own son
3. The covenant is unlimited in time and space
4. Jerusalem is the spiritual center of the world
5. The Temple is the architectural sign of the covenant

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CHARACTERISTICS OF GOD'S COVENANT WITH DAVID

How do these characteristics foreshadow the Church?

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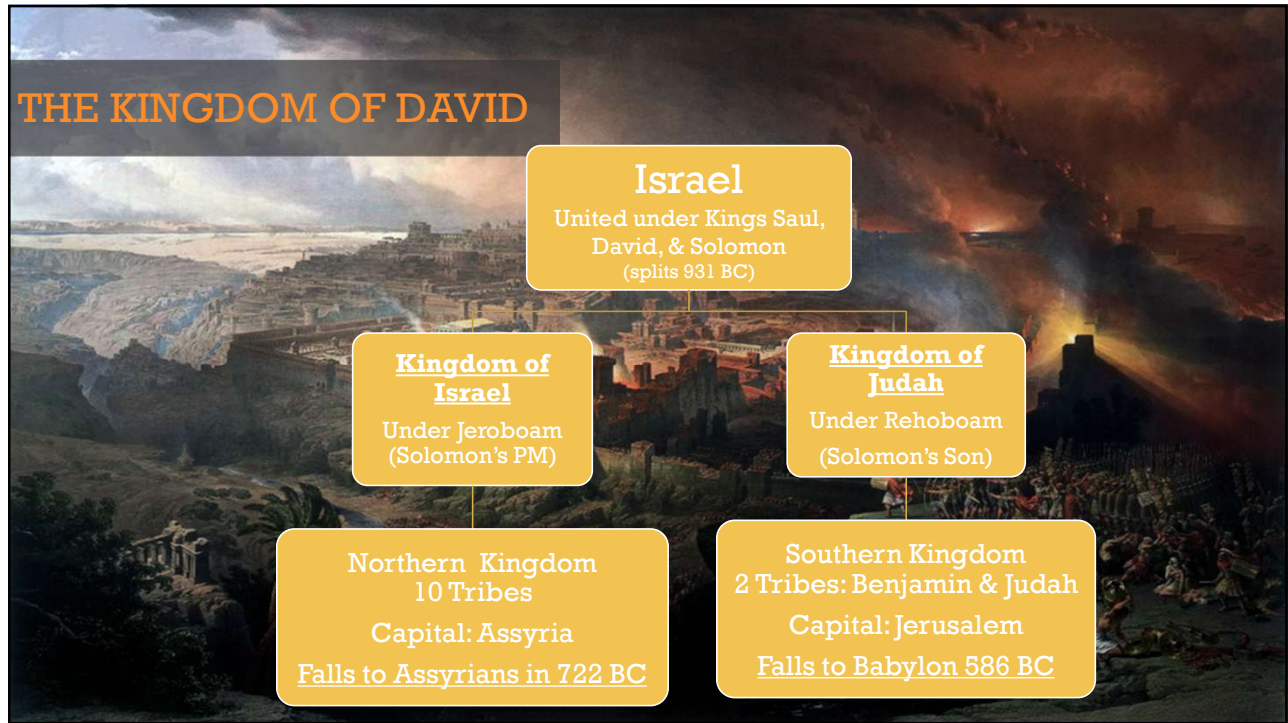


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THE KINGDOM DIVIDES BECAUSE OF SIN

- Rehoboam (Solomon's son) continues the heavy taxes and forced labor started by his father
- The people go to ask for mercy. He digs in
- 10 of the tribes secede and follow Jeroboam (Solomon's prime minister) = the northern kingdom of Israel
- The remaining tribes (Judah & Benjamin) remained faithful to the house of David = the southern kingdom of Judah = Jews
- The kingdom never reunited again... until Jesus

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Babylon
Daniel 2:32, 36-38; 7:4
607 B.C.E. King Nebuchadnezzar destroys Jerusalem

Medo-Persia
Daniel 2:32, 39; 7:5
539 B.C.E. Conquers Babylon
537 B.C.E. Cyrus decrees return of Jews to Jerusalem

Greece
Daniel 2:32, 39; 7:6
331 B.C.E. Alexander the Great conquers Persia

Rome
Daniel 2:33, 40; 7:7
63 B.C.E. Rules over Israel
70 C.E. Destroys Jerusalem

THE ASSYRIANS AND BABYLONIANS

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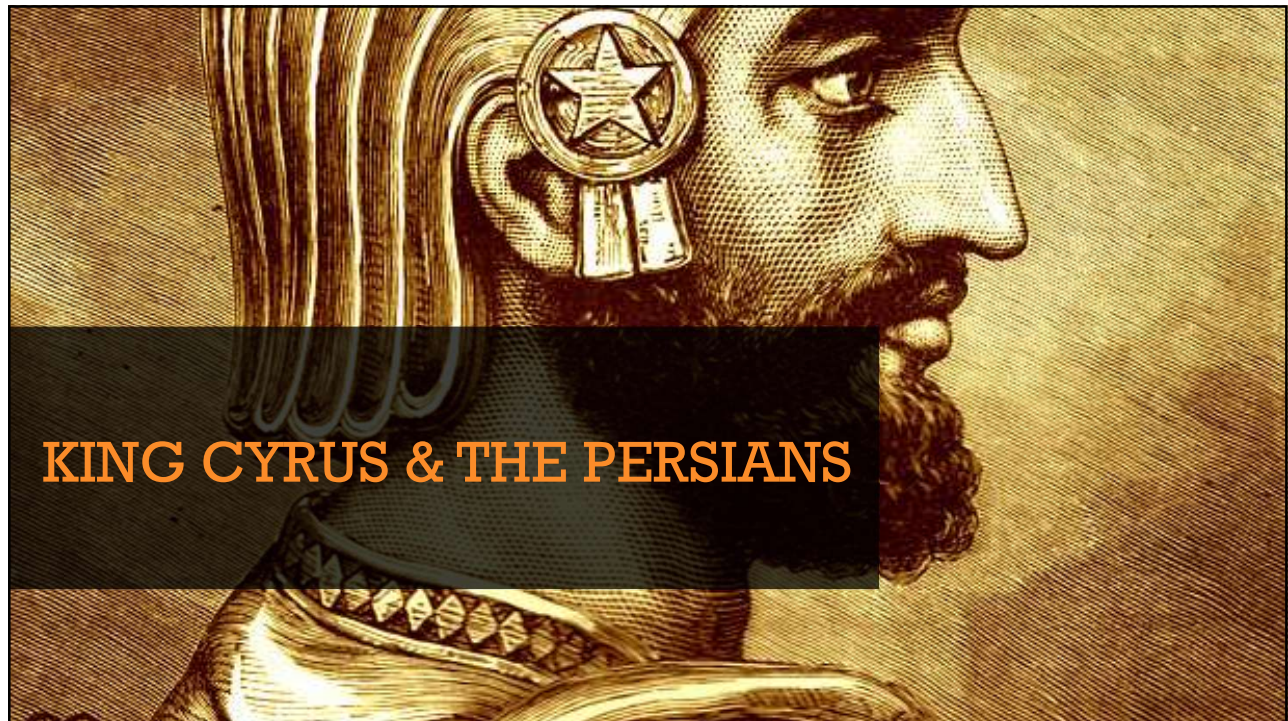


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DISCUSSION

- What is the true failure that Israel keeps repeating?
- What do the human failings of the Old Testament tell us?

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DISCUSSION

- Are there other questions (figures, events, etc) about the Old Testament that you would like to discuss?

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HOMEWORK ASSIGNMENT

- Pick one episode from the Old Testament. Explain how it Points to Christ and how it helps us trust in God's plan.
- This will be uploaded to the website

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COVENANTS AND SALVATION HISTORY

	Adam	Noah	Abraham	Moses	David	Jesus
Role	Husband	Patriarch	Chief	Judge	King	Royal High Priest
Group	Marriage	Household	Tribe	Nation	Kingdom	International Kingdom
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