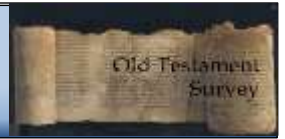




Toward the NT – Bible Reading



Bible Reading

(Other chapters may be read for extra credit/benefit)

Various New Testament Readings

- ☐ Matt. 5:17-48
- ☐ John 1:1-18
- ☐ John 19:16-42
- ☐ Acts 7:1-8:1
- ☐ Acts 13:16-41
- ☐ Rom. chs. 3-4
- ☐ Rom. 9:30-10:21
- ☐ 1 Cor. 10:1-22
- ☐ Gal. ch. 3
- ☐ Gal. ch. 4
- ☐ Heb. ch. 1
- ☐ Heb. ch. 2
- ☐ Heb. ch. 3
- ☐ Heb. ch. 4
- ☐ Heb. ch. 5
- ☐ Heb. ch. 6
- ☐ Heb. ch. 7
- ☐ Heb. ch. 8
- ☐ Heb. ch. 9
- ☐ Heb. ch. 10
- ☐ Heb. ch. 11
- ☐ Heb. ch. 12
- ☐ Rev. 21:1-8
- ☐ Rev. 21:22-22:5

Study Guide for the New Testament Readings

Matt. 5:17-48

- What did Jesus say about the Law and the Prophets? What does this tell us about how He thought the Old Testament should function in the life of the Christian? How should we respond?
- What did Jesus say about keeping or breaking the Old Testament commandments? What does this demonstrate about His view of the Old Testament? How does this apply to us today?
- How did Jesus apply the various teachings of the Old Testament to questions of His day? Do you think He rejected and set aside the Old Testament teaching? Or did He challenge their misunderstanding and misapplication of Old Testament teaching with a correct understanding and application of the Old Testament? Why do you think this?
- Based on this section, do you think this demonstrates Jesus had a high view of the Old Testament teaching and the morality it commanded? Do you think He taught that these things were irrelevant or optional for Christian life? What reasons can you give for your assessment? How does this apply to current Christian life?

(Continued on the next page)

John 1:1-18

- What references to the Old Testament do you see in this section? How does John use these things to introduce Jesus? What do these things tell us about Jesus and His relationship to the God of the Old Testament? What do these things tell us about how God's people should respond and live in light of Jesus? How should you respond?

John 19:16-42

- What references to the Old Testament are made in this section? How does John use these things to explain the significance of the crucifixion?
- What is the wider context and message of the passages John quoted in this section? What does this tell us about John's message and purpose of quoting these verses? What does this tell us about Jesus and His crucifixion? What difference does this make?

Acts 7:1-8:1

- Why do you think Stephen recited the Old Testament history to explain himself? What did he emphasize in his recounting of Old Testament history? What point did he make by doing this? What did Stephen emphasize that pointed to the need for Jesus? How does this help us to understand the Old Testament history and how it was preparing for Jesus?
- How did Stephen apply the history of the Old Testament to the current situation of his hearers? How was this similar to the message of many Old Testament prophets? How did the people respond? How is this similar to the response given to the Old Testament prophets? What does this demonstrate about their spiritual state at that time? What should we learn from this? How does it apply?

Acts 13:16-41

- Why do you think Paul summarized the Old Testament history in order to proclaim Christ? What did he emphasize from that history? How did Paul connect Jesus to the Old Testament? What does this demonstrate about Jesus and how He fulfilled God's promises?
- What is the wider context and message of the passages Paul quoted in this section? What does this tell us about Paul's message and purpose for quoting these verses? What does this tell us about Jesus?
- What did Paul proclaim about Jesus? How did he give evidence for Christ from the Old Testament? What does this teach us about Christ? What does this teach us about how the Old Testament prepared for Christ? What difference does this make?
- How did Paul compare the result of Christ with the result of the Old Testament? What point did he make? Why? How did he apply this to his first hearers? How does this apply to us today?

Rom. chs. 3-4

- What does Paul say about the ability of people to be righteous by obeying the Old Testament? What does he say some falsely concluded from this? How did he respond to that misunderstanding? What does this tell us about the purpose of the Old Testament? How should we respond?

(Continued on the next page)

- What did Paul conclude about the status of Jews and Gentiles before God? How did he demonstrate this with quotations from the Old Testament? What conclusion did he make about observing the law? Why did he say this? What does this tell us about the Law and the Old Testament in general? How should we respond?
- What did Paul say about the relationship between the righteousness of God and the Old Testament? Why is this significant? How does this help us to understand the purpose of the Old Testament and its relationship to Jesus? What difference does this make?
- How did Paul use Old Testament concepts and illustrations to describe the righteousness of God which Christ accomplished and how He brought this about? How did Paul say that this addressed the sins committed by the Old Testament saints? What does this tell us about God's overarching plan that covers both testaments? How should we respond?
- How does Paul use Abraham to explain and illustrate how God's people can live in God's righteousness and justification? What passages does he reference and quote? What point(s) does he make by referencing these things?
- How does Paul say that God's blessing is related to works of the Law such as circumcision? What does this tell us about the function of the Law? What difference does this make?
- How does Paul's use of the Old Testament to teach and proclaim about Christ and how Christians should live inform the way we should read, learn, teach, and apply the Old Testament in our own lives and ministries?

Rom. 9:30-10:21

- What does Paul say about the typical response of Jews and Gentiles to the message of Christ? What reason does he give for this? How does he use the Old Testament quote as evidence for this?
- What is the issue in the Israelites' lack of righteousness, according to Paul in this section? How is this contrasted with the truth of Christ? What does this tell us about the mistake they made in reading the Old Testament? How can we avoid making a similar mistake?
- How did the quote from Moses prove Paul's point? What point was he making? How did Paul apply that point for the salvation of his readers? How did he prove that point from the Old Testament?
- How did Paul use the Old Testament to argue for the need for missionaries to spread the message? How did he use the Old Testament to explain the uneven reception the message would receive? What does this tell us about why not all Jews believed in Christ? What does this tell us about God's plan and working for His people? How does this apply to ministry practices today?
- How does Paul's use of the Old Testament to prove his message model for us the way we should read, understand, teach, and apply the Old Testament today? How should we respond?

1 Cor. 10:1-22

- What part of Old Testament history does Paul reference in this chapter? Why? What similarities did he highlight between the Old Testament situation and the situation of his readers? What point did he make? How does this apply?

(Continued on the next page)

- How did Paul say he wanted the Old Testament passage to function for the people to whom he was writing? What should they learn from it? How should they respond? What does this teach us about how the Old Testament can function in our lives today? How should we put this into practice?
- How did Paul apply the lessons learned from the Old Testament examples to the situation he was writing about? How can we learn and apply the Old Testament in similar faithful ways to our own situations? What would be the benefit of doing this?

Gal. ch. 3

- What misunderstanding and misapplication of the Old Testament Law was Paul working against in this chapter? How had people misunderstood the purpose of the Law? What were they trying to do? Why? Why was this a bad idea?
- How did Paul correct their misunderstanding of the Old Testament? How did he use the Old Testament to do this? What from the Old Testament did he emphasize? How did Paul use Abraham as an example? How does this help us to better understand the teaching and purpose of the Old Testament? What difference does this make?
- What does Paul say was NOT a legitimate purpose of the Old Testament Law? What evidence does he give for this?
- What does Paul say WAS the real purpose of the Law? How does this help us understand the Old Testament and how it prepared for Jesus?
- How does this entire chapter help us understand the Old Testament and its relationship to the New Testament? What difference should this make in our lives and ministries?

Gal. ch. 4

- How does this chapter relate to and continue the argument from the prior chapter? Please consider both of these chapters together as parts of the same issue.
- How does the discussion of slavery and childhood and inheritance illustrate what Paul was saying about the relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament? What point was he making? What difference does this make?
- What happened when the “time had come”? How did Paul describe what God did? For what purpose does he say that God did this? What is the result? What does this tell us about the relationship between the Old and New Testament? How does this apply?
- How does Paul apply what he had been writing to the situation of the Galatian churches? What were they in danger of doing? How did Paul use what he had taught about the Old Testament to address that danger? What did he advise them not to do? What reasons did he give? What can we learn from this? How should we respond?
- What does Paul say about the two sons, one from the slave woman and one from the free? What Old Testament story is he referring to? What point does he make from this story? How is this connected to what he had been teaching for these two chapters? What does this tell us about the relationship between the Old and New Testament? What does this tell us about how the Old Testament law should function in the life of a Christian? How should we respond?

(Continued on the next page)

Heb. ch. 1

- How does this say that God had spoken in the past? What does this tell us about the Old Testament? How should we think about the Old Testament in light of this?
- How does this say that God has now spoken after the Old Testament? How does this describe Jesus? What is the significance of this?
- How does Hebrews compare Jesus with the angels? What Old Testament passages does it use to prove this point? What can we learn from these passages?
- What do these passages tell us about the relationship of Jesus to the God of the Old Testament? What is the significance of this? How should we respond?
- What can we learn from the way that Hebrews quotes from the Old Testament about the way we should read, understand, teach, and apply the Old Testament? What difference does this make?

Heb. ch. 2

- How does Hebrews suggest we respond to what has been taught? What reasons does it give?
- How does this chapter compare Christ to angels? What passage does it quote to do this? What is the significance of this? What application does the author make? How does this apply to us?
- What Old Testament passages does this chapter use to prove its point? What can we learn from these passages? What can we learn from the way that Hebrews quotes from the Old Testament? How does this apply?
- What does this chapter tell us about the solidarity of the people of God? What does it tell us about atonement? How does this relate to what you have learned in the Old Testament? How does this relate to Jesus? What does this tell us about Him and what He accomplished? What difference does this make?

Heb. ch. 3

- How does this chapter compare Jesus with Moses? How does this describe Christ? What Old Testament realities does it use to describe and explain Him? What is the significance of this?
- What passage does this chapter quote to warn against unbelief? What Old Testament story does this refer to? What point does the author make by quoting this passage? How does he tell the reader to respond? How should we respond?
- What does this chapter say about those who left from Egypt with Moses? What point does it make from this story? What is the significance of this?

Heb. ch. 4

- What Old Testament promise of “rest” is this chapter referring to? What does it say about this rest? What point was the author making? Why?
- Why do you think the author mentioned God’s rest after creation? How is this related to the rest he is talking about? Why do you think the author mentioned the rest that Joshua gave the people? How is this related to the rest he is talking about? How does the author use these Old Testament stories to teach about Christ and exhort His people? What can we learn from this about how we should read, understand, teach, and apply the Old Testament?

(Continued on the next page)

- What does this chapter say about the Word of God? Do you think this is referring to the Old Testament? Why or why not? What point does the author make? How should we respond?
- How does this chapter connect Jesus to the priesthood taught in the Old Testament? How does the Old Testament help us to understand the role and function of Christ in this regard? What point does this chapter make about Jesus as high priest? How should we respond?

Heb. ch. 5

- What does this chapter teach about the high priest in the Old Testament? How does this help us to understand Christ and His accomplishments? How should we respond?
- How does this chapter say that Jesus is different from the high priests in the Old Testament? What passages does it quote to prove this point? What can we learn from this?
- How else does this chapter describe the priesthood of Christ? What is the significance of this? How does it apply?
- What does the end of this chapter say about the state of maturity of the people Hebrews was written for? How were they lacking? How did the author respond? What can we learn from this?

Heb. ch. 6

- How are the warnings of unbelief in this chapter related to the story of Israel's unbelief in the wilderness after they had left Egypt? How does this connection help us to understand the warnings of this chapter? How does the author encourage the readers and motivate them to faithfulness? How should we respond?
- What does this chapter say about God's promises made to Abraham? What story in Genesis is this referencing? What point does the author make about God's promises, based on this story? What difference does this make?
- What does this chapter say about the sanctuary in the tabernacle? How does the Old Testament help us to understand what the author was saying? What does this tell us about Christ and what He accomplished? How is this significant?

Heb. ch. 7

- What does this chapter say about Melchizedek? What does the Old Testament say about him? In what story?
- How does this chapter compare Melchizedek with the Levitical priests? What point is the author making? What is the significance of this?
- How does this chapter apply the idea of Melchizedek to Christ? What does this tell us about how Jesus compared to the Old Testament priests? What does this tell us about how Jesus relates to the Old Testament Law and sacrificial system? What are the implications for the role of the Old Testament priesthood and sacrifices in the life of a modern Christian? How does this apply?
- In what ways does this chapter claim that Christ is superior to the Old Testament priesthood? Why was the old system set aside? How does Jesus make up for the lack of the old system? What does this tell us about the ministry of Christ and His effectiveness as high priest? How should we respond?

(Continued on the next page)

- What does this chapter tell us about the relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament? How does this help us understand the purpose for the Old Testament and how it applies in our lives? What difference does this make?

Heb. ch. 8

- How does this chapter compare Christ to the Old Testament priesthood? What point does it make? How does this apply?
- How does this chapter compare the Old Testament tabernacle to the “heavenly tabernacle”? What point does it make? What does this tell us about the Old Testament tabernacle and temple and how they apply to New Testament believers? What difference does this make?
- How does this chapter compare the Old Covenant with the New Covenant? What passage does it quote to prove this point? What does this tell us about the Old Covenant and how it relates to Christians?
- What does this tell us about the New Covenant and what Christ accomplished? What is the significance of this for our understanding of the Old Testament? What is the significance of this for how we live today?

Heb. ch. 9

- How does this chapter describe the Old Testament tabernacle? What does it emphasize about the furniture and layout of the tabernacle? What does it emphasize about what happened in the tabernacle? Why?
- What point does the author make about the tabernacle and its function in his time after Christ had come? What does this teach us about the relationship between the Old Testament realities and current Christians? How does it apply?
- What does this chapter say has changed since Christ has come? What did Christ accomplish? Where? How? How does the Old Testament help us to understand these things? How did Jesus fulfill the Old Testament? What does this tell us about how we currently should relate to these Old Testament realities?
- What does this chapter tell us about what Jesus accomplished on our behalf? How does knowing the Old Testament help us to better understand Christ and His atonement? How should we respond?
- How does this chapter demonstrate that Christ’s accomplishments are superior to the Old Testament system? What does this teach us about the finality and effectiveness of the ministry of Christ? What does this teach us about the relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament? What difference does this make?

Heb. ch. 10

- What does this chapter say about the Law and its relationship with that to which it pointed forward? How does this demonstrate the superiority of the New Testament realities to the Old? What does this tell us about the relationship between the Old and New Testaments and how the Old Testament should function in the life of a modern believer?
- How does this chapter compare the Old Testament sacrifices with the sacrifice of Christ? What passage does it quote to prove its point? How does this passage prove this point? How does the author apply this to his readers? How should we respond?

(Continued on the next page)

- How does this chapter compare the effectiveness of the Old Testament sacrifices with the sacrifice of Christ? What passage does he quote to make this point? How is this significant? How does this help us better understand the purpose of the Old Testament realities? What difference does this make?
- In all of the teaching about the priesthood and sacrifices in the last few chapters, what did you learn about the accomplishments of Christ by the comparison with the Old Testament priesthood and sacrificial system? What is the significance of this?
- What does all this teach us about how we should understand the Old Testament and its relevance for us today? How does this help you to respond to someone who challenges you: “why don’t you obey all of the Old Testament commands?”
- How does the author apply all of these things to his reader? What point does he make about our ability to enter the inner sanctuary of the tabernacle? How can we do this? What should we do in light of this? Why? How?
- How does this help us understand the warnings that the author gave? Is going back to the Old Testament sacrificial system a legitimate option for a Christian? Why or why not? What difference does this make?
- How does the author use these things to encourage and motivate his readers to faithfulness? How can we use these things to encourage and motivate ourselves and those around us?

Heb. ch. 11

- How does the author use the Old Testament as examples of the faith and faithfulness to which he was encouraging his readers? What point was he making? How should we respond?
- What stood out to you from these many examples? Why? How does this connect with what you have learned from the Old Testament? How does this motivate and direct you in how you can be more faithful?
- How does learning the Old Testament help you to understand what was being taught in this chapter? How does this motivate and inspire us to live more faithfully in our own lives? How does this demonstrate the value of studying the Old Testament? How should we respond?
- How does this chapter demonstrate the unfinished nature of the Old Testament story? What does this teach us about the relationship of the Old and New Testament? What difference does this make?

Heb. ch. 12

- How does the author apply all that he had taught in the prior chapter to his readers? What does he encourage them to do? How? Why? How is this connected to Christ?
- What does this chapter say about discipline? What Old Testament passage does it quote to make this point? How did the author apply this to his readers? How does this apply to us today? How should we respond?
- How does this chapter encourage us to grow in holiness? How does it use the story of Esau as a negative example? What point was being made? How should we respond?

(Continued on the next page)

- How does the author describe the mountain at the time of the giving of the Law? Why do you think he mentioned this? To what does he contrast this in the life of the Christian? What point was he making? What does this tell us about the blessings and privileges we now have in comparison with Old Testament saints? How should we respond?
- What warning does the author give near the end of this chapter? How is this connected to all that had been written earlier in this book? How did the author encourage the readers to respond? What promise is inherent in this response? What difference does this make in your life?
- How does the entire book of Hebrews help us to better understand the Old Testament? What do we learn about the purpose and fulfillment of the Old Testament? What do we learn about the relationship between the Old and New Testament? What do we learn about Christ and His accomplishments in light of the Old Testament? How should we live in light of all of these things?

Rev. 21:1-8

- How does the author use Old Testament realities to describe what he saw in this vision? How is the new heavens and new earth described? How is the holy city described? How is the promised new reality described?
- How are all these things compared with Old Testament realities? How do they fulfill promises going back to the Old Testament? How does this passage echo themes from throughout the Old Testament?
- How are all these things radically different from what we saw in the Old Testament? How are the problems fixed? How is everything made new and perfect? How is the new reality better than the old reality?
- How do these promises help us better understand the Old Testament and the overall plan of God, which was begun in the Old Testament?
- How do these things give us encouragement, hope, and motivation to live faithfully? How should we respond?

Rev. 21:22-22:5

- How does the reality described in this passage compare and contrast with what you have seen in the Old Testament? What is fulfilled? What is fixed? What is no longer needed? What do you think these things signify?
- How does the description of the final paradise compare with the description of the first paradise in Genesis chapters 1 and 2? What is similar? What is different? What does this tell us about all that God has accomplished between these two times? What does this tell us about the entire Biblical story?
- What echoes of Old Testament language and promises do you see in this passage? What is the significance of this? How does all of this help us understand the destiny of God's people? How does this motivate us to faithfulness? What difference does this make?