

Why Study the OT?



Reasons to Study the Old Testament

- Describe each of the six reasons given for studying the Old Testament in your own words.
- What are the implications of the Old Testament being revelation from God? What difference should this make in the way you study the OT?
- How does the Old Testament teach us how to live? How should you respond?
- In what ways does the Old Testament demonstrate real life to us? What does that mean? How does the Old Testament function like glasses to help us see? What are the implications of this for the way we receive the Old Testament?
- How does the Old Testament help us to understand ourselves, even though it was written long before our time? How is the Old Testament part of the life story of every genuine Christian?
- What difference does this make for the way we should understand ourselves? For the way we should live?
- How does the Old Testament help us to know God? How does the OT reveal God? What does it reveal about Him? Based on this, how should we use the OT to know God better?
- How does the Old Testament help us to know the New Testament and Jesus? What are the connections between the Old Testament and Jesus? How did the things Christ said and did get their meaning from the worldview of the Old Testament?

Illustration from Ezekiel ch. 34

- What does Ezekiel 34 say about the shepherds of Israel in that day? What did God promise, using the symbol of a shepherd, for the future of His people? How is this connected with King David?
- What did Jesus say about Himself, using the symbol of a shepherd? How is this connected to the promises made in Ezekiel?
- If you know the background of Ezekiel, how does that help you understand what Jesus was saying, and how He was the fulfillment of God's promises? What difference does this make?

Review

Review the reasons to study the Old Testament and work toward committing them to memory.