



OT History – Study Guide



Bible Reading (Other chapters may be read for extra credit/benefit)	Textbook Reading (Other material may be read for extra credit/benefit)
Bible Reading ☐ Psalm 78 ☐ Psalm 105	Ch. 2 ☐ What Events Does the Old Testament Describe? Review Handout ☐ Old Testament History Review - (posted on the course website)

Study Guide for Bible Reading

Psalm 78

- What does the author say he will tell them? Where did he say he learned these things? Why is this significant for the study of history in the Old Testament?
- What specifically does he promise to tell them? How is that related to God? What does this tell us about the nature of Old Testament history? Why is that important?
- What does the author (and God) desire the next generations to do with this knowledge? What should we learn from this?
- How does the author describe the history and behavior of his forefathers? What does this tell us about Old Testament history?
- What specifically does the author say God did in the remainder of this Psalm? What specifically does the author say God's people did in the remainder of this Psalm? Do these two summaries seem to fit together or do they seem like they somehow aren't appropriate to the other? Why do you think this?
- What main point do you think the author was making by telling all this history? What should we learn from this?
- How does this Psalm end? What person does it focus on? Why do you think this is significant for the overall Old Testament history and beyond? What difference does this make?

Psalm 105

- What does the author command the people to do? Why?
- What are the people supposed to remember? What does this tell us about God and His relationship with His people?
- What examples of this does the author give in the rest of this Psalm?
- How do these examples from history give hope and motivation to God's people who read this Psalm? How does this apply?

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Study Guide for Textbook chapter 2

What Events Does the Old Testament Describe?

- How long is the time period covered in the Old Testament?

Israel's Ancestry: The Patriarchs

- What generally happened in the Early Bronze Age? How does this fit into the Old Testament story?
- In which period did the Patriarchs live, according to the textbook? What happened in the wider history of this period? What was happening in Mesopotamia? What was happening in Egypt? What was happening in Syria-Palestine?
- What did Abraham do and experience? Why is this important for the Old Testament history? What did his family do after him?
- What was happening in Egypt in the Late Bronze Age? What part did the Hittites play in the history of this period?
- What did Moses do and experience? How did God rescue His people from Egypt? What happened after that? Why is this significant for the history of God's people?
- How did Joshua contribute to the Old Testament history? What are the possible dates for this?

Israel's Statehood: David and His Dynasty

- What effect did the "sea peoples" have on the history of Syria-Palestine? How do they fit in Old Testament history?
- What did David contribute to the history of God's people? How did Solomon and the nation benefit from this after David's death? Why does this matter?
- What was the shortcoming of Solomon? How did this effect the history of God's people? How did the people compromise religiously?
- How was the northern kingdom different from the southern kingdom? How were they similar?
- How did Assyria and Babylon impact the history of God's people? How did the independence of God's people end in the promised land? Why did this happen?

Israel's Exile and Restoration: Ezra and Nehemiah

- How did the Persians contribute to the history of that time?
- Describe Cyrus's policy. How did this effect Old Testament history?
- How did the Israelites return to the promised land? What did they do when they had returned?
- How does the Old Testament history end? How do you think this prepared for the New Testament?

Review the Study Questions and Summary at the end of the chapter

Study Guide for the OT History Review

- Review the 5 epochs of Old Testament history and work to commit them to memory.
- Review how the books fit into the history and work to commit this to memory.