

Harvest Presbyterian Church



'Bible Overview Review'

June 2013 – August 2014

- this morning we conclude a 15 month overview of the Bible (June, 2103)
- one book per Sunday (45 minutes each)
- may not seem like much of an overview (15 months),
- so, let's do the whole thing in 45 minutes - one quick review of the whole
- before we jump in and get going, **let's pray**

Bible Overview

- we've spent over a year looking at each book of the Bible
- want to thank the men who've helped to teach (*Troy, Doug, Darren, Chris, Tom, Ken, Jn, Crawford*)
- you can get lots of details about each book in a good study Bible [**Hold up Study Bibles**]
- as well, I've put together a few years ago this booklet & you're free to take one [**Hold up An Overview**]
- we don't expect that now you all are experts on the Bible
- one Sunday School class doesn't make you an expert & we thought about just starting over again in Genesis
- but our hope has been that you will better see how it all fits together, not that every single question will be answered
- as well, & most importantly, we've hoped to increase & foster your love for God's Word
- *but why study the Bible? why spend over a year studying one book? ****

Bible Overview

The Bible is God's

inspired,

holy,

inerrant,

infallible,

authoritative Word.

Bible Overview

It is the standard and rule for faith & practice.

It is the foundation of the Christian life.

- and the foundational document for our life together as a congregation, as it is for all Xns

3 Words

- we've spent over a year talking about a lot of things in the Bible ...
- what I'd like to do this am is give you 3 categories / 3 paradigms for understanding the Bible
- 3 words, that whatever passage of Scripture you come to in your personal reading, you can apply these 3 words
- run that passage through these words, like a sieve, or a lens, thru which to better view & understand any passage

3 Words

1. Glory
2. Trinity
3. Covenant

1. GLORY

- the Bible is telling one story from front to back ...

The Story of *Glory*

❖ Creation:

The Story of *Glory*

❖ **Creation:** *God's Glory Revealed*

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- ❖ **Creation:** *God's Glory Revealed*
- ❖ **Fall:**

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- ❖ **Consummation:**

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- ❖ **Redemption:** *God's Glory Re-viewed*
- ❖ **Consummation:** *God's Glory Realized*

- the Bible is telling one story from front to back ...

- so whatever text of Scripture you are reading, run it through this lens - God's GLORY

~ *what does this text of Scripture say about this story of glory?*

~ *where does it fit the C-F-R-C paradigm?*

~ *how does this passage, this story, this person, help me understand the story of God's glory?*

~ *how does this text remind me, reveal to me that it's about God's glory & not mine or ours or anything else?*

3 Words

1. Glory
2. Trinity
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2. TRINITY

- if the Bible the story of God's glory, we'd better understand some things about this God
- *who is he? how does he reveal himself? how's he operate? what's he expect of us?*
- while the Bible doesn't use the word "Trinity" the early church helped us in giving us this word
- Trinity is that central Christian doctrine (from the teaching of the Scripture) that God is ...

2. TRINITY

One God ...

in three Persons:

Father, Son & Holy Spirit

2. TRINITY

One God ...

Biblical teaching, Christian doctrine, is

monotheistic

= there is ONE God (*not three, not hundreds*)

2. TRINITY

*“Hear, O Israel:
The LORD our God, the LORD is one.”*

~ Deut 6.4 ~

- essential to understand GOD that he is one - vs. gods of the Egyptians out of whom they've just come (e.g.)
- not one God displayed or manifested in three different ways over time
 - ~ OT - *Father*
 - ~ Jesus - *Son*
 - ~ Church Era - *Spirit*
- no, One God, eternally existing ... ***

2. TRINITY

in three Persons:

from p1 - the Bible shows that God is, and that God exists (and always has) in Trinity ...

2. TRINITY

In the beginning, God created the heavens and the earth. The earth was without form and void, and darkness was over the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.

~ Gen 1.1-2 ~

2. TRINITY

*Then God said, “Let us make man in our
image, after our likeness.”*

~ Gen 1.26 ~

2. TRINITY

Father, Son & Holy Spirit

In the fullness of Biblical revelation, we come to understand the persons of the Trinity as Father, Son & Holy Spirit

- now, that understanding of God as Trinity (one God in Three persons) gets expanded as the Bible unfolds
- developing from God and God's Spirit to God, God's Spirit & God's Son (his suffering servant), the Messiah
 - ~ Jesus – the 2nd person of the Trinity – has always existed (there was no time when he was not)
 - ~ however, he has not eternally existed in human form, but took that to himself (addition)
 - ~ to accomplish our redemption
 - ~ now he remains fully God & fully man for the rest of eternity

2. TRINITY

*The grace of
the Lord Jesus Christ
and
the love of God
and
the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with you all.
~ 2 Cor 13.14 ~*

- one note on hymns: some of our best hymns are Trinitarian in structure (*Come, Thou Almighty King & Wonderful, Merciful Savior* from this morning's worship service)

- so, as you read a text of Scripture:

~ *what does this passage teach me about God? his nature? his promises? his actions?*

~ *what did the people involved in this passage understand about God?*

~ *how was this situation, this text meant to shape their understanding about God (Father, Son or HS)?*

~ *how does the way I understand God need to be shaped by this text & how the original audience heard it?*

3 Words

1. Glory
2. Trinity
3. Covenant

3. COVENANT

- 'covenant' summarizes how God relates to mankind, by way of covenant
- *a God-initiated relationship with man with obligations & blessings*
- but in order to really understand 'covenant' and the Bible, we need to see 'covenant' from the beginning

3. COVENANT

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- so, as you read the Scriptures or encounter a passage ...

~ where does your text fit in the Covenant paradigm?

~ how does where it fits, inform the way you understand the text? (e.g., pre-Mosaic vs. Messianic)

~ what happens if you don't see the end of covenant? where it's all heading?

~ what does this text teach me about the **grace** of God?

~ how does the Messianic fulfillment need to inform our reading of previous manifestations of the cov't?

~ what happens if we fail to let covenant find its way to Jesus? (e.g., if we stop at Moses?)

3 Words

1. Glory
2. Trinity
3. Covenant

[read through briefly as review]

- these 3 words will give you some options for how to read & better understand any text of Scripture

~ not all 3 apply equally to every text & sometimes all three will apply

~ but at least with these 3 words (categories) you've got a good chance of digging into the text faithfully

→ questions?

[then – get two texts of Scripture:

~ ask two people to give a # between 1 & 50

~ ask two other people for a book of the Bible (pick any one)

~ combine the books & numbers and get two references

~ turn to those 'random' passages and see how *Glory, Trinity & Covenant* help in reading & understanding

Summary of the Summary

Ephesians 1.3-14

- IF TIME ...
- This text summarizes each of the 3 words
 - ~ here we have Trinity (3-6; 7-12; 13-4) - Father elects, Son redeems, Spirit applies
 - ~ covenant (*before the foundation ...*)
 - ~ glory (6, 12, 14 – what it's all re:)

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