

A. Putting the Old & New COVENANTS (testaments) together

- The Bible is full of testaments = c\_\_\_\_\_
  - Adam, Noah, Abraham, Moses, David, New, Jesus
  - These covenants are b\_\_\_\_\_, fulfilled by Jesus, who repeats the moral duties to us

| GOD'S COVENANTS – CALLING FOR PARTNERSHIP |                |                     |
|---|----------------|---------------------|
| GOD'S OFFER                               | OUR RESPONSE   | GOD'S CONSEQUENCES  |
| Promises & W_____                         | Faith & O_____ | Blessings or C_____ |

**THE POINT-** The Bible is a book, a holy book. Read it like one. Look at the title, blurbs, table of contents and the beginning and end. It is not meant to be read all at once, but slowly, meditatively, and r\_\_\_\_\_. So, read it, believe it, obey it and share it!

1. Memorize the Arc of the Bible- the 12 time periods
2. Use the IQA (Insight, Question, Apply), looking for the F.L.O.W.S.
3. Get in the habit of daily Bible reading- what a privilege!
  - See Nicky Gumble on the Bible App, for the Classic or Express
  - The Bible Project- the Bible through the year

❖ **WHAT'S GOD SAYING TO YOU?** – write it down, pray it back, DO IT, and share it with others! “Heavenly Father, thank You for Your Word! Your thoughts, commitments, promises and warnings. Written down. Black and white. As You want to communicate clearly with me, help me to listen and communicate clearly with You and for You. I hear you saying...

**THE BIBLE'S SO BIG, HOW CAN I READ IT? 6/11/23**

**GETTING OUR FEET WET-** how did the Africans feel about the Bible?

- Dt 5<sup>22</sup> These are the commandments the LORD proclaimed in a loud voice to your whole assembly there on the mountain from out of the fire, the cloud and the deep darkness; and he added nothing more. Then he wrote them on two stone tablets and gave them to me.
- Dt 6<sup>9</sup> Write them on the doorframes of your houses and on your gates.
- Dt 17<sup>18</sup> When he takes the throne of his kingdom, he is to write for himself on a scroll a copy of this law, taken from that of the Levitical priests.
- Josh 1<sup>8</sup> Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.
- Jer 31<sup>33</sup> “This is the covenant I will make with the people of Israel after that time,” declares the LORD. “I will put my law in their minds and write it on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people.
- I Jn 5<sup>13</sup> I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life.
- Rev 21<sup>5</sup> He who was seated on the throne said, “I am making everything new!” Then he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.”

*This is God's Word. It's God's authority over me. It's God telling me who I am and what I'm to do. I will read it, obey it and share it, to be close to Jesus and bring others to Jesus.*

**SO, HOW DO YOU READ OTHER BOOKS? - You look at 4 things...**

I. T\_\_\_\_\_

- A. Bible = b\_\_\_\_\_, authoritative, accurate, widely read
- Josh 1<sup>8</sup> Keep this Book of the Law always on your lips; meditate on it day and night, so that you may be careful to do everything written in it. Then you will be prosperous and successful.

- B. Scriptures = w\_\_\_\_\_, sacred, holy, honored
- Mk 12:10 “Haven’t you read this Scripture?” (Jesus repeats this phrase 11 times)
  - Acts 17:10 The Bereans... examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true.
  - II Pe 3:16 Paul writes the same way in all his letters, speaking ...of these matters. His letters contain some things that are hard to understand, which ignorant & unstable people distort, as they do the other Scriptures to their own destruction.

- C. Holy Bible/Scriptures = exalted, divine, without sin (error), from God, trustworthy
- II Tim 3<sup>15</sup> and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. <sup>16</sup> All Scripture is God-breathed and is useful for teaching, rebuking, correcting and training in righteousness,

## II. THE BLURBS – F.L.O.W.S.

- **F**\_\_\_\_\_ - “comes by hearing, and hearing by God’s Word” Rom 10:17
- **L**\_\_\_\_\_ - “Love God., love others as ourself. All the Law and prophets hang on these two commands.” Mt 22:37-40
- **O**\_\_\_\_\_ - “Don’t just listen. Do what it says.” Jas 1:22
- **W**\_\_\_\_\_ - “These Scriptures testify about me.” Jn 5:39
- **S**\_\_\_\_\_ - “Teach them to obey everything I commanded you.” Mt 28:20

## III. T\_\_\_\_\_ of Contents

A. 2 Parts, one common title

|               |          |            |                             |
|---------------|----------|------------|-----------------------------|
| 2 PARTS       | 66 BOOKS | 40 AUTHORS | WRITTEN OVER 1500 year span |
| OLD TESTAMENT | 39       | 31         | 1400-400 BC                 |
| NEW TESTAMENT | 27       | 9          | 45-95 AD                    |

1. So, what is a testament? A I\_\_\_\_\_ document
- T\_\_\_\_\_
  - Important
  - To be obeyed

2. So, why 2 parts? What makes the difference between the Old & New Testament?
- Heb 1:1 In the past God spoke to our forefathers through the prophets... 2 but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son. 9:15 For this reason Christ is the mediator of a new covenant...now that he has died as a ransom to set them free from the sins committed under the first (old) covenant. (OT & NT- unified, different, both explains the other, NT fulfills OT)
  - II Cor 3:6 God has made us competent as ministers of a new covenant (testament)- not of the letter (like the Pharisees taught), but of the Spirit; for the letter kills but the Spirit gives life. 14 To this day the same veil remains when the old covenant (testament) is read (in the synagogue).
  - The OT points to Jesus as...
    - A greater Adam who will bring life, not death (Rom 5)
    - A greater S\_\_\_\_\_ who will crush Satan’s head (Gen 3:15)
    - A greater P\_\_\_\_\_ than Moses (Dt 18:15,18)
    - A greater Priest than Aaron (Heb 7-8)
    - A greater K\_\_\_\_\_ than David (II Sam 7:8-17)
    - A greater S\_\_\_\_\_ than the Passover Lamb (I Cor 5:7)

3. So, are there 2 ways to approach God? 2 ways that God deals with us?
- Ps 51<sup>16</sup> You do not delight in sacrifice, or I would bring it; you do not take pleasure in burnt offerings. <sup>17</sup> My sacrifice, O God, is a broken spirit; a broken and contrite heart you, God, will not despise.
  - Rom 4.<sup>2</sup> If, in fact, Abraham was justified by works, he had something to boast about—but not before God. <sup>3</sup> What does Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was credited to him as righteousness.” <sup>6</sup> David says the same thing when he speaks of the blessedness of the one to whom God credits righteousness apart from works:
  - It’s always been by repentant, obedient and loving f\_\_\_\_\_!