

Walk through the Old Testament
Message from the One
Who Was, Who Is,
and *Who is to come!*

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Entire Bible contains the heart and plan of God regarding His relationship with us.
- Best understood by knowing single verse found in book of John.
- John 17 = Jesus' emotional prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane the night before His death. One verse toward end of prayer stands out:

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

“Father, I desire that they also whom You gave Me may be with Me where I am, that they may behold My glory which You have given Me; for You loved Me before the foundation of the world.” (17:24)

Here is **the heart of God toward us**. He wants us with Him forever.

**And that is what the Bible
is all about.**

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

Bible = Elohim's plan for our reunion and eternal fellowship with Him, the history and execution of that plan, and the promises of our forever dwelling with Him.

One of the **most basic and foundational concepts of scripture** is the simple but astounding fact that
God desires fellowship with His creatures.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

In the first few lines of scripture Elohim revealed to us His purpose, the problem, and the coming solution to the problem.

Very early we are shown these foundational truths:

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- *“In the beginning, God...”* perhaps most important words to know and understand. If we can't wholeheartedly embrace these words and believe them completely, we may as well throw out the rest of the book. It won't do you any good ultimately.

*These words say He has always been, is,
and will always be....*

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Even the first sentence is a **supernatural message** if we have ears to hear (*first 7 words of Genesis 1 – more later!*) *That tells us a lot about scripture....*
- God created everything
- God has a purpose in His creation, to have fellowship with His creatures (*it is His desire to do this, to be with us*) **We were created to have fellowship, to be with God, as His companions for all eternity.**
- Both good and evil exist in this world (fallen)

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Mankind has freewill, which *usually does not align with God's will.*
- Mankind used freewill to sin against God, opened a chasm of separation between Him and us, causing *God's original plan for our fellowship together to fail.* (Not HIS fault!)
- Another plan was needed. *Another plan was already waiting.* God knew what was needed before it was needed (that is still true!)

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Because of sin, man could not remain in the Paradise created for that fellowship. Fellowship with Him would have to happen in a different way.
- Life on this planet changed dramatically.
- Life, originally intended to be a beautiful and perfect life of joy and perfection with God, now became difficult, *separate from Him*, full of toil, burdens, corruption...and death.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Though separated by sin, God made provision for us to be with Him, even while still here on earth, even in our corrupt state.
- **The Tabernacle and Temple** (*physical and spiritual*) are evidence of this. This is His heart's desire.
- First promise of an alternate plan found in **Genesis 3:15**, *which could not be fully understood* without the rest of the plan revealed, and without His Spirit to convict the hearts of mankind.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- God set aside *(for later!)* His beautiful original plan of fellowship. Because of sin, another plan put into action.
- This new plan required working through **one group of people** to demonstrate God's nature, and invite entire world to receive His gift that reunites us with Him.
- He called **one people** who would be the “voice” of God, revealing Him and His Plan to everyone else.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- God revealed His Plan through his actions and words, and through His people.
- One thing was very clear: reunion with God could only happen through redemption and atonement by an approved sacrifice. A blood sacrifice.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- God chose one man from whom He would build a nation, a group of people distinct from all other peoples on the planet – **a people to whom He would entrust His Plan.**
- He made promises to this man, and confirmed them to his son, and to his grandson.
- **A specific bloodline was established**, through whom all the families of the earth would be **blessed**.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Ultimate goal of this bloodline of redemption was reunion of God with His creation, through His Son the Messiah. *(the acceptable sacrifice)*
- But this blessing went far beyond the far off ultimate redemption.
- It included understanding *(what we can understand, we see through a glass darkly right now [1Corinthians 13:4])* and actually KNOWING God while we are still here in this corrupt place.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- It included having words to **comfort, explain, instruct, warn and protect** us ...now. The purpose of our Bibles in the hands of the Ruach Elohim (*Spirit of God*).
- ***Most astonishingly, it includes having a relationship with the Sovereign, Most High God of the Universe. (what???)***

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Nation built from Abraham's seed, from Isaac's son Jacob and the 12 "tribes" called **Israel**. These people known as Israelites, or **Hebrews**.
- **Bloodline of atonement** was narrowed down to a specific family within this nation (Tribe of Judah), and further narrowed to a single bloodline within this family (David).
- God made promises (covenants) with His people that pointed to His Plan, and the acceptable sacrifice He would provide.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

Paul describes Israel in this way:

...the people of Isra'el... They were made God's children, the Sh'khinah has been with them, the covenants are theirs, likewise the giving of the Torah, the Temple service and the promises; the Patriarchs are theirs; and from them, as far as his physical descent is concerned, came the Messiah, who is over all. Praised be ADONAI for ever! Amen.

(Romans 9:4-6, CJB)

Israel given ministry of bringing God's Light and Plan to the nations *so they could be saved as well.*

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Israel failed, but the nations (Gentiles) also did not have “ears to hear.” They did not want to hear. In fact, neither did many of those who are called *“people of the Book.”*
- **Same is true today.** The world, regardless of ethnic origin (Jew or non-Jew), does not want to hear of the incredible gift of salvation. Want nothing to do with El Elyon.
- Sadly, world today **despises people of God.** (*Jew+Gentile*)
- All the “oracles” given Israel are mostly forgotten, **trampled, and ignored.** Except by those who have heard His call and answered.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Tragically, even among those within what is erroneously called the “Church” today, those things *(the “oracles” of God given in the Old Testament)* are despised/rejected.
- *These were trampled under Constantine, who tried to marry paganism to the truths of belief in Yeshua.*
- *The western “church” has thrown the baby out with the bathwater!*
- When the world turned against God’s people, they also rejected this wealth of knowledge and instruction *(the “oracles” of God)* **that enable us to know Him.**

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- Israel was born to shine the light of God into the nations, to offer a way back to God to the peoples of the world.
- For the most part she failed this mission. **And now she is hated without reason.**
- In biblical times, the Israelites, chosen people of God, were hated **and still are**. Since Messiah, those who loved Him were hated **and still are**.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- It is not the *people* the world hates, *it is God Himself*.
- Yeshua said as much when He instructed His disciples before His death:
“If the world hates you, you know that it hated Me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love its own. Yet because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” (John 15:18-19)

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- The critical importance of Israel (*and all the wisdom, oracles and information given her*) has been lost to most. *It is replaced by hatred and distorted lies.*
- Even in the “**Church**” there are those who do not understand the importance of Israel (*or the oracles given her from Elohim*) for us today.
- God has not, He *cannot*, and will not ever abandon Israel. Israel is the receiver of the “oracles” and the ultimate plan of God.
- They are *not better than others, just chosen* by God to demonstrate His nature and plan.

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- One little note amidst disdain for all things “Old Testament” or “Jewish” in nature (*forgetting that Yeshua is a Jew!*)

The Abrahamic Covenant is still in effect!

Unconditional and eternal covenant (*not all are*).
Several terms, but for this purpose one stands out:

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

“I will bless those who
bless you, but I will
curse anyone who
curses you...”

(Genesis 12:3 CJB)

Why know the Old Testament? *A few reasons...*

- To understand entire Redemptive Plan of God, and all included in “oracles” of God given to Israel
- Know why these things are important (not just important, but CRITICAL)
- See the hand of God in all things
- Bless Israel, be blessed

THE WORD OF GOD Introduction

- To tie all scripture together – see the “**scarlet thread**” pointing to ONE person through whom the world can be reunited with the Most High God, the Sovereign of the Universe (*Melech Ha'Olam = King of the Universe*)
- To prepare us to better tell the Good News to others
- To marvel how God authenticates Himself through prophecy
- *To love Him, and His people, more....*

THE OLD TESTAMENT (COVENANT)

Let's take a quick look at
the “oracles” of God,
given to His people,
Israel – *to save ALL people.*

The Old Testament 39 Books

3 Major Divisions

*The scarlet
thread runs
through it all*

HISTORY 17 Books

2 MAJOR DIVISIONS: 5/12

PENTATEUCH—TORAH
(Gr. "The 5 Books")
(Hebrew, "The Law")

*(From Creation to end of
wilderness wanderings)*

- 1—GENESIS
- 2—EXODUS
- 3—LEVITICUS
- 4—NUMBERS
- 5—DEUTERONOMY

IN THE LAND OF ISRAEL
(Pre-Exile)
IN CAPTIVITY
(Exile)
AFTER CAPTIVITY
(Post Exile)

*(From entrance into the
land to return from
captivity in Babylon)*

- 6—JOSHUA
- 7—JUDGES
- 8—RUTH
- 9—1 SAMUEL
- 10—2 SAMUEL
- 11—1 KINGS
- 12—2 KINGS
- 13—1 CHRONICLES
- 14—2 CHRONICLES
- 15—EZRA
- 16—NEHEMIAH
- 17—ESTHER

POETRY 5 Books

**"WRITINGS" OR
"WISDOM" BOOKS**
(mostly poetic)

*(covers many years and
many contributors)*

- 18—JOB
- 19—PSALMS
- 20—PROVERBS
- 21—ECCLESIASTES
- 22—SONG OF SOLOMON

The Old Testament 39 Books

3 Major Divisions

*The scarlet thread runs
through it all*

PROPHECY 17 Books

2 MAJOR DIVISIONS: 5/12

MAJOR PROPHETS
(only because of their
longer lengths)

*(From approximately
700-800 BC to 530 BC)*

- 23—ISAIAH
- 24—JEREMIAH
- 25—LAMENTATIONS
- 26—EZEKIEL
- 27—DANIEL

MINOR PROPHETS
(only because of shorter
lengths)

*(From approximately
700-800 BC to 430 BC)*

- 28—HOSEA
- 29—JOEL
- 30—AMOS
- 31—OBADIAH
- 32—JONAH
- 33—MICAH
- 34—NAHUM
- 35—HABAKKUK
- 36—ZEPHANIAH
- 37—HAGGAI
- 38—ZECHARIAH
- 39—MALACHI

PART 1: HISTORY

2 MAJOR DIVISIONS: 5/12

PENTATEUCH
(Gr. "The 5 Books")
TORAH
(Hebrew, "instruction")
(From Creation to end of wilderness wanderings)

- 1— GENESIS
- 2— EXODUS
- 3— LEVITICUS
- 4— NUMBERS
- 5— DEUTERONOMY

- 6 —JOSHUA
- 7 —JUDGES
- 8 —RUTH
- 9 —1 SAMUEL
- 10—2 SAMUEL
- 11—1 KINGS
- 12—2 KINGS
- 13—1 CHRONICLES
- 14—2 CHRONICLES
- 15—EZRA
- 16—NEHEMIAH
- 17—ESTHER

IN THE LAND OF ISRAEL
(From entrance into the land to captivity in Babylon)
AFTER CAPTIVITY
(Post Exile)
After Exile, return

PART 2: POETRY 5 Books

**“WRITINGS” OR
“WISDOM” BOOKS
POETRY**
(mostly poetic)
*(covers many years
and many contributors)*

18 — JOB

19 — PSALMS

20 — PROVERBS

21 — ECCLESIASTES

22 — SONG OF SOLOMON

PART 3: PROPHECY

17 Books (5/12)

**MAJOR
PROPHETS**
(DUE ONLY to
longer lengths)
(From approx
700-800 BC to
530 BC)

23 — ISAIAH
24 — JEREMIAH
25 — LAMENTATIONS
26 — EZEKIEL
27 — DANIEL

28—HOSEA
29—JOEL
30—AMOS
31—OBADIAH
32—JONAH
33—MICAH
34—NAHUM
35—HABAKKUK
36—ZEPHANIAH
37—HAGGAI
38—ZECHARIAH
39—MALACHI

**MINOR
PROPHETS**
(shorter
lengths)
(700-800 BC
to 430 BC)

THE OLD TESTAMENT (COVENANT)

THE OLD TESTAMENT (Hebrew Tanakh)

- 39 books
- by about 30-32 authors
- 929 chapters
- 23,214 verses
- 593,493 words
- Longest book: Psalms
- Shortest book: Obadiah
- 5 books of Law (*also History books*)
- 17 books of History (5/12)
- 5 books of Poetry
- 17 books of Prophecy (5/12)

THE OLD TESTAMENT (COVENANT)

Hebrew Tanakh: name is an acronym of **Torah**, **Nevi'im** and **Ketuvim** (Law, Prophets and Writings).

Tanakh = same books as Christian OT, in slightly different order, with other minor differences.

5 books of the Law (Torah)

21 books of the Prophets (Nevi'im)

13 books of Writings (Ketuvim)



1: GENESIS

Book of Beginnings

“In the beginning God...”

1: GENESIS (BERESHEET = BEGINNINGS)

- Book of all beginnings
- Creation
- The Fall
- Promise of Messiah
- Evil beings/judgment
- The Flood
- More rebellion
- Table of Nations
- Call of Abraham
- First covenants (*Adamic, Noahic, Abrahamic*)
- The Patriarchs (*Abraham, Isaac, Jacob*)
- Joseph's rise to power in Egypt
- Journey to Egypt for protection, then bondage



**Flower of the
Holy Spirit
Orchid**

1: GENESIS (BERESHEET = BEGINNINGS)

- Chapter 3 details the “Fall.” That word doesn’t do justice to what really happened.
- Here we are given the whole reason for the Bible. It is also the **entire reason for the Plan of Redemption.**
- And it explains why the entire creation is *groaning for redemption...*

A dramatic painting depicting the biblical story of the Israelites crossing the Red Sea. The scene is set at dusk or dawn, with a dark, stormy sky. In the foreground, several Israelites are shown wading through the shallow water, carrying their belongings. In the background, Egyptian chariots and horses are seen struggling in the water, with some soldiers visible. The overall tone is one of chaos and divine intervention. The text "2: EXODUS" is overlaid in large white letters, and "Deliverance" is overlaid in large yellow letters.

2: EXODUS

Deliverance

2: EXODUS (S'MOT, SHEMOT = NAMES)

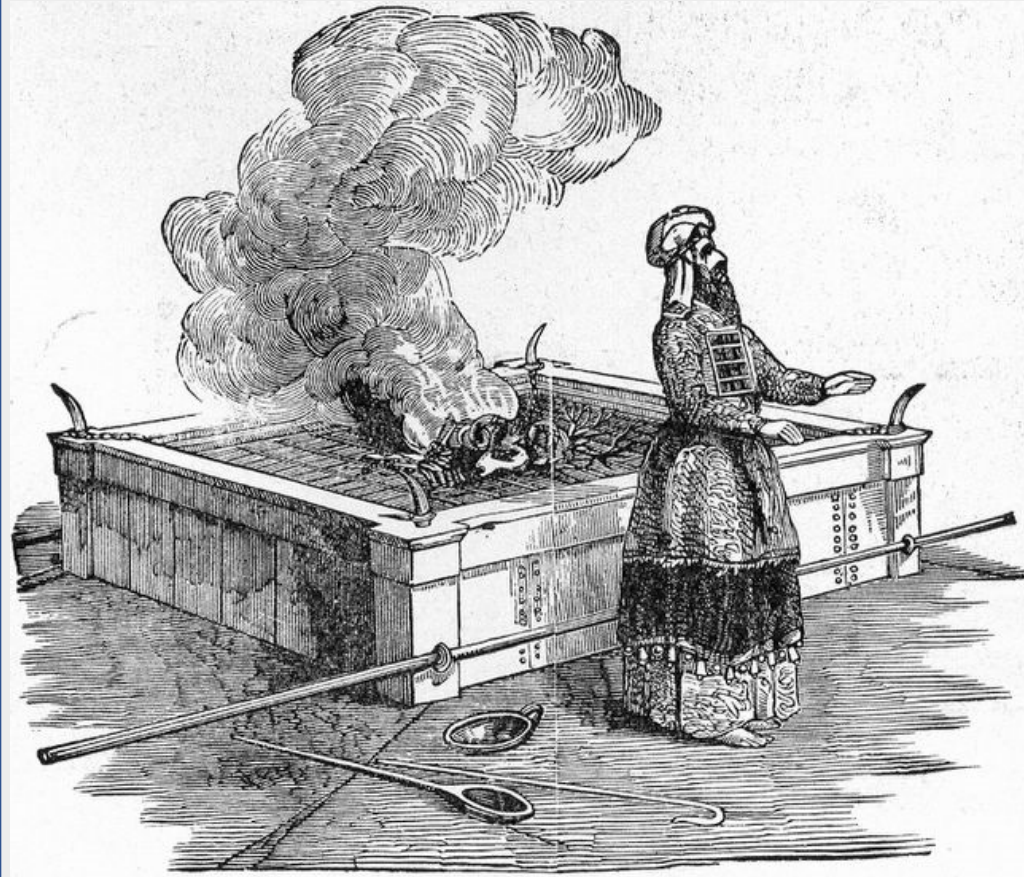
- Bondage in Egypt, God raised up a deliverer (Moses)
- Moses asked Pharaoh to let God's people go
- 10 plagues, First Passover, release from Egypt
- Crossing Red Sea, provision in the wilderness
- Giving of the Law (*Mosaic Covenant*)
- Making a people/nation out of a bunch of ragtag slaves.
- Building the tabernacle
- The glory of Elohim resides with them (*pillar of fire, cloud by night, Shekinah in the tabernacle*)

3: LEVITICUS

Atonement Provided



3: LEVITICUS (VAYIKRA = “HE CALLED”)



- Atonement/Redemption Provided
- Sacrificial System (instructions)
- Elohim's requirements for holy living (the Law)
- Tabernacle and furnishings
- The Priesthood
- The Appointed Times (feasts) of Elohim (*plan of redemption*)
- ALL points to Yeshua, the ultimate sacrifice

The background of the slide is a photograph of a desert landscape. In the foreground, there are rocky, brownish hills with sparse, low-lying vegetation. The middle ground shows a series of rolling hills and valleys, some with more pronounced ridges. In the far distance, a range of mountains is visible under a clear, light blue sky. The overall tone of the image is warm and expansive.

4: NUMBERS

Wandering and Learning

4: NUMBERS (B'MIDBAR = WILDERNESS)

- Camping and wandering in the desert
- Census (*prophetic pointings*)
- Disobedience and consequences
- Learning to become the people of Elohim
- Plagues and healing
- Attempted curses, resulting blessings
- Prophecies of Messiah

A painting depicting Moses, an elderly man with a long white beard, wearing a white robe and a yellow sash. He is holding a long wooden staff in his left hand and has his right hand raised towards the sky. He is surrounded by other men, some with beards and wearing robes, looking up at him. The background is dark and textured.

5: DEUTERONOMY

The Law Repeated
Parting Messages

5: DEUTERONOMY (D'VARIM = WORDS)

- Camped on plains of Moab, ready to enter Promised Land
- New generation (*all but 2 died in wilderness*)
- Moses gives several sermons about obeying God
- What to expect if they do (*blessings*) and if they don't (*cursings*)
- Concludes the TORAH, Pentateuch, the Law
- Sometimes called the “second Law”
- Moses dies, God buries Him, Joshua takes over as leader

A vibrant, painterly illustration depicting the biblical scene of the Israelites entering the Promised Land. In the foreground, soldiers are engaged in battle, wearing purple and pink tunics and carrying spears and shields. Some are on the ground, while others stand. In the background, a large crowd of people, many wearing white robes with blue sashes, are gathered on a hillside, some holding golden vessels. The scene is set against a backdrop of rocky terrain and distant buildings under a blue sky.

6: JOSHUA

Entering the Land

6: JOSHUA (Y'HOSHUA = SALVATION)

- Entering Promised Land
- “Captain of the Lord’s Army”
- Fall of Jericho, first of many cities God delivers into hands of His people
- God directs conquests
- Many mistakes, getting right with God
- Land apportioned to tribes
- Book begins (*or continues*) the historical section of the Old Testament



7: JUDGES

Elohim's Way

Dark Days

7: JUDGES (SHOFETIM = JUDGES)

- Some of darkest days in Israel's early history
- Series of "sin cycles" for 350 years as they turn away from Him again and again
- 14 different judges (*including a woman*)
- People disobedient, get into trouble, call out for deliverance. God provides it, then battles, trials, disobedience repeated.
- Very gruesome stories in this book
- Gideon, Samson, Deborah and others



8: RUTH

Prophetic Love Story

8: RUTH (RUT = DESIRABLE, FRIEND)

- Bright spot in the midst of dark days of Judges
- Beautiful love story
- Symbolic and prophetic of Elohim's love for His people and their redemption
- Prophetic how God will work for/in His people –how Jews and Gentiles will relate
- Great grandparents (Boaz and Ruth) of King David are central characters
- Our Kinsman-Redeemer



9: 1 SAMUEL

Last Judge

First King

9: 1 SAMUEL (SH'MUEL = HEARD OF GOD)

- Samuel last judge of Israel, first prophet
- Israel rejects God as King, wants human king like neighbors
- Saul first king of Israel
- Saul's disobedience, new king anointed, God's choice – David
- Wars with Philistines
- Ark goes into battle, captured...(*gold tumors!*)
- David and Goliath
- David and Jonathan
- Saul jealous of David, David runs for his life.
- Saul dies in battle



10: 2 SAMUEL

King David

“A man after God’s own Heart”

10: 2 SAMUEL (SH'MUEL = HEARD OF GOD)

- David becomes king of Israel
- Victories in battle
- King's sins (Bathsheba, Uriah, etc.)
- Problems in his household
- David's disobedience
- Still a man after "God's own heart"
- Davidic Covenant (*Messiah to come from line of David*)
- God chooses place for His temple
- David purchases land for Temple

A dramatic scene of the Temple of Solomon. In the background, the temple's architecture is visible, including a large central tower and side wings. A thick plume of white smoke rises from the altar on the left. In the foreground, a large bronze chariot, pulled by four oxen, is being moved by several men in white robes. The sky is a deep blue with some clouds.

11: 1 KINGS

From Glorious to Divided Kingdom

11: 1 KINGS (MAL-KHIM = KINGS)

- David dies, son Solomon becomes king
- Very wise, very wealthy, kingdom grows, is united, world-famous
- Solomon builds temple
- Solomon disobeys, has over 1000 wives and concubines, turned away from God
- Solomon dies, son Rehoboam king
- Many mistakes, kingdom split into two – No. Kingdom of Israel, So. Kingdom of Judah
- All evil kings in north, mostly evil in south; gets increasingly worse
- Elijah and Elisha



12: 2 KINGS

Divided Kingdom

Decline and Fall

12: 2 KINGS (MAL-KHIM = KINGS)

- Divided kingdom
- Reigns of evil kings in north kingdom of Israel
- Some good, mostly evil kings so. Kingdom, Judah
- Elijah to heaven in whirlwind, Elisha
- King Hezekiah
- 185,000 Assyrian soldiers killed one night by 1 angel
- Israel conquered by Assyria in 722 BC, into captivity – never return (*melo haGoyim*)
- Ends with conquest of Judah (Nebuchadnezzar of Babylon) (*3 sieges, fall of Jerusalem in 586 BC*)
- 70-year captivity in Babylon begins (for southern kingdom of Judah only)



13: 1 CHRONICLES

Divine Perspective

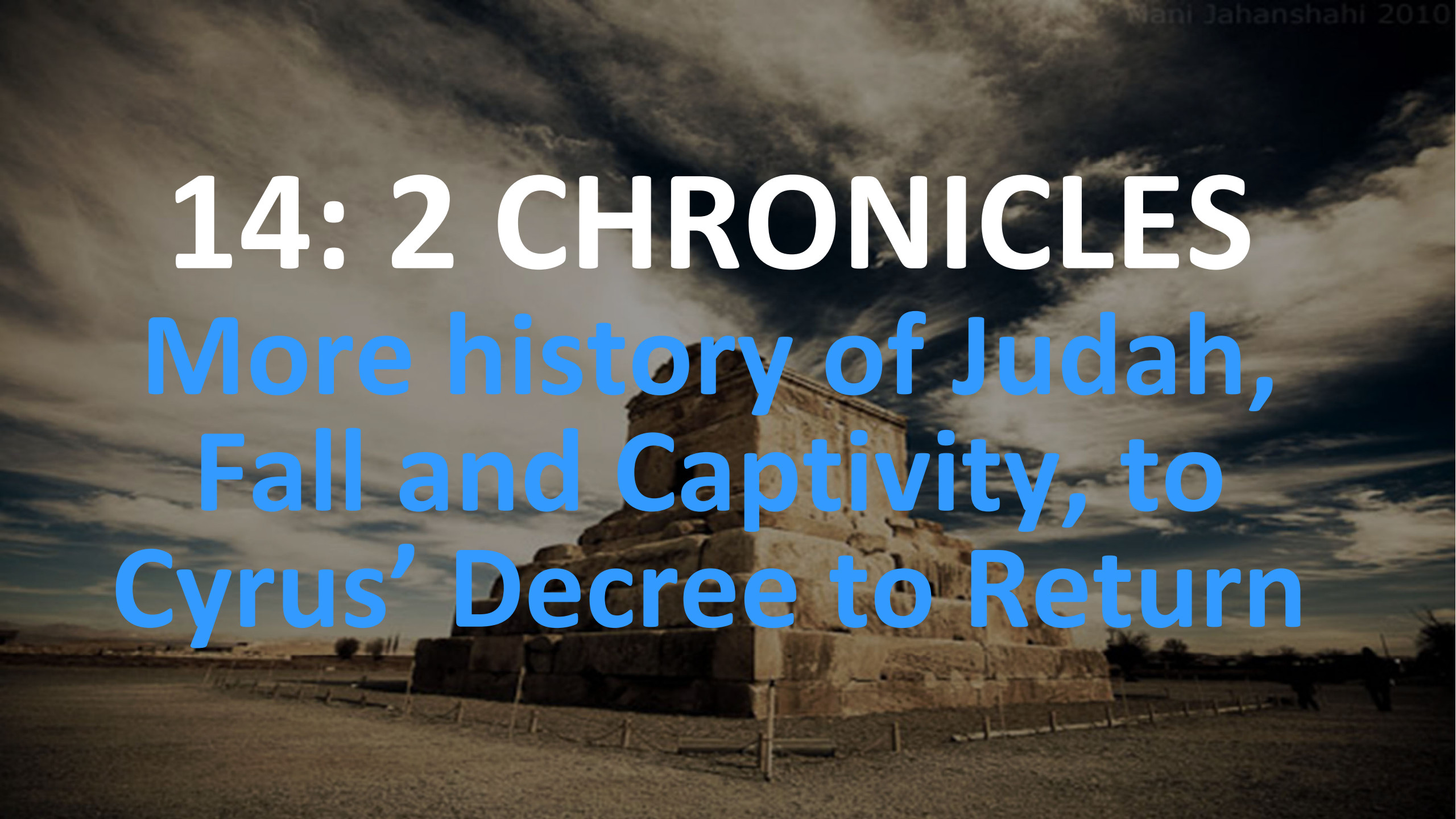
Kingdom of Judah

13: 1 CHRONICLES (DIVREI HA YAMIM = WORDS OF THE DAYS)

- Same history as previous books, from divine perspective
- Does not involve northern kingdom of Israel (*focuses on Judah, and line of David*)
- Begins with genealogies of David and Israel
- David's reign
- Preparation for building of Temple
- Last days of David
- Coronation of his son Solomon, David dies

14: 2 CHRONICLES

More history of Judah,
Fall and Captivity, to
Cyrus' Decree to Return



14: 2 CHRONICLES (DIVREI HA YAMIM = WORDS OF THE DAYS)

- Continuation of divine perspective on history of Judah
- Covers same time period as 1-2 Kings, but not much about northern Kingdom of Israel, focuses on Judah
- Also focuses on Godly kings of Judah (*not as much on evil kings*)
- Starts with Solomon's reign through Zedekiah
- Destruction of Jerusalem, captivity
- Proclamation by King Cyrus of Persia (*after he conquers Babylon*), captivity of Jews is over
- Decrees they are to go back to their land



15: EZRA

Rebuilding the Temple and the People

15: EZRA (EZRA = ASSISTANCE, HELP)

- Decree of Cyrus of Persia for Jews to return
- 1st return from Babylon (*Persia*) under Zerubbabel, another under Ezra
- Only remnant returns (about 50,000 people)
- Rebuilding temple, construction interrupted by opposing powers. Later completed.
- Also concentrates on rebuilding the people into a people of God
- 2nd temple completed (*1st = Solomon's*) not nearly as grand as 1st Temple



16: NEHEMIAH

Rebuilding the City, Reshaping the People

16: NEHEMIAH (NECHEMIAH = CHRONICLES)

- Jew served king of Persia, wanted to return to rebuild Jerusalem (*gained support from king*)
- Returned to Jerusalem to find broken walls, terrible disarray, people gone astray again, etc.
- Excellent portrayal of strong leadership
- Gets city walls rebuilt (*critical*) during difficult times
- 2nd part focuses on rebuilding the people, returning them to pattern of obedience, not disobedience.
- Very important decrees in this book, serve as markers for prophecies. (*Decree of Artaxerxes, etc.*)



17: ESTHER

Beauty Queen Saves Her People

17: ESTHER (HADASSAH = MYRTLE, BRIDE, STAR)

- About Jews who remained in Persia after captivity
- Esther (*Hadassah*) enters a beauty contest (*uncle Mordecai's urging*) becomes new queen to King of Persia, Xerxes
- Haman attempts to wipe out Jews
- God saves His people through Esther's courage/obedience
- Feast of Purim
- Ends historical section of Old Testament

***Yevarekh-kha Adonai
veyishmerekha***

May the LORD bless you and keep you

***Ya'er Adonai panav elekha
vihunneka***

May the LORD make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you

***Yissa Adonai panav elekha
viyasem lekha shalom.***

May the LORD lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

