

The Story Between Old and New

Sherwood Oaks Christian Church

Week of February 15, 2009

This week's sermon does not come from The Story. In fact, it covers the period of time between the end of the Old Testament and the beginning of the New Testament. For that reason, it is something that is rarely studied in church.

(Optional: you may skip down to the bottom and enjoy reviewing the Old Testament if the period between the testaments is messing with your mind.)

1. Which periods of YOUR life do you think others are least familiar with?
2. Were those times uneventful and unimportant?
3. What do you know about the time between the testaments?
4. In general, this period of time is the world into which Jesus was born. Why *then*? Why not during the high point of Israel's power in the world? Or during the exile and captivity?
5. Does the fact that the lives of people who lived during this period weren't recorded in Scripture mean that they were Godless? Was God not working?
6. In some ways, we are living in a similar time. Current events aren't recorded in Scripture. Is God still at work? Is he silent? Are there people today just as faithful as Abraham and Noah? Are there people today just as brave as David or Samson? Just as inspired as the Prophets? Just as wise as Solomon?

Optional Discussion:

Since we have concluded the part of the series covering the Old Testament, you may enjoy taking time to discuss what you have learned and discovered over the past months.

Share any new insights you have gained about God or history or yourself.

Do you have a clearer picture of the timeline of history in Scripture now? Explain.

How valuable has studying the Bible in the context of *The Story* been for you?

What are your hopes for the next part of our story, beginning the New Testament and the arrival of Jesus Christ?