



From Yvon Prehn

## IT'S ALL ABOUT HIM

A PRIMARY PURPOSE OF  
OUR BIBLE:  
TO TELL US ABOUT JESUS

## Lesson Today

- How Jesus explained his life and death
- How the Old Testament talked about him
- How the New Testament writers talked about him
- Paul's use of Old Testament
- Time line implications
- A secular historical use of Scripture

## Review

- Previously we talked about how Jesus:
  - Believed the Scriptures were inspired by God
  - Relied on them in times of extreme trials in his life, e.g. his temptation
  - Used them to challenge others with God's truth
- What about after his resurrection?

## On the road to Emmaus

- "What things?" he asked.  
 "About Jesus of Nazareth," they replied, "He was a prophet, powerful in word and deed before God and all the people. <sup>20</sup>The chief priests and our rulers handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him; <sup>21</sup>but we had hoped that he was the one who was going to redeem Israel. **And what is more, it is the third day since all this took place.** <sup>22</sup>In addition, some of our women amazed us. They went to the tomb early this morning <sup>23</sup>but didn't find his body. They came and told us that they had seen a vision of angels, who said he was alive. <sup>24</sup>Then some of our companions went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but him they did not see."
- <sup>25</sup>He said to them, "How foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! <sup>26</sup>Did not the Christ have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?" <sup>27</sup>And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.  
 Luke 24:19-27

## To assure the disciples

- He said to them, "This is what I told you while I was still with you: **Everything must be fulfilled that is written about me in the Law of Moses, the Prophets and the Psalms.**"
- Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures. <sup>46</sup>He told them, "This is what is written: The Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, <sup>47</sup>and repentance and forgiveness of sins will be preached in his name to all nations, beginning at Jerusalem. Luke 24:44-47

## Let's look at what Jesus referred to

- It isn't all about us.....
- All of the Bible has one main character: Jesus
- All of the Bible points to him, shows our need for him, tells the story of his life, how to be correctly related to him and his coming again
- Consistent story=true story
- Examples, only a few out of so many

## Genesis promise of a Savior

- And I will put enmity between thee and the woman, and between thy seed and her seed; it shall bruise thy head, and thou shalt bruise his heel. *Genesis 3:15*
- Immediately after sin, the promise of the Savior
- Earliest prophecy of Virgin birth

## Job, written same time as Abraham, non-Jewish speaker

- I know that my Redeemer lives, and that in the end he will stand upon the earth. And after my skin has been destroyed, yet in my flesh I will see God; *Job 19:24-26*
- God's plan clearly known to those who were willing to serve God
  - Old Testament saints not ignorant of the resurrection, Job, most likely oldest book
  - Also helps answer question, "What about those who don't hear?"

## Numbers, context of Jn 3:16

- So Moses made a bronze snake and put it up on a pole. Then when anyone was bitten by a snake and looked at the bronze snake, he lived. *Numbers 21:9*
- **Fulfillment:**
- Just as Moses lifted up the snake in the desert, so the Son of Man must be lifted up, that everyone who believes in him may have eternal life. "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. *John 3:14-16*

## Deuteronomy, a promised prophet, who we are to listen to

- The nations you will dispossess listen to those who practice sorcery or divination. But as for you, the LORD your God has not permitted you to do so. <sup>15</sup> The LORD your God will raise up for you a prophet like me from among your own brothers. You must listen to him. *Deuteronomy 18:14-15*
- And who we should listen to today—though many competing voices

## Psalms, many descriptions

- Because you will not abandon me to the grave, nor will you let your Holy One see decay. **Psalms 16**<sup>10</sup>
- Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever; a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom. *Psalms 45:6*
- Recognized as Messianic Psalms, but timing misunderstood

## Isaiah 9:6-7, lots of prophecies

- For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.
- Of the increase of his government and peace there will be no end. He will reign on David's throne and over his kingdom, establishing and upholding it with justice and righteousness from that time on and forever. The zeal of the LORD Almighty will accomplish this.
- Note also Isa. 53

## Jesus as Shepherd

See, the Sovereign LORD comes with power, and his arm rules for him. See, his reward is with him, and his recompense accompanies him.

He tends his flock like a shepherd:

He gathers the lambs in his arms and carries them close to his heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Isaiah 40:10-11

## Jesus as Shepherd in Ezekiel

- I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd.  
Ezekiel 34:23
- Jesus earthly occupation was a carpenter
- When Jesus talked about himself as a shepherd, was referring to prophecy

## Place of Messiah's birth

- "But you, Bethlehem Ephrathah, though you are small among the clans of Judah, out of you will come for me one who will be ruler over Israel, whose origins are from of old, from ancient times." Micah 5:2
- Known that this would be his birthplace: Wise Men & Herod

## Zechariah: The Coming of Zion's King

- Rejoice greatly, O Daughter of Zion! Shout, Daughter of Jerusalem! See, your king comes to you, righteous and having salvation, gentle and riding on a donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.  
Zechariah 9:9
- Fulfilled Psalm Sunday

## What about the New Testament?

- Notice the writer's constant referrals back to the Old Testament Scriptures
- Used it to understand and explain what was happening
- Used it to identify Jesus as Messiah
- Used it to share the gospel message
- We need to follow their example

## Purpose of the New Testament

- Jesus did many other miraculous signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not recorded in this book. <sup>31</sup>But these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that by believing you may have life in his name. John 20:30
- Why do you read the Bible?

## Matthew

- When evening came, many who were demon-possessed were brought to him, and he drove out the spirits with a word and healed all the sick. **17This was to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet Isaiah:**  
**"He took up our infirmities and carried our diseases."** Matt: 8: 16
- A good exercise: go through Matthew and mark the passages like this, with OT ref.
- Written to Jews, you'll see why

## When Jesus ministry questioned

- Matt. 11:2 When John heard in prison what Christ was doing, he sent his disciples <sup>3</sup>to ask him, "Are you the one who was to come, or should we expect someone else?"  
 Jesus replied, "Go back and report to John what you hear and see: **5The blind receive sight, the lame walk, those who have leprosy are cured, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the good news is preached to the poor.** <sup>6</sup>Blessed is the man who does not fall away on account of me."
- Don't fall away—trust the Word

## OT Scriptures a foundation for Paul's ministry

- As his custom was, Paul went into the synagogue, and on three Sabbath days **he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, explaining and proving that the Christ had to suffer and rise from the dead.** "This Jesus I am proclaiming to you is the Christ," he said. Acts 17:2-3

## Pattern of other teachers

- Acts 18: 24 Meanwhile a Jew named Apollos, a native of Alexandria, came to Ephesus. He was a learned man, with a thorough knowledge of the Scriptures. <sup>25</sup>He had been instructed in the way of the Lord, and **he spoke with great fervor and taught about Jesus accurately,** though he knew only the baptism of John. <sup>26</sup>He began to speak boldly in the synagogue. When Priscilla and Aquila heard him, they invited him to their home and explained to him the way of God more adequately.
- <sup>27</sup>When Apollos wanted to go to Achaia, the brothers encouraged him and wrote to the disciples there to welcome him. On arriving, he was a great help to those who by grace had believed. <sup>28</sup>**For he vigorously refuted the Jews in public debate, proving from the Scriptures that Jesus was the Christ.**

## Paul's defense before Felix

- Acts 23:14 However, I admit that **I worship the God of our fathers as a follower of the Way, which they call a sect. I believe everything that agrees with the Law and that is written in the Prophets,** <sup>15</sup>and I have the same hope in God as these men, that there will be a resurrection of both the righteous and the wicked. <sup>16</sup>So I strive always to keep my conscience clear before God and man.

## Defense before Festus & Agrippa

- But I have had God's help to this very day, and so I stand here and testify to small and great alike. **I am saying nothing beyond what the prophets and Moses said would happen—** <sup>23</sup>that the Christ would suffer and, as the first to rise from the dead, would proclaim light to his own people and to the Gentiles."  
**Acts 26:22-23**



## Timeline anchors, implications

- Felix, Roman Governor 52-59
- Festus, Roman Governor 60-62
- Agrippa, grandson of Herod the Great, son of Herod Agrippa, (of Acts 12, killed James, had Peter arrested, died), sisters Bernice and Drusilla (married Felix)
- Lives, dates, well documented in Roman history, Paul's message to them clear
- NOT made up by later Christians

## Under house arrest in Rome

- Acts 28:17 Three days later he called together the leaders of the Jews. When they had assembled, Paul said to them: "My brothers, although I have done nothing against our people or against the customs of our ancestors, I was arrested in Jerusalem and handed over to the Romans. <sup>20</sup>For this reason I have asked to see you and talk with you. It is because of the hope of Israel that I am bound with this chain." . . . .
- <sup>23</sup>They arranged to meet Paul . . . *From morning till evening he explained and declared to them the kingdom of God and tried to convince them about Jesus from the Law of Moses and from the Prophets.* <sup>24</sup>Some were convinced by what he said, but others would not believe. . . . <sup>30</sup>For two whole years Paul stayed there in his own rented house and welcomed all who came to see him. <sup>31</sup>Boldly and without hindrance he preached the kingdom of God and taught about the Lord Jesus Christ.

## Scripture used to explain and validate Christian claims

- Even by non-Christian sources:  
"Now there was about this time Jesus, a wise man, if it be lawful to call him a man, for he was a doer of wonderful works, a teacher of such men as receive the truth with pleasure. He drew over to him both many of the Jews and many of the Gentiles. This man was Christ.

- And when Pilate, at the suggestion of the principal men among us, had condemned him to the cross, those that loved him at the first did not forsake him, for *he appeared to them alive the third day, as the divine prophets had foretold* these and then a thousand other wonderful things concerning him. And the tribe of Christians, so named after him, are not extinct at this day."

• Josephus, *Antiquities* 18:3:3

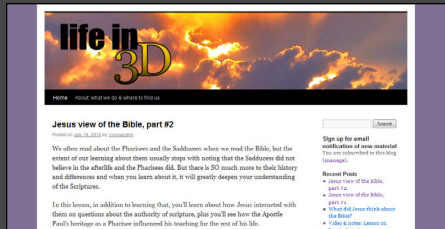
## Closing Challenge

- This lesson showed us once again how Jesus and some of the founders of our faith based their lives on the Bible.
- It also shows historical anchors.
- It also showed us how the Bible is ONE STORY—His Story.
- Like the old hymn says, "We've a story to tell to the nations!"

## Questions

- Icebreaker: what is your favorite comfort food?
- Why do you think Jesus used the OT Scriptures to explain his life and death?
- How did the New Testament writers use them?
- What example does this give us in how to share our faith?
- How does the unity of the Biblical message give you comfort?

## Additional Resources: website <http://coastlinelifein3d.wordpress.com>



## Additional Resources: Facebook Group: Life in 3-D Coastline Bible Church

