Chapter 2 - THE OLD TESTAMENT REVEALS GOD

We are all born with a sin nature which means we're alienated from God resulting in **spiritual blindness**. No one will ever find God with their own wisdom, intuition, reasoning or philosophy because our minds are ignorant of spiritual truths.

> *Can you search out the deep things of God? Can you find out the limits of the Almighty*?
> 8 *They are higher than heaven*—what can you do? Deeper than Sheol—what can you know? (Job 11:7-8).

> … you should no longer walk as the rest of the Gentiles walk, in the futility of their mind,
> 18 *having their understanding _____, being alienated from the life of God, because of the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart* (Eph. 4:17b-18).

GOD HIMSELF, MUST REVEAL SPIRITUAL TRUTH!

Since we, on our own, possess no true spiritual understanding, ***God chooses to reveal Himself to us*.** All Scripture is an unfolding and continuing revelation of God.

> The OT says we <u>need to desire</u> to know God.

> And *you will seek Me and find Me, when you search for me with _____ your heart* (Jer. 29:13).

> But from there you will seek the LORD your God, and *you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul* (Deu. 4:29). (Also Ps. 27:8; Is. 45:19)

THE OT IS AS DIVINELY INSPIRED AS THE NT.

> *For no prophecy was ever made by an act of human will, but men _____ by the Holy Spirit spoke from God (2 Pe. 1:21).*

> *All Scripture is given by inspiration of God and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof. for correction, for instruction in righteousness, 17 that the man of God may be complete, thoroughly equipped for every good work (2 Tim. 3:16-17).*

THE OT IS REPEATEDLY QUOTED IN THE NT

283 direct quotes from the OT** are **located in the NT. (Prophet or book is named.)

> 74 verses from Psalms; 80 from Isaiah; 28 from Genesis; 36 from Deuteronomy!
> Over 800 **indirect references** are given. (Verse given without listing prophet or book.)

WHAT JESUS SAID:

Then He said to them, “These are the words which I spoke while I was still with you, that ***all things must be _____ which were written in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms concerning Me.”*** 45 And He opened their understanding, that they might comprehend the Scriptures (Lu. 24:44-45).

WHAT PAUL SAID:

When Paul gave his Christian testimony, he referred to the fulfillments of OT prophecy.

Therefore, having obtained help from God, to this day I stand, witnessing both to small and great, ***saying no other things than those which the _____and Moses said would come****—23 that the Christ would suffer, that He would be the first to rise from the dead, and would proclaim light to the Jewish people and to the Gentiles (Acts 26:22-23).*

SERMONS IN THE BOOK OF ACTS REFERRED TO OT SCRIPTURES.

Acts 2:16-21 Peter quoted the Book of Joel.
Acts 3:22-23 Peter quoted Deuteronomy 18:15, 18, 19.
Acts 8:32-33 The Ethiopian was reading from _____
Acts 15:16-17 James quoted Amos 9:11-12
Acts 24:14 Paul testified to Felix referring what was written in the Law and Prophets.
Acts 26:22-23 Paul testified of things the prophets and Moses said would come.
Acts 28:23 Paul testified to the Jews concerning Jesus from both Moses and Prophets…

AN OT LAYOUT (ROAD MAP) FOR YOUR BENEFIT.

The Torah (“Teaching”)**:** first five books. Also known as the _____

Written by Moses; tells of creation, sin, God choosing Abraham; the Israelites in Egypt and the Exodus out of it. God gives the laws of living for Him (and designs for a house of worship.)

The Historical Books.

These books start with Joshua through to Esther.” They cover the history of Israel from entering the Promised land to the Jewish return from Persia after the Babylonian captivity.

Wisdom Literature.

These include *Job, Psalms, Proverbs; Ecclesiastes and Song of Solomon*.

The Major and Minor Prophets.

For Christians the books are known as the “***Major Prophets***” (*Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations* and *Ezekiel, Daniel)* and the twelve “***Minor Prophets***”. The Major prophets are so described because of the lengthy size of their books while the “Minors” are short books.