

# Part I - Old Testament Survey

- Summary review examining examine issues of:
  - · Authorship,
  - · Timelines,
  - · Historical setting,
  - Major themes and characters
  - Theological considerations

#### The Hermeneutical Process

- The Difficulty of Interpretation
  - Thou shalt not kill. Ex. 20.13
    - · What does this verse mean?
    - What do you say to our military?
    - · What about matter of self defense?

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# **The Hermeneutical Process**

- Gender Issues
  - 34 Let your women keep silence in the churches: for it is not permitted unto them to speak; but they are commanded to be under obedience, as also saith the law. 35 And if they will learn any thing, let them ask their husbands at home: for it is a shame for women to speak in the church. 1 Cor. 14.34-35

## **Problem of the Old Testament**

- · Analysis of Old Testament: Two Main Challenges:
  - · Relation between testaments;
  - Relation between OT and church tradition
- Strategies for resolving these problems?
  - seeing primarily continuity between the testaments
  - · seeing primarily discontinuity between the testaments

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#### **Problem with the Old Testament**

- Marcion (A. D. 85–160)
- 3 standard charges against the OT:
  - Particularism: exclusive and national emphasis on Israel.
  - Encourages some dangerous tendencies which history bears out

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# **Problem with the Old Testament**

- Marcion uses Paul's contrast between law and grace.
  - The OT god was the god of law.
  - The NT god was the god of grace and love.

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#### **The Solution**

- Principles of Biblical Interpretation
  - The need for both continuity and discontinuity in whole Bible interpretation
    - The consequences of continuity and discontinuity
    - The skillful interrupter must be open to both possibilities.

## **Old Testament & Church Tradition**

#### Doctrine of God

- The idea that the God of the OT is the same as the god of the NT is at the foundation of the Christian ideas of God and the trinity.
- Isaiah 45.6-7 stands in tension to the concept of trinity.
- · Israel believe so firmly in monotheism that all is attributed to him.

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# **Old Testament & Church Tradition**

#### Doctrine of God

- Monotheism (Deut 32:39; Isa 45:6–7)
- · Anthropomorphism (Gen 3:8; John 3:10)

### **Old Testament & Church Tradition**

- Psalms of Lament (Ps 83:10; Ps 137)
  - In the area of spirituality the OT pushes us. Looking at the psalms of lament. They seem to express the most ungodly of emotions and thoughts. The OT pushes us to reevaluate both our worship and our spiritual practices.

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## **Old Testament & Church Tradition**

#### Worship

- · OT offers a vision of worship at convocations.
- Generally the preaching text is dominated by the NT.
  Some of the issue may be discomfort with the OT.
- The lectionary will only cover 20 percent of the OT.
  So, a church reliant on the lectionary deprives the church of the major sections of the OT.

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