

Old Testament Overview

Job – Song of Solomon

(Jb 1:20-21)

INTRODUCTION

1. Good Evening
 - a. Greeting...
2. Series on "Old Testament Overview."
 - a. We have looked from Genesis through Esther.
3. Jb – SS are books of poetry.
 - a. Hebrew poetry is characterized by rhythm of.
 - i. Words & tones in parallelism.
 - ii. Not meter or rhyme as we are accustom to seeing and hearing.
 - b. Songs were written to be sung or spoken.
 - i. Songs were chanted much like you see the Jews & Muslims do today.
 - ii. Psalms are the most popular songs but there are others as well like Song of Solomon.

I. Job

A. History

1. Named after the main person of the book Job.
2. Job is held world wide as one of the best works of poetry ever written both by Christians and Non-Christians.
3. Takes place sometime before Moses but after the flood.
4. Job was an honest upright man but calamities came upon him.
5. Main people in the book are...
 - i. Job
 - ii. Eliphaz, Bildad, Zophar (his friends)
 - iii. Elihu
 - iv. Satan
 - v. God

B. Outline

1. (1-2) Job's disasters
2. (3-31) Job's dialogues with friends
3. (32-37) Elihu's speeches
4. (38-41) God's speeches
5. (42) Job's deliverance

C. Lessons Learned

1. Not everything is God's fault or His will.
 - i. Satan is the ruler of this world.
 - a. **Jn 12:30-31** "Jesus answered and said, "This voice did not come because of Me, but for your sake. 31 Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be cast out."¹

¹ All Scriptures are taken from the NKJV unless otherwise noted.

Old Testament Overview

- b. **II Co 4:4** "whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God, should shine on them."
2. We can overcome anything.
 - i. **Ph 4:13** "I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me."
 - ii. **II Co 3:4-5** "And we have such trust through Christ toward God. 5 Not that we are sufficient of ourselves to think of anything as being from ourselves, but our sufficiency is from God"
 - iii. **Jn 15:4-5** "Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. 5 "I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing."

II. Psalms

A. History

1. Named after the type of literature the book holds.
 - a. Psalms or songs written about God and His people.
2. The book is a compilation of 150 psalms.
 - a. Wrong to say chapter 1, 2...
3. Was written by approximately 7 or so writers.
 - a. It was compiled about 10th century B.C.

B. Outline

1. (1-41) Book I Doxology – 41:13
2. (42-72) Book II Doxology – 72:18
3. (73-89) Book III Doxology – 89:52
4. (90-106) Book IV Doxology – 106:48
5. (107-150) Book V Doxology – 150:1-6

C. Lessons Learned

1. We can sing & pray to God about anything
 - i. Worries – **Ps 3; Ph 4:6**
 - ii. Sins – **Ps 51**
 - iii. Joys – **Ps 18**
 - iv. Our amazement – **Ps 8**

III. Proverbs

A. History

1. Named after the type of literature that is written for us.
2. Proverb is a short pithy statement meant to give advice to better ones life.
3. Proverbs was written almost exclusively by Solomon. All but the last 2 chapters.
4. Solomon wrote or gathered over 3000 proverbs, **I Ki 4:32**, but God saw fit to have only these that we have for our learning.

Old Testament Overview

B. Outline

1. (1-9) The cruciality of wisdom
2. (10-24) 375 Pr that stress righteous living and discourage wicked living
3. (25-29) These pertain to human relationships
4. (30) Agur's words of wisdom & numerical sayings
5. (31) Lemuel's mother's advice & the virtues woman

C. Lessons Learned

1. Wisdom is essential to godliness
 - i. Wisdom starts with fearing or respecting God.
 - a. **Pr 1:7** "The fear of the LORD is the beginning of knowledge, But fools despise wisdom and instruction."
 - ii. Wisdom grows through studying.
 - a. **Pr 2:6** "For the LORD gives wisdom; From His mouth come knowledge and understanding"
 - b. **II Ti 2:15** "Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." (KJV)
 - iii. Wisdom grows through asking.
 - a. **Ja 1:5** "If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask of God, who gives to all liberally and without reproach, and it will be given to him."

IV. Ecclesiastes

A. History

1. Name in GK means "preacher."
2. Name in HB means "one who speaks at an assembly."
3. Was written by Solomon as seen by **Ec 1:1** "Son of David."

B. Outline

1. (1) The vanity of the world's natural process & pursuit of understanding
2. (2) The vanity of materialism
3. (3) God's orchestration of existence for human activity
4. (4) The vanity of human oppression, toil, politics
5. (5) The vanity of careless worship, misused wealth
6. (6) The vanity of riches
7. (7-11:8) Wise insights in the midst of life's vanity
 - a. Mini-realities amid life's unevenness
8. (11:9-12:7) Onset of old age when youth passes
9. (12:8-14) Conclusion: Life's vanity can only be handled by devoting oneself to God

Old Testament Overview

C. Lessons Learned

1. Rely on God and not on the world.
 - i. **Ec 12:13** "Let us hear the conclusion of the whole matter: Fear God and keep His commandments, For this is man's all."
 - ii. **Is 41:10** "Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you, Yes, I will help you, I will uphold you with My righteous right hand."
 - iii. **I Pt 5:7** "casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you."
RELY on God in the midst of the storm,
REST within His comforting arms.
KNOW tomorrow is safe in His hands
TRUST even when you don't understand.
STAND fast in courage, day by day,
WALK by faith when you don't know the way.
EMBRACE the Lord and abandon all fear,
BELIEVE with all your heart...He is near.

(Rebecca Jordan; <http://www.myplanet.net/bradsmith/relyonGod.htm>)

V. Song of Solomon

A. History

1. Name is a mixture of the first verse "Song of Songs" and the author Solomon.
2. Of the 1,005, **I Ki 4:32**, songs Solomon wrote this seems to be his greatest.
3. It is a lyric song in dialogue form referring to a courtship between Solomon and a wife of his.

B. Outline

1. (1-3) Romance, courting, & wedding procession
2. (4-5:1) Honeymoon
3. (5:2-6) Marital strife & reconciliation
4. (7-8) The marriage strengthens & matures

C. Lessons Learned

1. Marriage is from God and thus it is to be honored.
 - i. Was instituted by God.
 - a. **Gn 2:24** "Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh."
 - ii. Marriage is to be honored.
 - a. **He 13:4** "Marriage is honorable among all, and the bed undefiled; but fornicators and adulterers God will judge."
 - iii. It will be impossible to have two godly people and have a bad marriage.

Old Testament Overview

CONCLUSION

1. The Bible's books of poetry is one that is both fascinating and awe-inspiring. As with all of God's Word it gives us insight into who God is and what He expects from us.
2. Invitation
 - a. God's Plan of Salvation
 - i. Hear/Study **Rom 10:17; II Tim 2:15**
 - ii. Believe Jesus Is The Christ **Jn 3:16; 8:24**
 - iii. Repent/Turn To God **Ac 17:30; Lk 24:47**
 - iv. Confess Jesus As Lord **Mt 10:32; Rom 10:9**
 - v. Immersed For The Forgiveness of Sins **Ac 2:38; 22:16; I Pt 3:21**
 - vi. Live A Faithful Life **I Jn 1:7; Eph 5:8**