

An Intro to Biblical Studies

The God who Reveals

- God reveals Himself to humanity in 2 major ways:
 - General/Natural revelation (Rom. 1:20)
 - God revealed in the natural world
 - Examples:
 - The grandeur and beauty of nature (Ps. 19:1-6)
 - The human conscience (Rom. 2:14-15)
 - Others?
 - Special revelation
 - The Bible (1 Pet. 1:10-12)
 - JESUS (Luke 10:22; 2 Cor. 4:4; Col 1:15)
 - In the incarnation, life, and teaching of Christ God is revealed most fully

What is the Bible?

- The account of God's action in the world, and His purpose with all creation.
 - God is the primary focus of every part of the Bible
- Written over 16 centuries (c. 1400 BC- AD 90)
 - By over 40 human authors
- Divided into 2 Testaments*
 - The Old Testament (Genesis-Malachi)
 - OT for short
 - The New Testament (Matthew-Revelation)
 - NT for short
 - Testament means covenant
- Collection of 66 books by western counting
 - Western counting: 39 OT + 27 NT
 - Hebrew counting: 24 OT
 - Samuel, Kings, Chronicles each 1 book
 - Ezra/Nehemiah 1 book
 - Hosea-Malachi = 1 book = Book of the 12
- Variety of Literary Styles = Genres
 - Letters, Narratives, Gospels, Parables, Law, History, Prophecy, Wisdom Literature, Proverbs, Songs, Poetry
- Marked by both diversity and unity