

GO DEEPER

use these questions for further study

Share with the Group

How would you describe your relationship with the Bible in general? What about the Old Testament in particular?

How did you see the OT taught or used when you were growing up or young in the faith? What were you explicitly taught about it? What were you implicitly taught about it?

Why do so many people tend to find the OT difficult to read, engage with, and understand?

Marcionism Recap

Marcion taught that the Hebrew Scriptures were no longer needed because Christianity was something new and distinct from Ancient Israel. He also taught that the God of the Old Testament was not the same God revealed by Jesus in the New Testament - one was harsh, the other loving.

What about Marcion's teaching is tempting to accept or go along with? Why?

Where do you see forms of Marcionism in the Church today?

Read Matt 5:17-18 | 2Tim 3:14-17 | 1Pt 1:24-25

What do these verses teach us about the Old Testament, and what does that mean for how we should treat it?

Read Mk 1:1-3 | Lk 4:16-21 & 24:25-27 | 1Cor 15:3-4 | Jms 2:8

What is the connection between the testaments? How does Jesus fit into both testaments?

Talk About It - Two Gods? Split-personality God?

Many people feel like the God of the OT is different from the God of the NT. What scriptures could you use to help them see the consistent picture of God across the whole Bible?

Resources for Engaging the Hebrew Bible Well:

The Bible Project - bibleproject.com

The Epic of Eden by Dr. Sandra Richter (IVP)

The Old Testament for Everyone series by Dr. John Goldingay

The Naked Bible Podcast by Dr. Michael Heiser

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