



HIGHER GROUND  
CALVARY CHAPEL

# SCHOOL OF MINISTRY

OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Class Six:

The History of Israel

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We had one over-view class  
It's hard to believe it took three  
classes to get through Genesis  
It took one class to get through  
Exodus and from the Exodus from  
Egypt to the taking of the  
Promised Land  
There are three classes left for  
this modular

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Technically, Bible Scholars  
classify the Torah [Genesis,  
Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and  
Deuteronomy] as part of the  
Books of History  
However, I believe that they make  
the entire foundation of everything  
that God is doing

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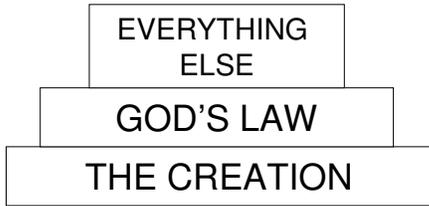
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I would build my study this way:



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We have laid the foundation  
God has put His Plan of Salvation  
in place  
Everything else is going to be God  
moving forward to fulfill His  
promise to redeem mankind

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For this lesson, we are going to  
look at the history of the nation of  
Israel  
God is working through the nation  
of Israel  
What He is doing, is getting the  
nation – and the world – ready for  
His Plan of Salvation

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Let me comment briefly on  
Deuteronomy 32:21:

“They have moved me to jealousy  
with that which is not God, they  
have provoked me to anger with  
their vanities...”

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“...and I will move them to  
jealousy with that which is not a  
people, I will provoke them to  
anger with a foolish nation.”

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This prophecy sums up the entire  
future of the nation of Israel  
It is also God’s prophecy of the  
Church  
God will remain faithful to the  
nation of Israel despite their  
rejection of Him – despite their  
unfaithfulness

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What makes the difference?  
What drives God to a “foolish nation” – i.e. the Church?  
It is when they reject the Messiah that God has offered to them  
With the rejection of Jesus as the Messiah, this prophecy is activated

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God is creating the nation of Israel to be His witness  
God’s Law gives them all the information they need to recognize the Messiah when He comes  
They are to present the Messiah to the world  
When they reject the Messiah, God must turn to the Church

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So what we will see through these last three lessons is God reaching out to the nation of Israel and Israel slowly moving away from Him  
All the while God continues to teach more information about His promised Messiah

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We saw that God had asked Abraham to offer his son to Him on Mount Moriah  
This was the Son of Promise  
God had promised Abraham a son through Sarah  
Isaac was not born until Abraham was 100 years old

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God had asked Abraham to give Him the son he had waited decades to have  
We learned from the life of Abraham that God was going to offer His own Son as a sacrifice for sin the same way that Abraham was willing to offer his own son

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But there was something else we learned from that event  
Abraham declared that God would "provide Himself" as a burnt offering  
God would be that offering  
He would be that sacrifice  
Somehow, God and His Son would be one

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The life of Isaac was uneventful other than God providing twins: Jacob and Esau  
God did something different in their lives  
God chose the younger over the older

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Jacob was the descendant of Abraham that had an interesting life  
Jacob was one of the twins born to Isaac  
Esau was the other  
Esau was born just moments before Jacob

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When Jacob was born, he was holding onto Esau's heel  
This is how he got the name, Jacob – "heel catcher"  
Esau was Daddy's boy – rugged and a hunter  
Jacob was the Mommy's boy

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Jacob had made pottage [a soup]  
Esau had been hunting all day  
without luck  
He came in hungry and asked for  
some of the soup  
Jacob sold the soup to Esau for  
his birthright

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Here we had the two characters  
defined  
Esau was impatient  
Jacob was a manipulator  
When Isaac was older and blind  
Jacob pretended to be Esau and  
stole the blessing meant for Esau

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Jacob had to flee for his life and  
his mother sent him back to her  
family  
He went to live with his Uncle  
Laban  
His Uncle Laban was also a  
manipulator  
Jacob had met his match

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Jacob worked for seven years in order to marry Laban youngest daughter, Rachel

On the wedding night, Laban switched Rachel for the older daughter, Leah

Jacob worked another seven years to marry Rachel

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Between his two wives, Leah and Rachel – and their two handmaids – Jacob had twelve sons and one daughter

At this point, God did not choose one son over any other

God was going to use all twelve sons as His Chosen People

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When Jacob left Laban and returned home with his family he encountered an angel

This angel was a Pre-Incarnation appearance of Jesus

He wrestled all night with Jesus

As a result, his name was changed from Jacob to Israel

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The main event among the twelve sons was the life of Joseph  
Joseph was given the gift of interpreting dreams  
He was Rachel's first-born  
That made him Jacob's favorite  
It also made him hated by his brothers

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The brothers planned to kill Joseph but then changed their minds  
They sold him into slavery  
He ended up a slave in Egypt in the house of Potiphar  
Even there God blessed him

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Potiphar's wife tried to seduce him  
He refused, and she framed him for attempted rape  
Potiphar threw him into prison  
Even there God blessed him  
He interpreted dreams for Pharaoh's butler and baker

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Years later, when Pharaoh had a dream he could not understand the butler remembered Joseph Joseph interpreted the dream of Pharaoh

There were seven fat cows and they were eaten by seven skinny cows

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There were seven fat ears of corn that were consumed by seven puny ears of corn

There were going to be seven years of plenty

Followed by seven years of famine

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Joseph was put in charge of all crops and food supplies

They gathered and stored the seven years of surplus

They then rationed during the seven years of famine

Egypt survived

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It also created the opportunity for Joseph's brothers to come to Egypt to buy food  
They did not recognize Joseph  
He tested them to see if they were still jealous of Rachel's other son, Benjamin  
He then revealed himself to them

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God used this to move Jacob [Israel] and his family out of the Promised Land into Egypt as honored guests of Joseph who was now second-in-command of Egypt

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On his death bed, Jacob [Israel] blessed each of his twelve sons  
When he came to Judah, his blessing identified Judah as the son who would become the royal tribe  
He would bear kings and one of his descendants would be the Messiah

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This is important because it shows that God had always intended to rule the nation through a king  
There was just one problem  
Judah was under a generational curse

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Judah married his eldest son to Tamar  
His son died without having any children  
He married Tamar to his second eldest son  
He died without having any children

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His next eldest son was too young to marry  
He sent Tamar back to her father's house  
When the son was old enough to marry and Judah did not send for her, she took matters into her own hands

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She knew Judah was going to pass through a specific area  
She disguised herself as a prostitute  
She obtained his staff and signet ring as a pledge for payment  
Rather than waiting for payment she returned home with his ring

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When she was found to be pregnant, Judah called her before him to punish her  
She presented the staff and ring to prove the child was his  
She gave birth to twins  
But it was out of wedlock

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There was a ten-generation curse upon Judah's line because of this  
No one in his line could enter the Tabernacle – which would not be built for 400 years  
His sons could not be king until ten generations had passed  
Keep this in mind...

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God used Joshua to lead the Children of Israel to victory  
God went before them and caused the walls of Jericho to fall  
He made the sun to stand still  
He sent hail and storms to defeat the enemy  
The Children of Israel took the land

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With the death of Joshua, the nation of Israel followed the pattern of seeking out a person who was used by God  
This became known as the Time of the Judges  
This is the basis for the Book of Judges

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There was a cycle that kept taking place with the nation of Israel  
They would serve God  
They would turn away from God  
God would send an enemy nation to conquer them  
They would repent  
God would send a judge to free them

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The Period of Judges [excluding Eli and Samuel] covers a period of 410 years

There were seven cycles of conquest/repentance/deliverance

There were twelve judges over Israel

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Othniel

Ehud

Shamgar

Deborah/Barak

Gideon

Tola

Jair

Jephthah

Ibzan

Elon

Abdon

Samson

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I want to focus on two of these judges:

Gideon: God used Gideon and 300 men to defeat thousands of Midianites

Those who were afraid – go home

Final test: drink from a spring

Made Midianites think they were more [torches, jars, trumpets]

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Samson: A Nazarite who could not cut his hair  
He demonstrated great feats of strength  
Killed 1,000 soldiers w/ jawbone  
Betrayed by Delilah and blinded  
Pulled down temple of Dagon

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We then come to Samuel  
Samuel was a gift from God  
His mother, Hannah, prayed for God to give her a son  
In return, she gave him back to God  
He was raised by priests in the Tabernacle

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Samuel was technically the last Judge  
He was also a priest  
And he was a prophet  
The Children of Israel demanded that he give them a king  
They wanted to be like other nations

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It was during his rule that Israel transformed from a Theocracy [ruled by God] to a monarchy [ruled by a king]  
God had always planned to give Israel a king  
Judah was identified as the royal tribe

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There was just one problem  
The people wanted a king one generation too soon  
The person God wanted to use was one generation later  
Judah was still under a ten-generation restriction

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God had Samuel select Saul of the Tribe of Benjamin to be the king  
Saul started out good, but he did not obey God  
He was a place-holder as God waited for His selection: David

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When King Saul continued to disobey and break God's law, God had Samuel secretly anoint David as the next king  
Now came the problem of transferring from Saul and the Tribe of Benjamin over to David and the Tribe of Judah

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God inspired David to accept the challenge of Goliath  
This brought him to King Saul's attention  
David became a general under Saul with great victories  
David married Saul's daughter

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Saul became jealous of David and tried to kill David  
David fled for his life and lived in hiding for many years  
He was like a Jewish Robin Hood and gathered many men who followed him

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With the death of King Saul in battle, David became king over the Tribe of Judah

With the death of Saul's last heir, David was made king over all twelve tribes

This was a time of blessing for the nation of Israel

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Let me cover the Book of Ruth at this point

Naomi and her family left Israel due to a famine

They moved to Moab

Her two sons married Moabite women

Her husband and sons died

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Naomi moved back to Israel

Her daughter-in-law, Ruth, refused to abandon her and came back to Israel with her

To provide for Naomi, Ruth gleaned in the field of Boaz

He was a relative of Naomi

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Naomi had Ruth invoke to Law of  
Leverite Marriage

[A relative marries a widow who  
has no children]

Ruth and Boaz became the  
ancestors of David

And became the ancestors of  
Jesus

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The story of Ruth is the physical  
example of how the Law of the  
Kinsman Redeemer worked

Ruth became a picture of the  
Church

Naomi became a picture of the  
Holy Spirit

Boaz became a picture of Jesus

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Although David was a “man after  
God’s own heart” he stumbled  
and fell into sin

He had an affair with a married  
woman – Bathsheba

She became pregnant

David arranged for her husband to  
be killed in battle

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Because of this sin, God declared that the sword would not depart from David's house

It was marred by rape, killing and eventually one of David's sons, Absalom, raised an army to take David's throne from him

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After the death of Absalom, David returned to his throne in Jerusalem

He wanted to build a house for God, but God would not let him

He had shed too much blood

That task would be fulfilled by David's son, Solomon

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Under Solomon, the Temple was built in Jerusalem

God offered Solomon whatever he wanted

Solomon chose wisdom to rule God's people

God made Solomon the wisest man to ever live

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Apparently, being the wisest man to ever live did not make him the smartest

He married 1,000 women to expand the power and wealth of Israel

His taxes were a burden on the people

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He built temples to false gods for his wives

They led him away from God and he sinned to the point that God decreed that the kingdom would be divided upon his death

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Upon his death, the people called for tax reform

Solomon's son, Rehoboam, refused

The ten northern tribes broke away from Rehoboam and followed a man named Jeroboam

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How do I keep them separate?  
Rehoboam starts with "R"  
He was the real king – the line of David  
Jeroboam starts with "J"  
He was "just a usurper"  
Not of the line of David

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The remainder of I and II Kings  
and I and II Chronicles can be  
summed up with these  
observations:  
The ten northern tribes became  
the Northern Kingdom – also  
known as the Kingdom of Israel

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The remaining tribes of Judah and  
Benjamin was David's line  
They were the Southern Kingdom  
or the Kingdom of Judah

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The Kingdom of Israel in the north never had a godly king  
They went deeper and deeper into pagan religions and sin  
God had the Assyrian Empire conquer them and scatter them throughout the world  
They never returned

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The Northern Kingdom:  
Jeroboam      Nadab  
Baasha        Elah  
Zimri          Omri  
Ahab           Ahaziah  
Jorum          Jehu  
Jehoahaz      Jehoash

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The Northern Kingdom:  
Jeroboam II    Zechariah  
Shallum        Menahem  
Pekahiah       Pekah  
Hoshea  
Kingdom fell to Assyrian 722 BC  
Never returned

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The Southern Kingdom had five good kings, some were both and most were evil

They became so evil that God put an end to the line of Solomon and none of his descendants would sit on David's throne

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God eventually allowed the Babylonian Empire – under King Nebuchadnezzar – to defeat the Kingdom of Judah, destroy the Temple and Jerusalem, and carry the inhabitants off into captivity for seventy years

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The Southern Kingdom:

Rehoboam [e]	Abijah [e]
Asa [g]	Jehoshaphat [g]
Jehoram [e]	Ahaziah [e]
Athaliah [e]	Amaziah [e]
Joash [g/e]	Uzziah [g/e]
Jotham [g]	Ahaz [e]

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The Southern Kingdom:

Hezekiah [g] Manasseh [e/g]

Amon [e] Josiah [g]

Jehoahaz [e] Jehoiakim [e]

Jehoiachin [e] Zedekiah [e]

Fell to Babylon in 586 BC

In Captivity for 70 years

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We have now covered

The Torah – Genesis, Exodus,  
Leviticus, Numbers and  
Deuteronomy

Joshua, Judges and Ruth

I and II Samuel

I and II Kings

I and II Chronicles

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This leaves Ezra, Nehemiah and  
Esther

The Book of Esther takes place  
after the Seventy Years of  
Captivity in Babylon

Babylon had fallen to Cyrus, the  
King of Persia

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The King of Persia was looking for a new wife

Esther was chosen and became the new queen

No one knew that she was a Jew

Haman hated the Jews and persuaded the king to sign a law allowing the Jews to be wiped out

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Esther exposed Haman as trying to kill her

The king killed Haman and signed a new law allowing the Jews to defend themselves when attacked

The Jews were saved and the Jewish Feast Purim celebrates this deliverance

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At the end of the Seventy Years of Captivity, Babylon fell to Persia

The Persian King, Cyrus, allowed the Jews to return home

He restored the Temple treasures and provided for them to rebuild the Temple

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The First return was under Zerubabel  
They returned and laid the foundation for the Temple, but the project ended  
The second return was under Ezra and the Temple was built

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Ezra was the beginning of the Pharisees  
The Book of Ezra deals with the second return under Ezra and his efforts to re-establish the Law of Moses

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The third return was under Nehemiah  
He was the cup bearer for the King of Persia  
He got permission to return to Jerusalem and rebuild the walls of the city

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He had each family rebuild the section of wall closest to their homes

They built with a tool in one hand and a sword in the other

The enemy's efforts to stop the project failed

The walls were rebuilt

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And we have completed all the Books of History

Next week we will cover the Books of Poetry

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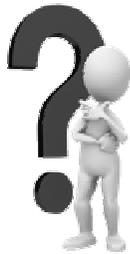
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## QUESTIONS



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