

Intro: Imagine a 2hr film w main char only intro'd after 1½hr... or a trilogy where the main char is only in book 3. Is the Bible like that? I've heard it said that the NT has rplcd the OT. True? →

Jesus in the Old Testament

Hosea => God's character (costly, tender love)
 Joel/Amos => Blessings of New Age
 Obadiah/Nahum/Zephaniah => Blessing of enemies defeated
 Habakkuk => Faith

Kings/Chronicles/Ezra => leaders;
 Jeremiah/Ezekiel/Micah => Davidic King
 Lamentations => Cov Curses

② **Genesis 12v3**: A blessing for all the families of the earth, 'in Abraham' (by faith in his seed)

③ Israel's great **deliverance** (the **Exodus**) points to Christ's saving work
 - sometimes *surprising deliverers* are raised up by God, often after being rejected by their own people: Joseph, Moses, David...

⑥ **2Samuel 7v16**: The king in David's line who would rule forever
Psalm 2: The Anointed King (& Psalm 110v1+4, 118v22-26)
 Plus other references in the prophets to a coming king to lead God's people (the Branch; 'David'...)

⑦ **Isaiah 9v6**: A Divine King!

⑨ Israel's **history** is 're-lived' by Christ
 - chosen
 - brought out of Egypt (Matthew 2v15)
 - coming through the waters
 - tempted (40 days/years)
 - 'exiled' (marched out of Jerusalem by foreign invaders, mocked and mistreated, facing God's judgment upon sin...)
 At every point Jesus accepts the fate of God's people, identifies with them, so that he can bear their sin and redeem them.
 (& NB: Israel is itself a microcosm of humanity)

① **Genesis 3v15**: Eve's 'seed' who would crush the serpent's head

④ Israel's God-given '**religious system**' points to Christ and his saving work
 - *God with us*: Tabernacle / Temple (see John 1v14)
 - *Offering for sin* (Passover, Day of Atonement etc.) **Leviticus**

⑤ Israel's **leaders** point to Christ: in their *office*, sometimes in their *qualities*, at other times by *contrast*.
 - E.g. The **Judges** saved, led and brought rest... but only as long as the Judge lived (Judges 2v18-19).
 - Three key roles in national life:
Prophet: **Deuteronomy** 18v15+18f => Acts 3v19-22
Priest: Hebrews 2v17 (+4v14-16, & ch.7), see Psalm 110v4
King: Needed! (Judges 21v25 etc.), Blessing under David / Solomon
 - Moses (Mediator), **Joshua** (Hebrews 4, ='Jesus'), **Nehemiah** (builder...)

⑩ Long awaited: Israel's **God** coming to save them. Isaiah 40. Malachi 3 => Mark 1v2-3+9-11

Proverbs => Wisdom for living (as a follower of Jesus)
 Ecclesiastes => Only God makes sense of life

⇒ In fact, All of the Old Testament is about Jesus**:

- It is the first part of the story of which Jesus is the central character
- it describes the **curse**s which Jesus came to deal with (both the curse of sin, and the failure of the Old Covenant, which left Israel 'in Exile')
- it prefigures & prophecies the **blessings** Jesus came to bring
- it is the history of Israel which finds its culmination in Jesus
- it describes the character of God (Exodus 34v6f etc.), which finds its supreme expression in the Person of Jesus (John 1v14-18)
- it describes faith, and repentance and forgiveness, which all now centre upon Jesus

**i.e. it connects with Jesus and his saving work in some way. One great goal in reading or teaching the Old Testament is to explain how...

Also: 'Noah/Ark' (1Peter 3); Angel of the Lord (Genesis 16, Judges 6, **Daniel** 3 etc.); Beloved Son / Provided Ram (Genesis 22); Ladder to Heaven (Genesis 28 => John 1); Divine Wrestler (Genesis 32); True Manna (Exodus 16 => John 6); Struck Rock / Living Water (1Corinthians 10); Uplifted Serpent (**Numbers** 21 => John 3); Star of Jacob (Numbers 24); City of Refuge (Numbers 35); Commander of the Lord's Armies (Joshua 5); Kinsman Redeemer (**Ruth** 3); Mediator (**Esther** 5); Son of Man (Daniel 7); Ruling Man (Psalm 8 => Hebrews 2); Lover (**Songs**); True Vine (Isaiah 5 => John 15); '**Jonah**' (Matthew 12); Signet Ring (**Haggai** 2); Struck Shepherd (**Zechariah** 13)...