

# **SESSION 2: The Old Testament**

## I. A REPEATED CYCLE

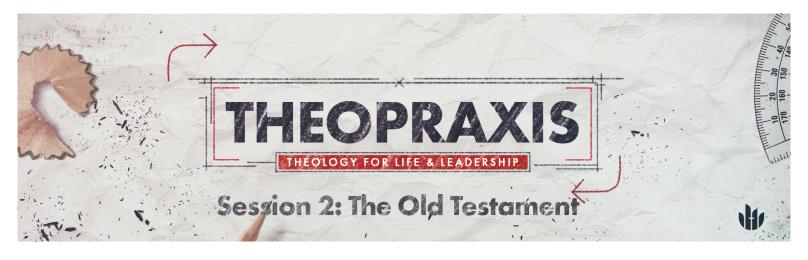
- A. God initiates a relationship with people.
- B. God makes promises (**covenants**) to show how his plan of redemption will unfold.
- C. People sin against God and face consequences.
- D. People ask God for forgiveness.
- E. God restores the relationship.

#### II. KEY PEOPLE AND EVENTS

- A. Genesis 1–11 lays the foundation for the rest of the Bible by demonstrating people's natural tendency to **resist** God. Examples include:
  - 1. Adam & Eve
    - Though Adam and Eve began in a perfect relationship with God and each other, they damaged all of humanity's relationships with God and one another.
    - God introduces the idea that he will one day restore order by crushing evil.

#### 2. The Flood

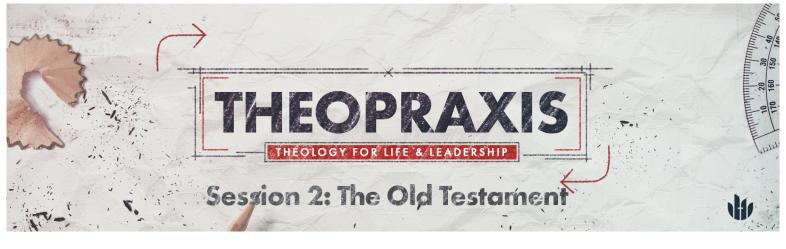
- The story of Noah describes God's plan to give humanity a fresh start.
- Even with new beginnings, people turn away from God.



### 3. Tower of Babel

- People's inclination is to try to replace God's name with their own.
- In his mercy, God sometimes thwarts the plans of people.
- B. Genesis 12–50 describes how God works through one family to begin to reconcile himself with people.
  - God promised to use Abraham to bless the rest of the world. This is known as the **Abrahamic** Covenant.
  - 2. Isaac, Abraham's son, became the keeper of God's covenant with his father.
  - 3. God renamed Isaac's son Jacob "Israel," and Israel became the father of the twelve tribes of Israel.

Jacob's Sons (Birth Order):	12 Tribes of Israel	
Reuben	Reuben	
Simeon	Simeon	
Levi	<u>-</u>	
Judah	Judah*	
Isaachar	Isaachar	
Zebulun	Zebulun	
Dan	Dan	
Naphtali	Naphtali	
Gad	Gad	
Asher	Asher	
Joseph	Ephraim, Manasseh (sons of Joseph)	
Benjamin	Benjamin*	



- 4. Joseph, one of Jacob's sons, helped rescue the nation of Israel from famine by bringing them to Egypt.
- 5. After about **400 years** of living in Egypt, the Israelites were forced into slavery.
- C. Exodus through Song of Solomon include:
  - 1. Israel's journey from slavery to freedom
    - Key characters: Moses, Joshua
    - Key events: the ten plagues, parting of the Red Sea, Mosaic Covenant
  - 2. Stories of Israel's judges and kings
    - Key characters: judges, Saul, David, Solomon
    - Key events: Davidic Covenant, Solomon's temple built
  - 3. Israel's demise
    - Key characters: Jeroboam, Rehoboam
    - Key events: Israel splits and is conquered and exiled; temple is destroyed
- D. Israel through Malachi highlight prophecies:
  - Prophecies warning Israel of God's impending judgement.
  - 2. Prophecies of hope, promising restoration

		1
	Northern	Southern
	Kingdom	Kingdom
Name:	Israel (or Ephraim)	Judah
Capital:	Schechem then	Jerusalem
First King:	Samaria	Rehoboam
# of Tribes:	Jeroboam	2*
Conquered by:	10	Babylon
	Assyria	(586 BC)
	(722 BC)	