

The Overall Theme of the New Testament

The background of the slide is a composite image. In the upper center, there is a view of Earth from space, showing the blue and white clouds of the planet against the blackness of space. Below this, in the foreground, is a view of the lunar surface, showing the brownish, cratered terrain. The overall background is dark, suggesting a space theme.

When you look at earth from the moon, you get the BIG PICTURE.

In like manner...



What is the overall theme of the New Testament?

"Such is the scenario as the Bible reaches its glorious conclusion in the Book of the Revelation. There, in the millennial context, all the many streams of history and *God's unconditional covenants* flow together toward completion. All that was promised has been fulfilled. *That ancient understanding between God and his friend, ABRAHAM, is accomplished.*"

JESUS
<i>Life</i>
<i>Cross</i>
<i>Church</i>
Gospels
Acts
Epistles
Revelation

John Walvoord

Covenant

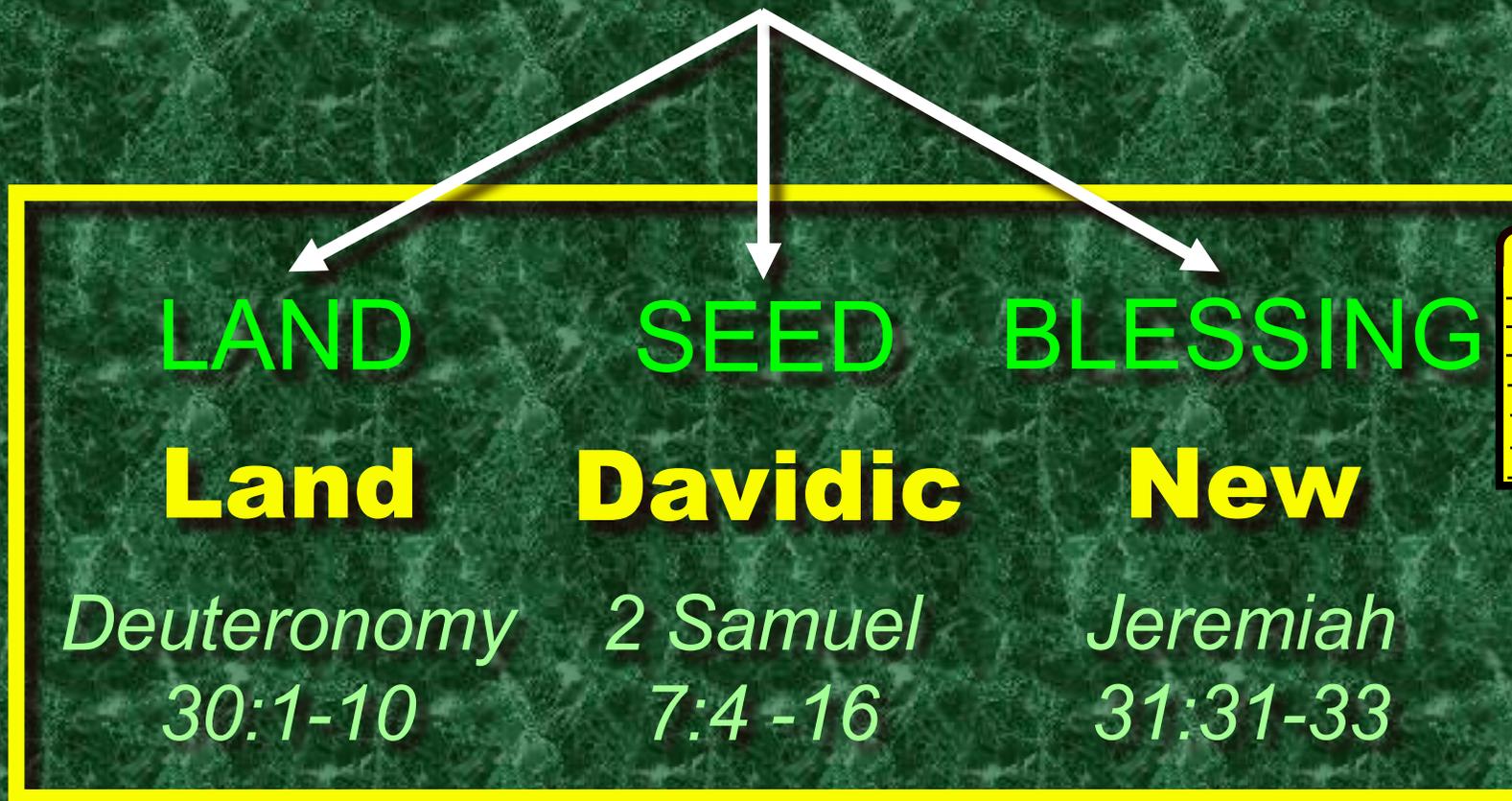
Handbook pg. 39-41

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The Abrahamic Covenant ("The Call")

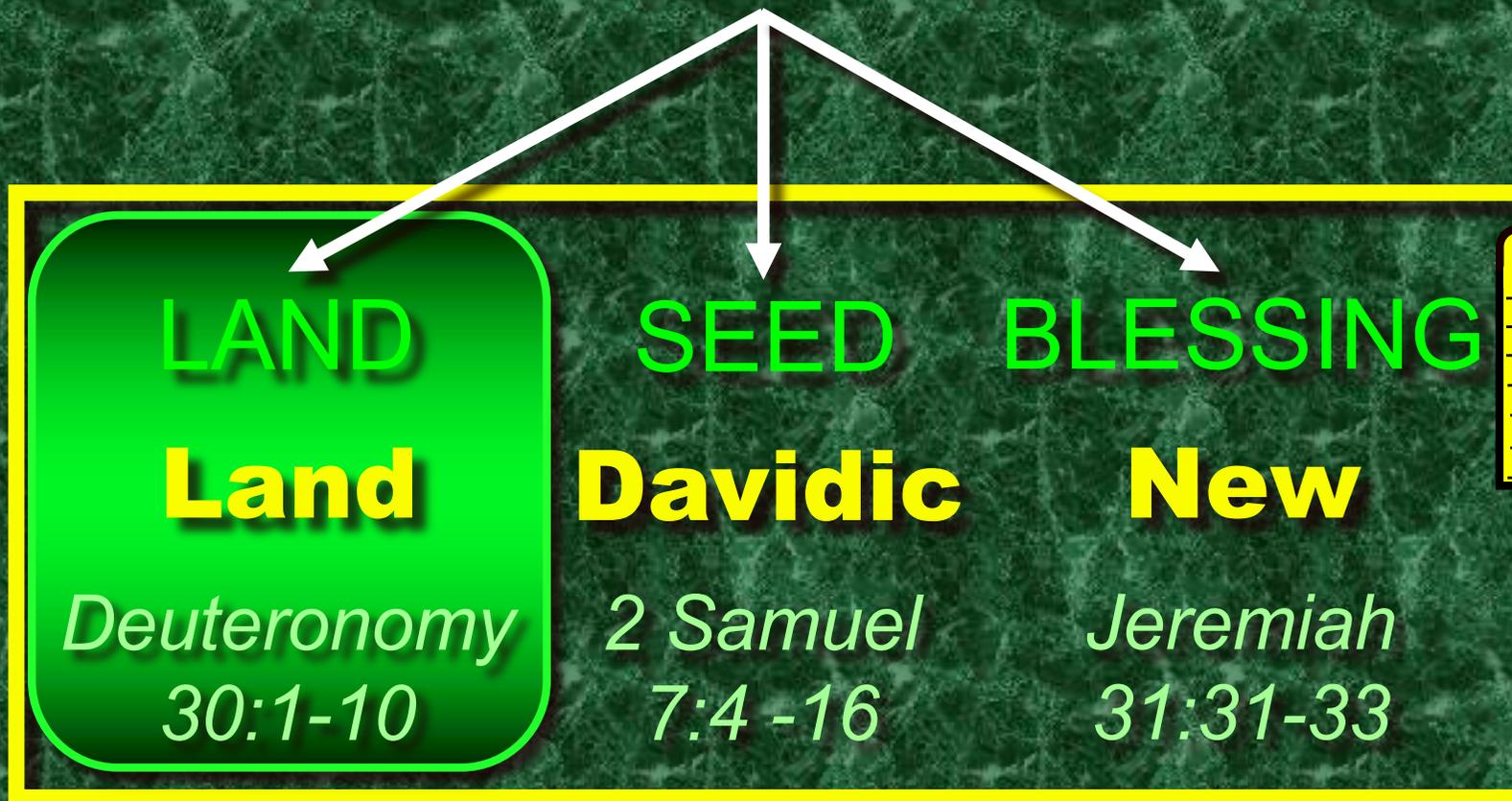
Genesis 12: 1-3



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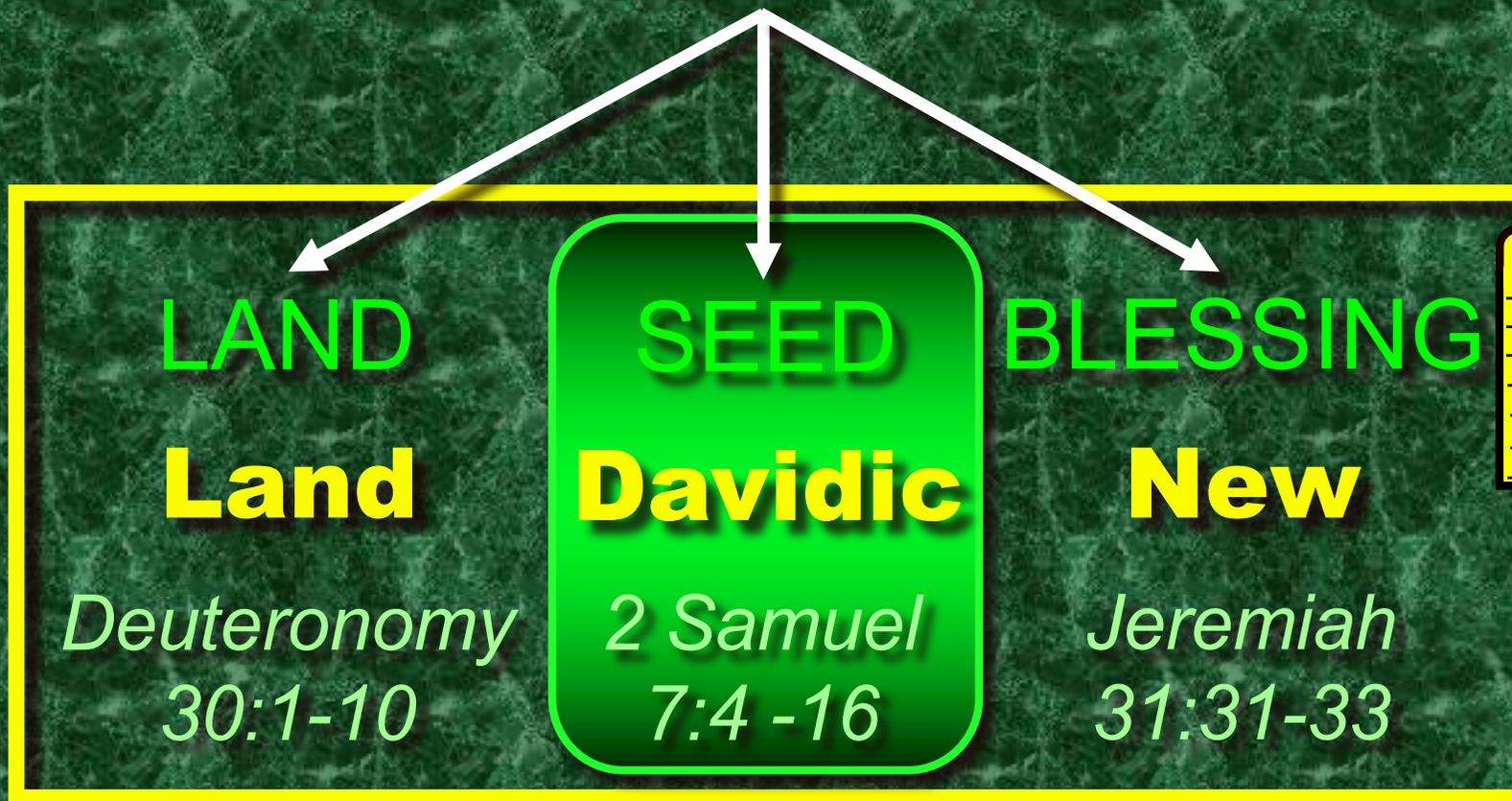
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The Abrahamic Covenant ("The Call")

Genesis 12: 1-3



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The Abrahamic Covenant ("The Call")

Genesis 12: 1-3

LAND

Land

*Deuteronomy
30:1-10*

SEED

Davidic

*2 Samuel
7:4 -16*

BLESSING

New

*Jeremiah
31:31-33*

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Abrahamic Covenant

CREATION

ABRAHAM

JOSEPH

MOSES

JOSHUA

ANARCHY

ROYALTY

CAPTIVITY

SILENCE

JESUS

LAND
Land
Deuteronomy 20:1-10
30:1-10

SING

JESUS

JESUS
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Acts
Epistles
Revelation

The Kingdom

The Garden of Gethsemane,
Mount of Olives, Jerusalem

JESUS

Life

Cross

Church

Gospels

Acts

Epistles

Revelation

"In those days John the Baptist came to the Judean wilderness and began preaching. His message was, 'Repent of your sins and turn to God, for the kingdom of heaven is near' "

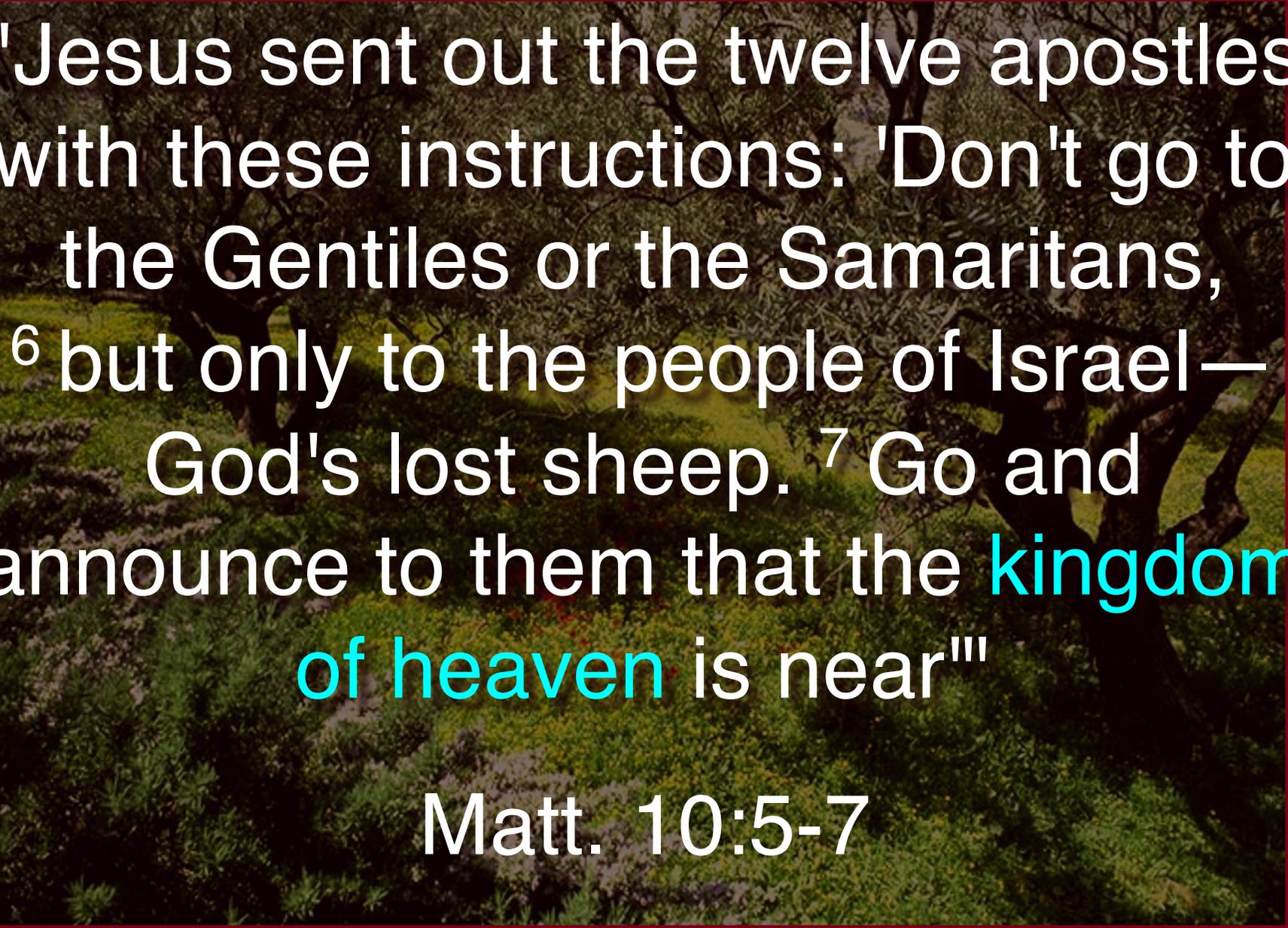
Matt. 3:1-2 NLT

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“...Jesus began to preach and say: 'Repent, for the **kingdom of heaven** is at hand...Jesus was going throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming **the gospel of the kingdom**...'”

Matt. 4:17, 23

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"Jesus sent out the twelve apostles with these instructions: 'Don't go to the Gentiles or the Samaritans,⁶ but only to the people of Israel— God's lost sheep.⁷ Go and announce to them that the **kingdom of heaven** is near'"

Matt. 10:5-7

“But seek first **His Kingdom** and His righteousness, and all these things will be added to you.”

Matt. 6:33

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What Kind of Kingdom Did Isaiah (and Matthew) Envision?

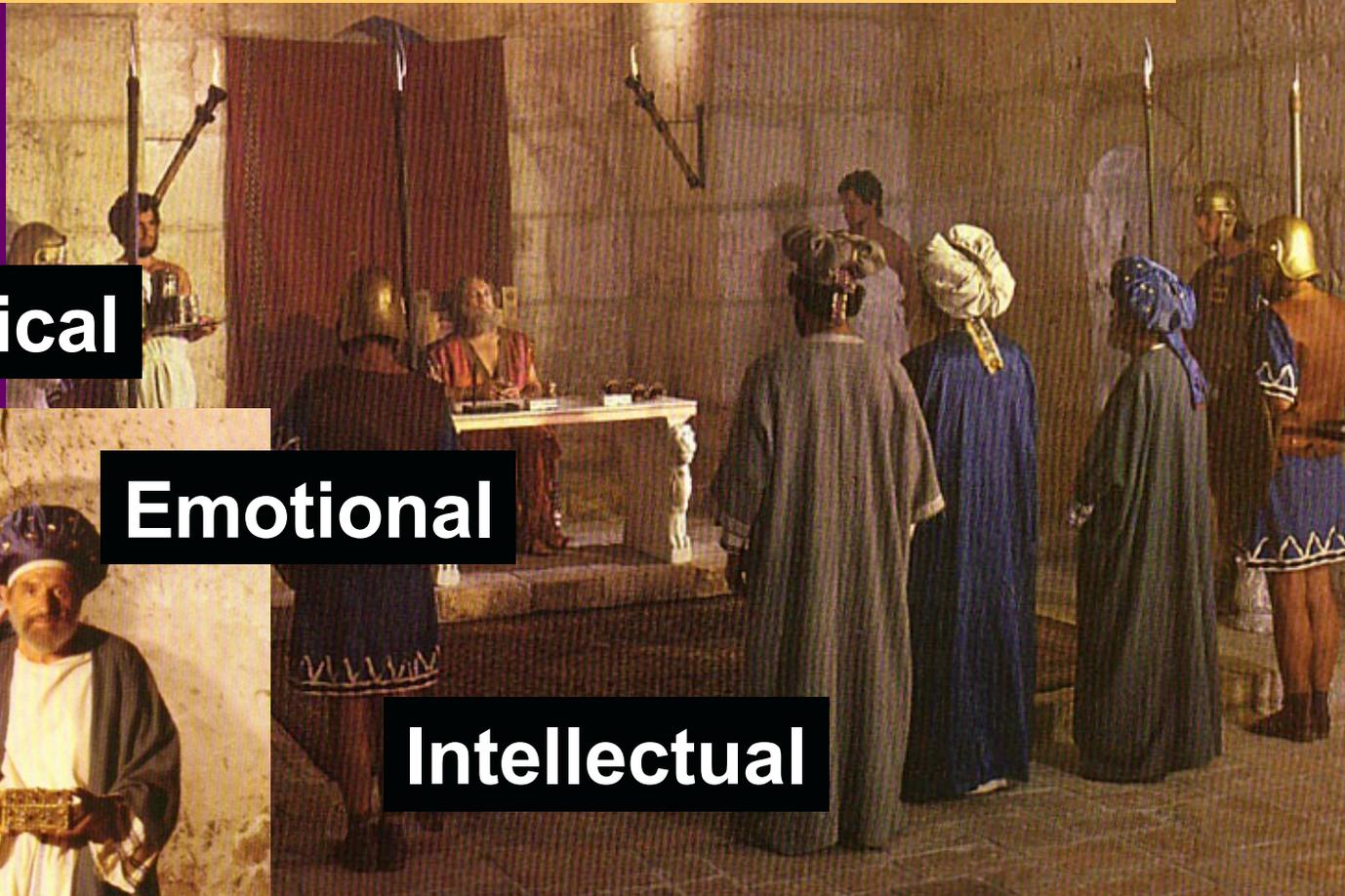
Political

Physical

Emotional

Intellectual

Spiritual





“For He has rescued us
from the domain of
darkness, and transferred us
to the kingdom of His
beloved Son.”

Col. 1:13

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Two Overarching Messages of All of Scripture:

#1: Celebrating & Demonstrating
The Glory of God

#2: Leading Us Toward
The Kingdom of God

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Jesus Christ came to save
that which was lost...and
that to acquire eternal life,
one must come to it
through belief in the gospel
message of the Messiah.

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***THEREFORE:
WE MUST GO AND TELL!***

Kingdom & Covenants Timeline



Dr. Rick Griffith • BibleStudyDownloads.org

Kingdom Teaching...

Adam rules with God (Gen. 1:26, 28; 2:19)

Satan begins rule as god of this world (Gen. 3:15; 2 Cor. 4:4)

God covenants with Abraham to reestablish man's rule via Israel as a "kingdom of priests" (Gen. 12:1-3; Exod. 19:6)

Israel's failure to witness to nations as a kingdom of priests is judged via exile under foreign rule

Israel rejects Messiah's offer of kingdom (Matt. 12:41-42; 23:37-39)

Jesus extends His kingdom in mystery form to the Church (Matt. 13)

Christ subdues Israel's enemies and nation believes (Rom. 11:26-27)

Christ rules over everything with saints (Eph. 1:9-10; Rev. 20:1-6; 22:5b)

Fall of Man (Gen. 3)

Noahic Covenant

Genesis 6:18; 9:8-17

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 12:1-3	land	Land Covenant Genesis 15:18 (cf. Deut. 30:1-10) promises: •Land from Wadi of Egypt to Euphrates River (Isa. 27:12) •Eternal possession of land (Gen. 17:8) after exile/restoration •Whole world blessed via the land (Isa. 14:1-2)	ISRAEL (National Focus)	CHURCH The "New Man" (Eph. 2:15)	MESSIANIC Millennial	KINGDOM Eternal
	seed	Davidic Covenant 2 Samuel 7:12-16 promises: •Sons ("house" never wiped out) •Kingdom (political dynasty) •Throne (right to rule by descendants) •Temple (son to build it)	Israel judged for rejecting Messiah by dispersion away from land for 19 centuries (AD 70–AD 1948) but now partially restored (Ezek. 37:1-7)	Christ is Head over his Church, which is a spiritual temple (Eph. 2:19-22; 2 Cor. 6:16)	Full restoration (Ezek. 37:8-28) Jerusalem world capital (Isa. 2:1-5)	New Jerusalem (Rev. 21–22)
	blessing	New Covenant Jeremiah 31:31-34 promises: •Forgiveness •Indwelling Spirit •New heart, nature, mind •Reunification of Israel and Judah •No need for evangelism	Mosaic Law is replaced with first three elements of the New Covenant (Luke 22:20; 2 Cor. 3:6)	Christ reigns over the world (Isa. 11) with saints (Rev. 5:10; 20:4-6)	Christ hands kingdom over to Father (1 Cor. 15:24)	All 5 elements fulfilled in national restoration (Zech. 8)

Mosaic Covenant

Temporary (Gal. 3:19) and conditional (Deut. 28) to reveal sin (Rom. 7:7) and regulate Israel (Gal. 3:23-25)

The Law was fulfilled and replaced at the cross (Rom. 7:1-6; 1 Cor. 9:19-21; Heb. 8:13)

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29 Feb 2024

Scripture has a dual kingdom-covenant theme. Israel's role from Abraham to Christ expands to include the Church (continuity) yet the Church never replaces the nation as the "new Israel" (discontinuity). Israel will enjoy world prominence after trusting Christ at His second coming.

My View of the OT's Theme

The Old Testament narrates

God's restoring man to participate in His kingdom rule for His own glory

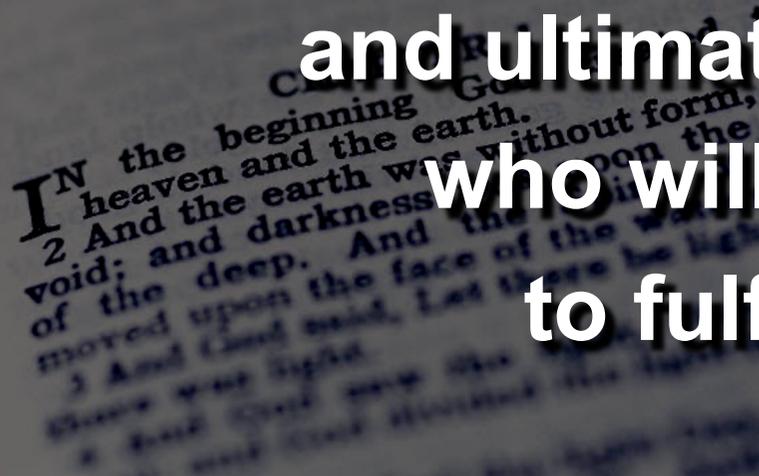
mandated in Eden but lost in the Fall
and accomplished by redeeming man

through Israel as a kingdom of priests

and ultimately through the Messiah,

who will reign as Savior and King

to fulfill the Abrahamic Covenant



IN the beginning
2 And the earth was without form,
void; and darkness was upon the
face of the deep. And the Spirit of God
moved upon the face of the water.
3 And God said, Let there be light,
and there was light.

My View of the NT's Theme

The New Testament narrates

God's restoring man to participate in His kingdom rule for His own glory

proclaimed by the Church

that salvation is by grace alone

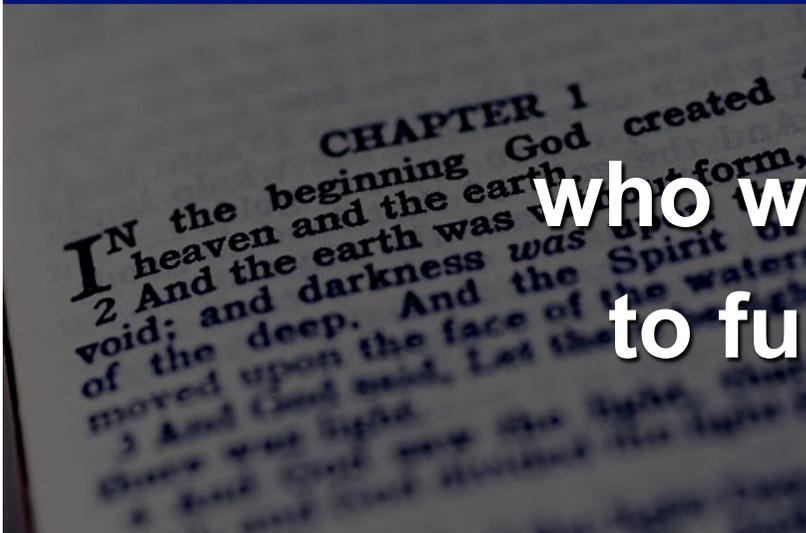
through faith alone

in Christ alone

who will reign as Saviour and King

to fulfill the Abrahamic Covenant

to the glory of God alone



My View of the Bible's Theme

The Bible narrates

God's restoring man to participate in His kingdom rule for His own glory

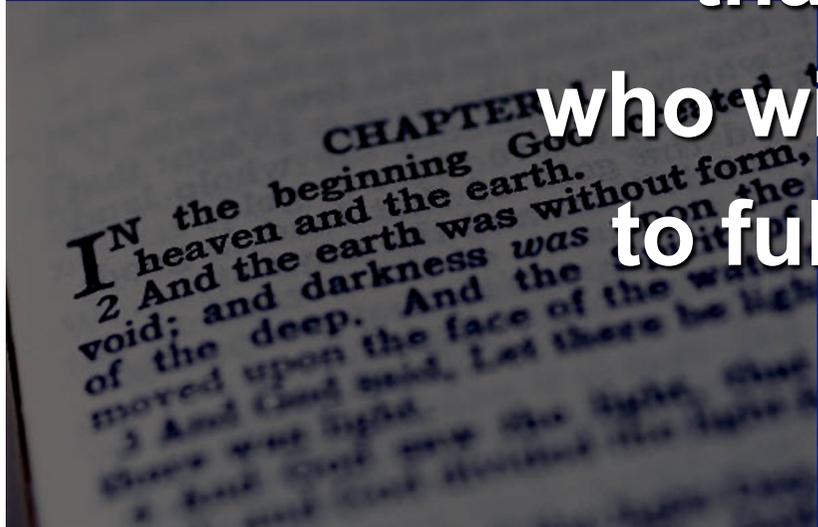
though Israel bringing forth the Messiah
so that the Church may proclaim

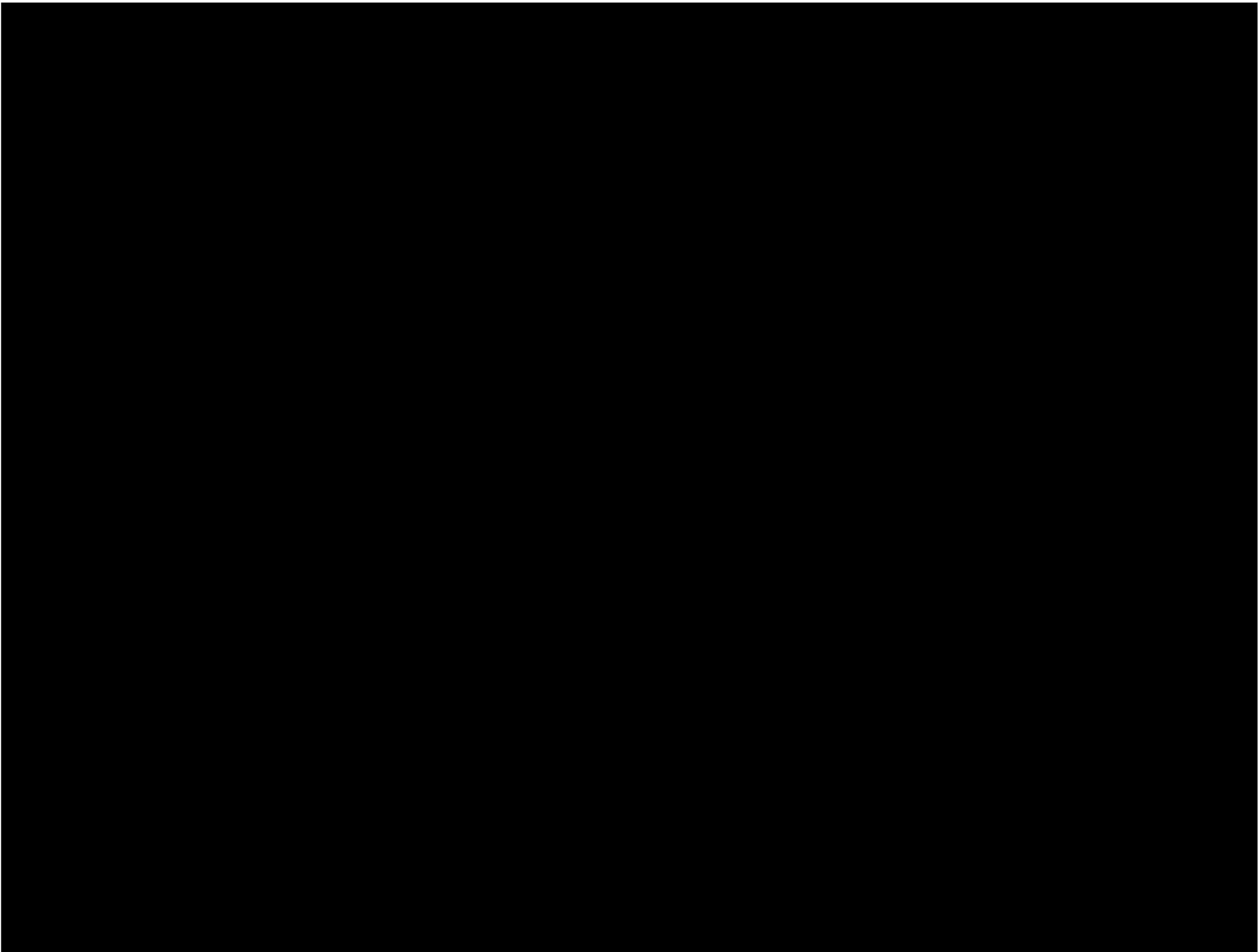
that salvation is in Christ alone

who will reign as Saviour and King

to fulfill the Abrahamic Covenant

to the glory of God alone





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