

WHY TEACH CHRONOLOGICALLY?—BOOK 3

I. HELPING PEOPLE OWN THE BIBLE

-Part of our work as Bible teachers is to help people to own the Bible.

-If people can own the Bible, then they will be able to believe all of the truths on the inside.

-What does it mean to “own the Bible”?

II. HELPING PEOPLE OWN THE GOD OF THE BIBLE

-To own the Bible means to teach so that people will understand that the God of the Bible is their God.

-To own the Bible means to own the God of the Bible.

-The God of the Bible is not just the God of the white man.

-The God of the Bible is not just the God of the black man.

-The God of the Bible is the God of everyone/all people.

-When an evangelist begins teaching in a new area, one of the first truths he can teach is this:

-“I want to teach you about your God and my God.”

-Satan wants people to think that different people have a different god.

-Satan wants people to think that the white man has his God, and that the black man has his God.

-Satan also wants people to think that different tribes have different gods.

-This is not true, but it can be a barrier in the minds of the people who are listening to the teaching.

-This is why it is important to help people to understand **from the beginning** that:

-There is only one God.

-He is the God of all people.

-He is the God of the Bible.

-By understanding this, people should be able to begin to own the God of the Bible.

-By understanding this, people should be able to begin to know that the God of the Bible is their God.

III. HELPING PEOPLE OWN THEMSELVES

-To own the Bible also means to teach so that people will

understand that the people of the Bible are their people.

-And that the stories of the Bible are their stories.

-To own the Bible means to own the God of the Bible and also the people of the Bible.

-The stories in the Bible are not stories of foreigners.

-They are stories of your ancestors and my ancestors.

-They are your stories and my stories.

-They are stories of you and me.

-How is the story of Adam and Eve our story?

-Because Adam and Eve are our grandparents.

-When we teach the story of Adam and Eve, we are teaching about our people.

-When we teach the story of Adam and Eve, we are teaching about ourselves.

-We are all like Adam and Eve.

-We were in the Garden of Eden, and we ate the fruit that God asked us not to eat.

-How is the story of Cain and Abel our story?

-Because Cain and Abel are our ancestors.

-When we teach about Cain and Abel, we are teaching about ourselves.

-All people are either like Cain or like Abel.

-Those who are like Cain try to approach God their own way, and are rejected.

-Those who are like Abel know that we cannot approach God our own way, and therefore, approach God using God's way.

-Either you are a Cain or an Abel?

-How is the story of Jacob and Esau our story?

-Because Jacob and Esau are also our ancestors.

-When we teach about Jacob and Esau, we are teaching about ourselves.

-Esau did not care about his inheritance nor the God of his father, Isaac, and therefore, did not believe in God.

-Jacob cared about his inheritance and the God of his father, Isaac, and God accepted him.

-Either you are a Jacob or you are an Esau.

-How is the story of Joseph and his brothers our story?

-Because Joseph and his brothers are also our ancestors.

-When we teach about Joseph and his brothers, we are teaching about ourselves.

-Joseph's brothers did not care about God or their brother, and sold Joseph into slavery.

-Joseph suffered much from his brothers and others, but he refused to dishonor God.

-Either you are a Joseph or you are like his brothers.

-All of the stories in the Old Testament are stories about you and me.

IV. INTRODUCING ISRAEL

-Why is the story of Israel in the Old Testament?

-Why is the story of Israel in the Bible?

-Many people, including Christians, do not know the purpose of Israel in the Old Testament.

-Many people, including Christians, do not even read the Old Testament.

-Many people, including Christians, are afraid of the Old

Testament.

-Many people, including Christians, believe that Israel has no meaning for Christians.

-Israel, however, has everything to do with us.

-To understand Israel is to understand ourselves.

-To understand Israel is to understand all people.

-This is because Israel is all people, and all people are Israel.

-This is because we are Israel and Israel is us.

V. GOD CHOSE ISRAEL

-Why did God choose Israel?

-First, God needed a tribe/people group through whom to send His Word.

-Second, God needed a tribe/people group through whom to send the Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ.

-Third, God needed a tribe/people group who would be most like all people.

-First, God sent His Word through Israel.

-God wrote the Bible through Israel and one Greek,

Luke.

-Second, God sent the Savior, the Lord Jesus, through Israel.

-The Lord Jesus was of the line of Abraham and King David.

-Third, Israel is the best mirror in the whole world for all people.

VI. ISRAEL IS OUR MIRROR

-What is the work of a mirror?

-A mirror shows who is looking at it.

-When we look in a mirror, who do we see?

-We see ourselves.

-When we look in the mirror of Israel, who do we see?

-We see ourselves.

-The story of Israel is the story of all people.

-The story of Israel is the story of you and me.

VII. WE ARE ALL ISRAEL

-How are all people like Israel and how is Israel like all people?

-Just like Israel wanted to be perfect but cannot, all people want to be perfect but cannot.

-Just like Israel worked to show God how wonderful they were, all people work to show God how wonderful they are.

-Just like Israel tried to follow God but cannot, all people try to follow God but cannot.

-Just like Israel tried to be holy like God but cannot, all people try to be holy like God but cannot.

-Just like Israel sinned, all people sin.

-When we teach of Israel being slaves of Pharaoh in Egypt, we are looking in the mirror, and seeing ourselves as slaves of Satan.

-When we teach of Israel before the Red Sea and not having faith in God to save them, we are looking in the mirror, and seeing our own lack of faith in God.

-When we teach of Israel complaining in the desert, we are looking in the mirror, and seeing that we complain also.

-When we teach of Israel turning away from God in the promised land, we are looking in the mirror, and seeing that we also turn away from God.

-If we teach Israel and the Old Testament well, then the response of the people should be this:

-“We are just like Israel.”

-When we look at Israel, we see how holy our God is.

-When we look at Israel, we see that we have sinned.

-When we look at Israel and see that Israel could not save itself, we understand that we cannot save ourselves.

-When we look at Israel and see that God alone could save Israel, we understand that God alone can save us.

VIII. THE CHRONOLOGICAL GOSPEL

-Does the entire Bible have to be translated into a tribal language before the people of that tribe can believe?

-No.

-Does the New Testament have to be translated into a tribal language before the people of that tribe can believe?

-No.

-How long does it take to translate a New Testament?

-Sometimes more than 20 years.

-How long does it take to translate the entire Bible?

-Sometimes up to 50 years.

-While the New Testament and the Bible are being translated, must the people wait and die without Christ?

-No.

-This is where the chronological Gospel comes in.

IX. WHAT IS THE CHRONOLOGICAL GOSPEL?

-The chronological Gospel teaches important stories in Genesis and Exodus which provide the foundation for the final teaching of the life of Christ.

-In most of the lessons, there are verses from the Bible which are followed by the teaching of these Bible verses.

-It is easy to translate into other languages because the Bible verses are stories from the Bible, and the teaching of the Bible verses is in a simple language.

-Here is an outline of the lessons:

-Lesson 1 is an introduction and teaches that because all people have lied, and only God has never lied, the Bible is true.

-Lessons 2 & 3 teach us about God—who He is, where He is, and what He is like.

-Lesson 4 teaches us about Lucifer becoming Satan.

-Lessons 5-9 teach us about God creating the world and Adam and Eve.

-Lesson 10 is an important review before teaching about the first sin.

-Lessons 11-13 teach us about the first sin.

-Lesson 14 teaches about Cain and Abel.

-Lessons 15-42 teach us the remaining important stories in the Old Testament.

-Lessons 43-68 teach us about the life of Christ.

X. WHO IS ABLE TO TEACH?

-Who is able to teach the chronological Gospel?

-Anyone who wants to know about our God, and teach others.

-Because the chronological Gospel is simple, it is used to teach people how to read as well as about our God.

-There are some religions that say that only a priest or an imam can teach.

-But God wants all of His people to be able to teach themselves and others.

-Here is an example:

-Jesus chose twelve uneducated men, most of whom were fishermen, to be His disciples, and to teach other people.

-How did Christ teach these men?

-Did He send them to school?

-No.

-Christ taught these men in a simple manner as they walked among the people of Israel.

-God prefers teaching the “little” people or the people who are seen by the world as less important.

-This is because the “big” people or the important people are sometimes too proud to be taught about God.

-God does not want only pastors and missionaries to teach.

-God wants all of us to be able to teach others.

-If you have the chronological Gospel in your language, then you can teach yourself and teach everyone else.

-This is because the lessons are self taught.