

Old Testament Overview

Australian College of Theology name: *Old Testament*

Aim

1. To deepen each student's understanding of the historical framework of the content and the theological insights derived.
2. To introduce students to the different literary forms of the Old Testament.
3. To strengthen their faith in this God who continues to interact with his creation.

Outline

1. Study of:
 - (a) The different genres found in the Old Testament; the use of oral tradition, history, poetry and prophecy.
 - (b) The historical outline of the content.
 - (c) Religious institutions and beliefs.
2. Study of special topics within the theology of the Old Testament: the purposes of God; Creation; redemption and salvation; the People of God; worship and sacrifice; the prophetic message; the Messiah; Wisdom Literature.

These topics are to be studied with direct reference to the text of the Old Testament. Therefore, familiarity with the Biblical text is important.

3. Special study of

EITHER

(a) Genesis 1-11

- (i) Its place and purpose in the Old Testament
- (ii) Knowledge of the content
- (iii) Interpretation of the Creation, Fall, and the narratives of Cain and Abel, the Flood and Babel
- (iv) The permanent value of these chapters

OR

(b) the book of Deuteronomy

- (i) purpose of the book
- (ii) its relation to the text of the Pentateuch
- (iii) Main themes: covenant; people of God; obedience; law; justice; individual rights; corporate responsibility
- (iv) The role of Moses as a prophet
- (v) Permanent value of the book e.g. the place of the Law in relation to the subsequent history of nation Israel; place of the Law in the context of the New Testament covenant.