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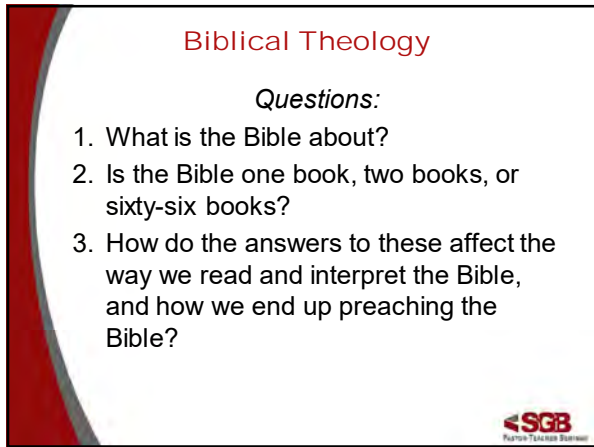
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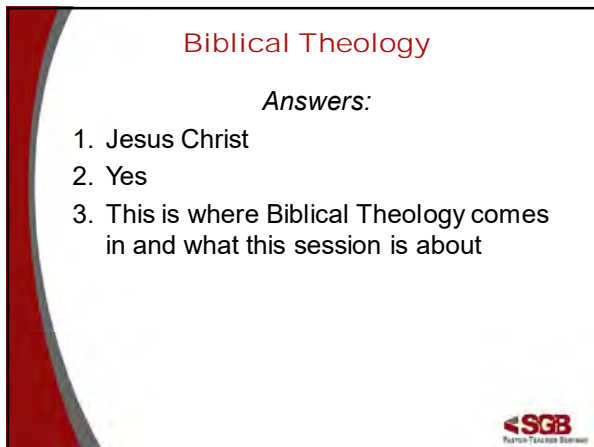
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Biblical Theology

**What is Biblical Theology?**



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Biblical Theology

**Biblical Theology  
vs.  
Systematic Theology**



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Biblical Theology

Systematic Theology is the summation and orderly arrangement of the Bible's teaching (doctrine) on a particular topic.

- Example: Soteriology, or the doctrine of salvation, summarized and systematized into component parts—the doctrine of regeneration, conversion, repentance, faith, etc.



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**Biblical Theology**

**Systematic Theology**

- **Strength:** Provides a guide and check on theological interpretations of texts
- **Weakness:** Takes the Bible apart and reorders it, which can be problematic if not careful



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**Biblical Theology**

**Biblical Theology**

- Biblical Theology is reading the Bible as one whole, unified book, revealing the redemptive purpose of God through history.
- Biblical Theology acknowledges the various parts of Scripture, various authors, and various genres written over time, yet connected in one storyline.



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**Biblical Theology**

**Biblical Storyline**

- The big story of Scripture is: creation, fall, redemption, consummation.
- The overarching storyline begins with creation (Genesis) and moves to the new heavens and new earth of the eternal ages (Revelation).



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**Biblical Theology**

**Biblical Time Division**

- Biblical Theology focuses on Jesus Christ in two great epochs
  - The promise of his coming (Old Testament)
  - His coming and the promise of his return (New Testament)



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**Biblical Theology**

**Historical Markers**

- Biblical Theology recognizes major developments, or turning points, in redemptive history.
  - The call of Abraham
  - Israel in Egypt and the exodus
  - The Old Covenant
  - The anointing and promises to David as king, etc.



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**Biblical Theology**

**Is Biblical Theology biblical?**  
**Is reading the Bible this way a biblical concept?**



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**Biblical Theology**

Hebrews 1:1-2 confirms the progressive nature of the revelation leading to the full revelation in Jesus Christ.



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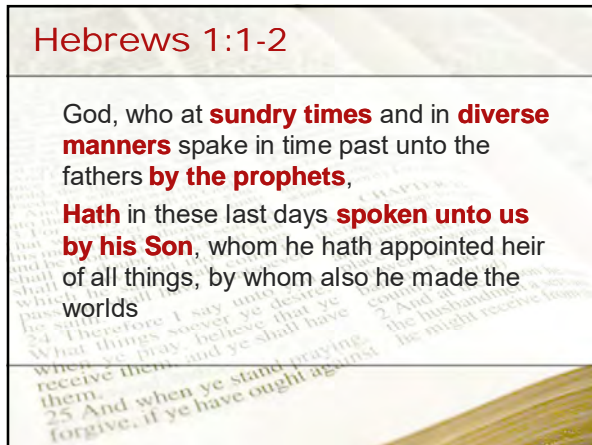
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**Hebrews 1:1-2**

God, who at **sundry times** and in **diverse manners** spake in time past unto the fathers **by the prophets**,  
**Hath** in these last days **spoken unto us by his Son**, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds



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**2.2 Biblical Theology**

On the road to Emmaus and later with his disciples, Jesus explicitly stated the Scriptures are about him



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**Luke 24:27**

And **beginning at Moses and all the prophets**, he expounded unto them in **all the scriptures** the things concerning himself.

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**Luke 24:44**

And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the **law** of Moses, and in the **prophets**, and in the **psalms** concerning me.

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**Biblical Theology**

Law, prophets, and psalms is a reference to the entire Old Testament known as the Hebrew Tanach.

- TaNaCH – Torah, Nebi'im, Chetuvim
  - Torah (teaching) contained 5 scrolls
    - Sometimes referred to as "law," "law of Moses," or simply "Moses"
  - Nebi'im (prophets) contained 8 scrolls
  - Chetuvim (writings) contained 11 scrolls
    - Sometimes referred to as "psalms" because Psalms was the first scroll of the collection




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**Biblical Theology**

**We can illustrate Biblical Theology from the book of Chronicles**

*Questions:*

1. What is Chronicles about?
2. When was it written?
3. Where was it placed in the Hebrew Old Testament?
4. What is the purpose of Chronicles?



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**Biblical Theology**

*Answers:*

1. The history of Israel from Adam to David to the Babylonian exile to the decree to return.
2. One of the last Old Testament books written
3. Chronicles was the last book in the Tanach (see handout)
4. Chronicles was written to post-exilic Jews to remind them and guide them.



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**Biblical Theology**

**Chronicles is a Biblical Theology of the Old Testament**

- It is a selective retelling of Israel's history to renew the hope in the coming Son of David who will receive the sure mercies of David and the everlasting kingdom.



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## Biblical Theology

### Conclusion

1. Biblical Theology is reading the Bible as one book about God's redemptive purpose in Christ
2. All Scripture is about Christ and Christian preachers, Gospel preachers, and new covenant preachers (2 Co. 3:6) must preach Christ from all Scripture



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## 2.2 Biblical Theology - Supplemental Handout

### A Comparison of the Order of Books in the Hebrew Old Testament (Tanach) and Our English Old Testament

TaNaCH is the Hebrew acronym for the three-part collection of scrolls that made up the Hebrew Scriptures

- *Torah* – teaching/instruction
- *Nebi'im* – prophets
- *Chetuvim* – writings

The *Tanach* was in its final, collected form at least by the 3rd to 2nd century B.C. It contained 24 books. This differs from the 39 books in our Old Testaments today, but not really. Several of the books in the Tanach were treated as one and that totaled 24 books.

The Septuagint, which was the Greek translation of the Hebrew Tanach, divided some of these books and arranged them differently, but the content is the same. The Septuagint is often abbreviated by the Roman numeral LXX, because there were seventy scholars who did the translation, according to tradition. The Septuagint translation was begun in the 3rd century B. C. It ultimately included the 24 books of the Tanach and the Apocrypha, which was never part of the Tanach, the recognized canon of Hebrew Scripture. The Septuagint divided some of the 24 books and rearranged them into the 39 books we have today. See the table below for comparison.

<b>Tanach - 24 Books</b>	<b>Old Testament - 39 books</b>
<p><b>Torah (Law) - 5 books</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Genesis</li> <li>2. Exodus</li> <li>3. Leviticus</li> <li>4. Numbers</li> <li>5. Deuteronomy</li> </ol>	<p><b>Law (Pentateuch)</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Genesis</li> <li>2. Exodus</li> <li>3. Leviticus</li> <li>4. Numbers</li> <li>5. Deuteronomy</li> </ol>
<p><b>Nebi'im (Prophets) - 8 Books</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joshua</li> <li>2. Judges</li> <li>3. Samuel (1 and 2 Samuel)</li> <li>4. Kings (1 and 2 Kings)</li> <li>5. Isaiah</li> <li>6. Jeremiah</li> <li>7. Ezekiel</li> <li>8. Minor Prophets (Hosea, Joel, Amos, Obadiah, Jonah, Micah, Nahum, Habakkuk, Zephaniah, Haggai, Zechariah, Malachi)</li> </ol>	<p><b>History - 12 Books</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Joshua</li> <li>2. Judges</li> <li>3. Ruth</li> <li>4. 1 Samuel</li> <li>5. 2 Samuel</li> <li>6. 1 Kings</li> <li>7. 2 Kings</li> <li>8. 1 Chronicles</li> <li>9. 2 Chronicles</li> <li>10. Ezra</li> <li>11. Nehemiah</li> <li>12. Esther</li> </ol>
<p><b>Chetuvim (Writings) - 11 Books</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Psalms</li> </ol>	<p><b>Poetry/Wisdom - 5 Books</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Job</li> </ol>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Job</li> <li>3. Proverbs</li> <li>4. Ruth</li> <li>5. Song of Solomon</li> <li>6. Ecclesiastes</li> <li>7. Lamentations</li> <li>8. Ezra-Nehemiah</li> <li>9. Chronicles (1 and 2 Chronicles)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>2. Psalms</li> <li>3. Proverbs</li> <li>4. Ecclesiastes</li> <li>5. Song of Solomon</li> </ul>
	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prophets - 17 Books</b></p> <p><b>Major Prophets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Isaiah</li> <li>2. Jeremiah</li> <li>3. Lamentations</li> <li>4. Ezekiel</li> <li>5. Daniel</li> </ul> <p><b>Minor Prophets</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Hosea</li> <li>2. Joel</li> <li>3. Amos</li> <li>4. Obadiah</li> <li>5. Jonah</li> <li>6. Micah</li> <li>7. Nahum</li> <li>8. Habakkuk</li> <li>9. Zephaniah</li> <li>10. Haggai</li> <li>11. Zechariah</li> <li>12. Malachi</li> </ul>