

Overview of the Bible - Introduction

Luk 24:32 They said to each other, "**Did not our hearts burn within us while he talked to us on the road, while he opened to us the Scriptures?**"

Some parts of the Bible are difficult to understand

We may avoid reading them

- Rom 15:4 For whatever was written in former days was written **for our instruction**, that through **endurance** and through the **encouragement** of the Scriptures we might have **hope**.
- 1Co 10:11 ESV Now these things happened to them as an example, but they were written down **for our instruction**, on whom the end of the ages has come.

We may misinterpret, misapply, or take them out of context to mean something they never meant

- 2Pe 3:15-16 ESV And count the patience of our Lord as salvation, just as our beloved brother Paul also wrote to you according to the wisdom given him, 16 as he does in all his letters when he speaks in them of these matters. There are some things in them that are **hard to understand, which the ignorant and unstable twist to their own destruction, as they do the other Scriptures**.
- 2Ti 2:15 ESV Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved, a worker who has no need to be ashamed, **rightly handling the word of truth**.

A brief series on a survey of the Bible SLIDE

- 66 books, written in 3 languages, on 3 continents Africa, Asia, & Europe, over a period of 1500 years
- A variety of genres: law, history, wisdom, poetry, prophecy, narrative, letters (epistles), and apocalyptic
- 40 different authors of various backgrounds: shepherds, fishermen, doctors, kings, prophets
- The books are written to people or individuals who live within an historical and cultural background
- **SLIDE** And yet there is a common story, a unified message "Creation, the fall, and redemption"

Ultimately the Bible is about Jesus

- Joh 5:39-40 ESV You search the Scriptures because you think that in them you have eternal life; and **it is they that bear witness about me**, 40 yet you refuse to **come to me** that **you may have life**.
- Joh 5:46 ESV For if you believed Moses, you would believe me; for he wrote of me.
- 2Ti 3:15 ESV and how from childhood you have been acquainted with the **sacred writings**, which are able to **make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus**.

On the Road To Emmaus → he opened the Scriptures

- Luk 24:25 And he said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe **all that the prophets have spoken!** 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?" 27 And **beginning with Moses and all the Prophets**, he interpreted to them **in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself**.

The "Tanakh" points the suffering & resurrection of Christ, and the spread of the gospel to all nations

- Luk 24:44 Then he said to them, "These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that **everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled**."45 Then **he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures**, 46 and said to them, "Thus it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. TANAKH SLIDE

GOALS: **Hunger** to search it out (like Bereans), **confidence** to read any book, **desire** for the LORD to open our minds to understand, so that our hearts may burn within us...that we may **Come to Jesus and have LIFE**