

OUTLINE

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NOTE TO THE STUDENT!

This material is structured in outline form, yet it is complete enough that the student can gain maximum benefit from the lectures if the material is read beforehand. There is much to cover; the best learning experience combines the student's reading(s) and the lecture overview.

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The Training Center

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PANORAMA SERIES

PANORAMA OF THE BIBLE (BASIC)

Panorama of the Bible is a 12-session overview of the Bible. The approach sees the whole of the Bible in 12 distinct “movements.” In light of progressive revelation, each movement advances thematically and chronologically the development of a holistic framework for the Scriptures.

Additionally, each movement presents the Panorama Timeline, a chronological record of key persons, places, events, dates, and such that occur within each of the 12 movements. Mastery of the 12 movements and the Panorama Timeline are essential to the study. In short, Panorama of the Bible is a comprehensive “panoramic” view of the whole of the Scriptures, Old and New Testaments. It provides a skeletal framework for the basic flow of the Bible. It contains foundational knowledge for future and further studies of the Word of God.

PANORAMA PLUS (INTERMEDIATE)

Built upon a prior working knowledge of the basic “Panorama of the Bible,” Panorama Plus takes each of the 12 movements and delves more in depth for each movement/progression. Each movement (e.g. Movement 7: Kingship: Divided Monarchy) is further developed into six additional sessions. Using the format of the basic Panorama study, including the very important Timeline, the “Plus” studies focus on adding additional, helpful material to broaden one’s understanding of each Panorama movement.

Upon completion, each of the 12 movements have an associated Panorama Plus, contributing six additional lessons that build upon the original material from *Panorama of the Bible*. Working through Panorama and Panorama Plus will equip serious students of the Scriptures with additional understanding of the flow of an integrated Bible.

PREVIEW TO THE STUDY

The study of the kingship in Israel and Judah is a study primarily of failure. All of the kings of the Northern Kingdom (Israel) were theologically assessed as bad (or evil). Most of the southern kings (Judah) were also bad, though there are a few bright spots and often momentary displays of faithfulness.

The idea of a theo-monarchy for God's covenant people is introduced in the previous Movement 6: Kingship: United Monarchy. Sadly, there are but three kings of a consolidated kingdom: Saul, David, and Solomon. Each king's story is narrated, but in the final analysis, the condition of the king's heart is telling. The wisdom of Proverbs 4:23 (NIV84) illustrates the point—"Above all else, guard your heart, for it is the wellspring of life." Each of the first three kings failed to do so, though in David's case ("the man after God's own heart"), he rebounded from his tragic failure (Bathsheba affair) with confession and repentance. David, though flawed, still in his best moments was committed to following the Lord and embracing His commandments.

Unfortunately, following the Lord was not evidenced in the lives of so many of the succeeding kings (whether Israel or Judah). Idolatry was rampant, trust in the kings' abilities the norm, and deep reliance (faith, trust) upon the Lord frequently absent.

As Movement 7 will demonstrate, it led to times of instability, apostasy, and eventual captivities (as even Moses, the great lawgiver, had predicted; see Deuteronomy 28-30).

The student of the Bible might ask, “why should we study failure upon failure?” Fortunately, the Apostle Paul has keen insight that is meant for us in the New Testament church era. Note his wisdom from 1 Corinthians 10:6-12:

Now these things occurred as examples to keep us from setting our hearts on evil things as they did. ⁷ Do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written: “The people sat down to eat and drink and got up to indulge in revelry.”⁸ We should not commit sexual immorality, as some of them did—and in one day twenty-three thousand of them died. ⁹ We should not test Christ, as some of them did—and were killed by snakes. ¹⁰ And do not grumble, as some of them did—and were killed by the destroying angel. ¹¹ These things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the culmination of the ages has come. ¹² So, if you think you are standing firm, be careful that you don’t fall!

So, on with the study... and be careful and alert.

Robert Cupp
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