

Israel as a Necessary Theme in Biblical Theology

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Study Questions

1. Describe the task of biblical theology.
2. What do we mean by saying the world's story, even from the creation in Genesis, is told in Scripture in an "Israel-formed" way? What is the justification for such a claim?
3. Explain the essence of Divine, Kingdom, and human themes of the Bible's story. How do they each begin in Genesis and end in Revelation?
4. What do you make of the claim that God has always intended to subdue and rule evil through human beings? What does this suggest about Jesus the God-man's activities against Satan in his first coming?
5. What is the significance of Abraham (Act III) to the Bible's story?
6. Identify and describe what Israel (Act IV) contributes to the Divine, Kingdom, and Human themes of the Bible's story.
7. What is gained from the Bible's story specifically from Israel's status as a nation?
8. What do we mean by new covenantalism from the prophets, and what is the relationship of the prophets' new covenant hope to the New Testament documents?
9. Why was it considered as unwarranted revisionism of the OT to consider the Church as the replacement of Israel?
10. In what ways does the present age of the Church differ from the age the prophets saw for a restored People and Land of Israel? What is the implication of the difference for the claim that the Church is a "New Israel"?
11. Describe the role of the millennium in Revelation 20:1-10 to the whole book of Revelation.
12. What contribution does the nation of Israel make to the meaning of salvation in Scripture?