THE EPIC OF EDEN VIDEO STUDY

Introduction

Take sixty seconds and write down the names of as many Old Testament characters as you can.

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

_____________________________________________________

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_____________________________________________________

List three things you hope to gain from this study.

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_____________________________________________________
Why do Christians struggle with the study of the Old Testament?

1) ......................................................................................................................... 

2) ......................................................................................................................... 

3) ......................................................................................................................... 

Ethnocentric: ................................................................................................. 

......................................................................................................................... 

What was the creature at the center of the table in the picture from Lima, Peru? ............................................. 

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bureaucratic Culture</th>
<th>Tribal Culture</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Run by?</td>
<td>Run by?</td>
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</table>

Israelite Society
Tribal society is best understood by three categories.

Patriarchal: *authority within the household belongs to the* ____________

Patrilineal: *ancestral descent and inheritance is traced through the* ____________

Patrilocal: *the family unit and living space is built around the* ____________

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .

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**John 14:1-3**

“Do not let your heart be troubled; believe in God, believe also in Me. In My Father's house are many dwelling places; if it were not so, I would have told you; for I go to prepare a place for you. If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself, that where I am, there you may be also.” (NASB)
What is the first problem that we run into when we begin our study?

How does Dr. Richter define the word “Biblish”?

Where did the church get the word “redemption”?

Where did the New Testament writers get the word?

Where did the Old Testament writers get the word?

םִיטְּכָא = ga’al = to redeem

What do we learn about redemption from each of these stories?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Naomi, Ruth &amp; Boaz</th>
<th>Abraham &amp; Lot</th>
<th>Hosea &amp; Gomer</th>
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</table>
The Metaphor of Scripture . . .

is the metaphor of a __________ __________ __________ by the __________ of the clan, who sends his __________ __________, to not only _________ the lost family member, but to share his __________ with them as well.

His goal? To restore them to the bêt'āb so that where he is, they may be also.

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .
1) Geography
What is “the little green slug” called?

This area is called that because it is ____________ and it is shaped like a ____________

Name the four rivers that make the land fertile.

________________________  _______________________
________________________  _______________________

Name the three areas of the Fertile Crescent.


2) Real Time
List the five names (in order) that help us to organize real time.

1) ___________________________
2) ___________________________
3) ___________________________
4) ___________________________
5) ___________________________
A ‘covenant’ is an ______________ enacted between two parties in which one or both make ______________ under ______________ to perform or refrain from certain actions ______________ in advance.” (ABD 1:1178)

How does someone in a tribal society establish a contract or an agreement with someone who is not part of the tribe?

____________________________________________________________________________________

____________________________________________________________________________________

“In tribal societies there were ______________ ______________ or devices—we might even say ______________ ______________—by which outsiders, non-kin, might be incorporated into the ______________ ______________.” (Cross, From Epic to Canon, 7)

Features of a berit

1) _______________________________________________________________________________

2) _______________________________________________________________________________

3) _______________________________________________________________________________

4) _______________________________________________________________________________

5) _______________________________________________________________________________

6) _______________________________________________________________________________

What are the two types of international treaties found in the ancient Near East?

1) _______________________________________________________________________________

A treaty made between _________________________ _________________________.

Refer to each other as _______________________. 
An agreement between _______________________.

Can have _______________________.

2) _______________________

A treaty made between a _______________________ and an _______________________.

Refer to each other as _______________________ or _______________________.

The suzerain would receive _______________________ and _______________________ from the vassal.

The vassal would receive _______________________ _______________________ from the suzerain.

The suzerain would often give a _______________________ _______________________ to a vassal.

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .
The Epic of Eden Video Study

Session 5—Treaty

What are the two types of international treaties found in the ancient Near East?

1) __________ (made between a __________________ and an __________________).

2) __________ (made between __________________).

The Gibeonites are looking for what kind of treaty from Joshua? ________________

Why? ________________

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| Hittite suzerain/vassal treaty format of the late second millennium BC and the berît at Mt. Sinai |
|---|---|
| **Treaty Format** | **berît at Mt. Sinai** |
| I. Preamble/Title | Who does Yahweh say that he is? |
| Gives title of superior party. Exodus 20:___; Deut. 5:6a | |
| II. Historical Prologue | What has Yahweh done? What is the basis of obligation and motive for accepting the covenant’s stipulations as binding? |
| Furnishes the basis of obligation and the motive for accepting the covenant’s stipulations as binding. Exodus 20:___; Deut. 5:6b [cf. Deut. 1-3] | |
| III. Stipulations/Obligations Imposed | What is the first commandment? |
| Exodus 20:3-17; Deut. 5:7-21 [cf. Deut. 12-26] | |
| IV. Deposition and Provision for Periodic Reading of the Treaty Before the People | Where were they deposited? When were they read? |
| Treaty text archived in the temple of the vassal’s chief deity (i.e., the witness to his oath). | |
| Exodus 32:15; Exodus 25:21; cf. Exodus 40:20; Deut. 10:5 | |
| Deut. 31:10-12; cf. Exodus 24:7; Josh. 8:30-35 | |
| V. List of Witnesses | Who served as witness to the covenant? |
| The deities of both parties are summoned to act as witnesses to the oaths taken. Deut. 4:26; 30:19-20; 31:28. | |
| VI. Curses and Blessings | “And all these ______ will come upon you and overtake you if you ______ the Lord your God . . . But if you do not ______ the Lord your God. All these ______ will come upon you and overtake you.” |
| Deut. 27:11-28:68 | |

These acts of treaty-making were sealed off by means of ratification ceremony involving oath and sacrifice (Exod. 24:3-8; cf. Gen. 15:17-21; Jer. 34:17-20; Matt. 27:22-25).
The Theology of the Historical Prologue

God __________________________ before he requires __________________________.

The rules are designed to __________________________ the relationship not to __________________________ the relationship.

How does it teach Israel?

Idea of __________________________ __________________________.

Idea of __________________________.

Idea of __________________________.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Old Covenant at Mt. Sinai</th>
<th>New Covenant at the Last Supper</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exodus 24:3–8</td>
<td>Matthew 26:27–28</td>
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</table>

Moses came and told the people all the words of the LORD and all the ordinances; and all the people answered with one voice, and said, “All the words that the LORD has spoken we will do.” And Moses wrote down all the words of the LORD. He rose early in the morning, and built an altar at the foot of the mountain, and set up twelve pillars, corresponding to the twelve tribes of Israel, who offered burnt offerings and sacrificed oxen as offerings of well-being to the LORD. Moses took half of the blood and put it in basins, and half of the blood he dashed against the altar. Then he took the book of the covenant, and read it in the hearing of the people; and they said, “All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient.” Moses took the blood and dashed it on the people, and said, “See the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words.”

Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink from it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .
Two descriptions of the creation event found in Genesis

Genesis chapters ___________ belong to Israel’s ________________, ________________, possibly ________________ account of this event. Genesis chapter ________________ written specifically as an ________________ to the ________________ of ________________ and to the ________________ as a whole.

What is the question we have to ask if we care about biblical authority? ________________________________

What is on Moses’ mind as he writes? Explaining who ________________ ________________ is and who ________________ ________________.

The ________________ (Framework) Theory

The Seven Days of Creation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>1 (1:1–5)</th>
<th>2 (1:6–8)</th>
<th>3 (1:11–12)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4 (1:14–19)</td>
<td>5 (1:22)</td>
<td>6a (1:24–26)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6b (1:26)</td>
<td>7 (2:1–4)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The Covenant in Eden

The Players? (1:26–31)
- Suzerain ________________
- Vassal ________________

The Setting? (2:8–15) ________________

The Agreement? (2:15–17) ________________
The Blessing? ________________

The Curse? ________________

**What Eden was . . .**

“The sons of Adam and daughters of Eve building their lives at the feet of God, constructing their ‘city’ in the midst of His Kingdom. A civilization without greed, malice, or envy; progress without pollution; expansion without extinction.” *(The Epic of Eden, 104)*

The ________________ of God,

thriving in the ________________ of God,

dwelling in the ________________ of God.

Adam and Eve rejected the ________________ of the Almighty. They embraced their role as ________________, but they did not embrace their role as ________________.

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .

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Redemptive History begins with the question:

What did the __________________________ lose?

And ends with the question:

What did the __________________________ buy back?

The iconography of Eden:

1) Cherubim (Exodus 25–26, 36)

“Let them build a sanctuary for me so that I might dwell among them” (Exod. 25:8).

Who could enter the outer court of the tabernacle? __________________________

Who could enter the Holy Place? __________________________

Who could enter the Holy of Holies? __________________________

In the Holy of Holies, God sits enthroned above what? __________________________

What do the cherubim look like?

The __________________________ of a __________________________.

The __________________________ of a __________________________.

The __________________________ of a __________________________.

What is the function of the cherubim?

To __________________________ away anyone who would dare to enter __________________________ __________________________ __________________________ in an __________________________ fashion.
1) **Cherubim** (continued)

What is God communicating?

The Holy of Holies and the garden of Eden, both defended by cherubim, are the ____________
__________ of the ____________.

2) **Rivers (Ezekiel 47)**

What does Ezekiel see bursting forth under the throne of the Holy of Holies?

Why does it come from the temple and why does it come from Eden?

3) **Trees (Revelation 21–22)**

(Rev. 21)

What does John see? A new ____________ and a new ____________.

What does he not see there? ____________

Why? ____________

(Rev. 22)

What does the angel show John? ____________

What stands on the sides of the river? ____________

*Heaven is where it has always been . . .*

The ____________ where God is. The ____________ where the ____________ of God

may dwell in the ____________ of God with full access to the ____________ of God!

God's rescue plan:

Noah ____________________________________________________________________________

Abraham ____________________________________________________________________________

Moses ____________________________________________________________________________

David ____________________________________________________________________________

Jesus ____________________________________________________________________________
What does all of this tell us about Redemptive History?

What was done in ________________ must be ____________________________
for the New Jerusalem.

What was ________________ in ________________ must be
________________________ for the New Jerusalem.

What was ________________ ________________ in ________________
is what is ________________ in the New Jerusalem.

________________________ is our best picture of ________________.

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .
Matthew 24:37-39

Jesus is comparing the _______________ to the _______________.

It divides _______________ as it _______________ to _______________.

as it _______________ _______________.

Parallels in Surrounding Literature

1) The Sumerian Kings List

List of the kings of Sumer divided into two sections:

Kings _______________ the flood. Lived outrageously long periods of time.

Kings _______________ the flood. Ages and reigns dropped dramatically.

2) The Gilgamesh Epic

3) The Story of Atrahasis

What do these stories have in common with the biblical story of Noah and the flood?

Genesis 7:11-12 The De-Creation Event

Genesis 1

God creates the _______________ and the _______________ and the

Spirit hovers over the _______________ _______________ (tehom).

Genesis 7

On a specific day, all the fountains of the _______________ are split open, the windows of _______________ are opened and the

_______________ is saturated with rain.
Genesis 9—The Re-Creational Covenant

The ___________________________, first race has been __________________________. __________________________ has been cleansed.

Starting again in a __________________________ world with a __________________________ covenant.

Sealed with a __________________________. __________________________.

God is offering __________________________ to this conquered foe.

9:24–27 The Curse of Canaan

Canaan = “to be __________________________.”

Japheth = “to __________________________”

Shem = “______________________________”

Genesis 9:27

“May God enlarge Japheth, and let him/Him dwell in the tents of Shem; and let Canaan be his/their servant”

Where does the Noahic covenant leave us?

The People = the __________________________ of __________________________.

The Presence = with the __________________________ of __________________________.

The Place = __________________________ __________________________ __________________________.

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .

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________________________________________________________________________
Abraham in Real Space and Time

The story of Abraham begins in the city of _________________.

Abraham leaves Ur, travels to _________________, and then into _________________.

The Middle Bronze Age: _________________ BC to _________________ BC.

Abraham's Covenant

1) Genesis 12

**Stipulations:** “Go forth from _________________ _________________ and from _________________ _________________ _________________ .

**Promises**

1. I will make you a _________________ _________________ .

2. I will _________________ you.

3. I will make _________________ _________________ .

4. I will _________________ those who _________________ you and I will _________________ those who _________________ you.

5. In you all the _________________ of the _________________ shall be _________________.

2) Genesis 15

**Stipulation:** To _________________ God.

**Promises**

1. An _________________ from “your own body.”

2. Descendants as _________________ as the _________________.

3. The land of _________________.
4. I am a __________________ to you, I am your very great __________________.

“O Lord, how may I know that I shall inherit it?”

2) Genesis 15 (continued)

Covenant ceremony:

Theophany = an __________________ of God in a __________________ form.

In a suzerain/vassal treaty, who is supposed to walk between the pieces of the animal? ______________

Who walked between the pieces of the animal here? ______________

What is God saying? May what happened to these animals happen to __________________ if I break
____________________ with ____________________.

3) Genesis 17

Reaffirmation of the covenant, promises ____________________.

Name change: Abram (exalted father) → Abraham (father of a multitude)

Sarai (princess) → Sarah (princess)

Covenant sign __________________

Where does the Abrahamic covenant leave us?

The People = ____________________

The Place = ____________________

The Presence = ____________________

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .
Moses in Real Time and Space

The exodus took place either in ________________ BC or ________________ BC.

Where did Joseph’s family settle when they went down to Egypt? ________________

The Story of Exodus and the Covenant at Sinai

Exodus 1:8 “And a new king arose over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.”

Yahweh

• Hears the ________________ of his people.

• Remembers his ________________ with Abraham.

• Proves himself the ________________ of the ________________.

• Leads forth his people ________________ and loaded with ________________.

Israel

• Is ________________ from a strong enemy.

• Is ________________ from slavery and poverty.

• Is ________________ a future and hope.

• Is ________________ an inheritance.

• Has begun the journey to the ________________. ________________.

The Abrahamic promises are ________________ in the Mosaic covenant!

Theocracy = a nation ________________ by God.

Human officers in a theocracy:

1. ________________

2. ________________

3. ________________
The Tabernacle

Exodus 25:8 “And let them construct a sanctuary for me, so that I may dwell (šakan) among them.”

Message of the tabernacle: ______________________ and ______________________.

God ______________________ to be with his people, but because of ______________________

________________________ he ______________________ be with his people.

The New Testament and the miškan

John 1:14 “And the word became flesh and ______________________ among us.”

1 Corinthians 6:19 ______________________

2 Corinthians 6:15 ______________________

People, Place, and Presence of the Mosaic covenant?

The People = ______________________

The Place = ______________________

The Presence = ______________________

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .

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David in Real Time and Space

The Israelites settled in the promised land as a ________________ league.

During the time of Joshua, the Conquest, and the Era of the Judges, all of the Israelites settled according to their ________________ ________________

Who was the last judge of Israel? ________________ (He was also a ________________ and a _________________.)

The Cycle of the Judges

The cycle is repeated twelve times in the book of Judges.

The cry of the biblical author throughout the book of Judges: the reason for this problem is because, “There was no ________________ in Israel and every man did what was ________________ in ________________ ________________ ________________.”

The Difference between Saul and David

1 Samuel 8:22 (The Calling of Saul) 1 Samuel 16 (The Calling of David)

“Listen to their voice, and appoint __________ a king.” “For I have selected a king for __________ among his sons.”

Saul is the ________________ choice. David is ________________ choice.
David’s Call Narratives

1) 1 Samuel 16:1–13: Samuel chooses the ________________ of Jesse’s sons.  
A man of ________________ own choosing. David is chosen for his ________________.

2) 1 Samuel 16:14–23: David is chosen to ________________ ________________ to soothe Saul’s troubled soul.  
What is the other book in the Bible always associated with David? ________________

3) 1 Samuel 17: David and Goliath  
In David’s mind it doesn’t matter who the ________________ is, it matters ________________ is on ________________ ________________.

The Davidic Covenant [2 Samuel 7:8–16] A House or a House?  
David: I want to build Yahweh a ________________.

Yahweh: When I want a ________________ I’ll ask for one. Do not ________________ who the real ________________ of Israel is.

2 Samuel 7:16

“Your ________________ and your ________________ shall endure before me ________________: your ________________ shall be established ________________.”

People, Place, and Presence of the Davidic Covenant

The People = ________________

The Place = ________________

The Presence = ________________

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .
The Divided Kingdom:

**Northern Kingdom**
- Jeroboam I
  - Set up alternate cult sites at ___________ and ___________.

**Southern Kingdom**
- Rehoboam (Solomon’s son)
  - Ruled with an iron fist, ___________ war ensued.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Northern Kingdom</th>
<th>Southern Kingdom</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>___________ BC the ________________</td>
<td>___________ BC the ________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>wipe out the Northern Kingdom and the ten tribes of Israel disappear.</td>
<td>drag Israel off to Babylonia; Southern Kingdom does ___________ disappear.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Capital city = ________________</td>
<td>Capital city = ________________</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Also known as: Israel, sometimes Ephraim</td>
<td>Also known as: Judah</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Exile and the Return

The ________________ is the great watershed of the Israelite faith.

The ________________ is the same story as the ________________:

the ________________ of God have been cast out of the ________________ of God and they lose access to the ________________ of God.

Jeremiah 29:11

“For I know the ________________ that I have for you,’ declares the Lord, ‘plans for ________________ and not for ________________ to give you a ________________ and a ________________.’”
BC Cyrus of Persia allows the exiles to return home.

Those who return are the ones who have kept the ______________________ ______________________ alive.

(Isaiah 9:2–7; Isaiah 11:1–12; Ezekiel 37:21–28)

**The Promise: The Return of the King**

How were all the legitimate kings of Israel identified?

1) By ______________________. Had to be a child of ______________________. (Matthew 1:1)

2) By the____________________ of Yahweh’s prophet. (Matthew 3:13–17)

Where is the kingdom?

Matthew 13: the kingdom of heaven is like . . .

A man who sowed ______________________ ______________________ in his field

A ______________________ seed

A ______________________ in a lump of dough.

The “Already” and the “Not Yet”

The kingdom of God has ______________________ come.

The ______________________ ______________________ awaits.
### The People, Place, and Presence in the New Covenant

| People | All who will __________ upon the __________ of the __________, and __________ to the end.  
(Gal. 3:26–29) | Our __________ as sons, the __________ of the body.  
(John 14:2; Rom. 8:23; Rev. 19:11–16; 21:21–27) |
|--------|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------|
| Place  | We are only __________, like Abraham, we await our __________, the New Jerusalem.  
(Rev. 21:1–2) | The __________ __________.  
(Rev. 21:1–4) |
| Presence | In the __________, in the __________, in the __________.  
(John 1:14; Acts 2:17; 1 Cor. 3:16–17; 6:19; 2 Cor. 6:16; Eph. 2:19–22; Rev. 21–22) | “Behold, the __________ of God is among men, and he will __________ among them, and they shall be his __________, and God himself will be __________ them.”  
(Rev. 21:3; 22) |

“So that where I am, there you may be with me always.” (John 14:3)

Questions, comments, aha moments . . .