

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

# EPISODE 15: MAKE IT MAKE SENSE

## THE BIG PICTURE

### CONTEXT

We want to start diving into the “how” of studying scripture and provide you with tools to help you in your personal study. Studying scripture always begins with a wide-angle view. You have to see and know the big picture to understand a particular text.

### THE BIG PICTURE

Hubble Telescope launch was nearly a multi-million-dollar failure. It launched in 2,000 and when NASA turned it on everything was blurry. It needed a lens! There was a follow up mission to put a contact lens on the telescope. Now we get some of the most beautiful images from outer space because it has the right lens.

Same thing goes for Bible reading and interpretation. The biggest problem with reading Scripture is reading it with the wrong lenses.

And the first lens you want to make sure you have is the Big Picture Lens.

#### The Bible as One Story

- i. 66 Books in Scripture
  - a) 39 OT (Old Testament/Covenant) (between God and Israel)
    - 1) Books of the Law (Pentateuch) (5)
    - 2) Books of History (12)
    - 3) Poetry/Wisdom Literature (5)
    - 4) Prophecy (17)
  - b) 27 NT (New Testament/Covenant) (between God and His Son)
    - 1) Gospels (4)
    - 2) History (1)
    - 3) Epistles (longest to shortest, not date order) (13)
    - 4) General (8)
    - 5) Prophecy (1)
- ii. Approximately 40 authors
  - a) Some named and some anonymous. Examples: We really don't know who wrote Hebrews. On the other hand, certain books explicitly name the author (e.g. Philippians)
- iii. The Storyline of Scripture (A Four-Act Play)

- a) Scripture reveals one story and has one main character: Jesus Christ. (John 5:39-40; Luke 24:13-2727) Despite what we think, we are supporting cast members in God's grand story.
- b) The Four-Part Storyline
- c) Creation (World)-Genesis 1-3 The origin story.
- d) Fall (Sin)- Sin enters the picture. Genesis 3 (Note: Creation and fall happens in the first three chapters of Scripture.)
- e) Redemption (Cross)-Christ steps in to redeem us.
- f) Restoration (Kingdom)-The kingdom of God is restored.
- g) Hollywood has capitalized on this deep need. Most movies follow this arc. Coming to America for example - Perfect kingdom, bride w/o relationship, leaves kingdom to find his bride, brings her back to Zamunda. Sounds like Jesus.

### Takeaways

- a) The Bible is FOR YOU but it isn't ABOUT YOU.
- b) The Bible isn't a random collection of books, but tells one unified story.
- c) Understand the BIG PICTURE of Scripture before you dive into SMALLER TEXTS.