

EPISODE 28: MAKE IT MAKE SENSE

FINDING CHRIST IN CREATION

CONTEXT

In this episode, we will look at the one who all of Scripture is about—Christ. How do you find Christ in passages that do not directly reference Him? We want to help you make it make sense when it comes to finding Christ in the text. Let's talk a look at finding Christ in creation.

BARRIERS TO READING THE OLD TESTAMENT

- i. *Relevance*: What does a **BC** text have to do with my **AD** life?
- ii. *Stepchild Status*: New Testament is the trophy child, while Old Testament is treated like a stepchild
- iii. *Harder to Read and Understand*: It takes more work to read and understand the Old Testament because of the cultural distance between us and Ancient Near East.
- iv. *Selfish Reading*: Western culture and "ego" as center. Centering self in our reading misunderstands the purpose of the text. The Bible was written FOR YOU but it is not ABOUT YOU.
- v. *Christ-less Reading*: Reading the OT apart from Christ leads to a legalism that will ultimately crush us. (What we'll address the next several episodes-Christ-Centered Reading of Scripture)

WHY LOOK FOR CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

- vi. Big picture of Scripture has always started with and will end with Christ.
 - a) John 5:39-47
 - 1) Scribes and Pharisees were so caught up in the details, that they missed who the details pointed to.
- vii. Christ as God's Spoiler
 - a) Moses writes to a people who know the Creation/Fall narrative. They needed redemption. Also know Genesis 3:15.
 - b) Scripture begins with the end in mind, so we need to view every passage through Christ's redemptive lens.

FINDING CHRIST IN CREATION

- i. God and Spirit explicitly named in (Genesis 1:1-2) *Where is Jesus?*
 - a) **You won't find his name in creation account, but you will find his work.**
 - 1) Colossians 1:15-17- All things were created **through** him and **for** him.

- 2) Ephesians 1:3-6-God's plan for redemption preceded creation.
- 3) Revelation 13:7-8-Greek: "those whose name has not been written in the book of life of the Lamb, who was slaughtered from the foundation of the world."
- 4) 1 Peter 1:17-20-His saving work was *pro-ginosko* (known beforehand)
 - (1) The world was created with redemption in mind.

b) Jesus is the wisdom of God in creation

- 1) 1 Corinthians 1:30-31-Christ became to us "wisdom from God."
- 2) Proverbs 8:22, 27-31-Wisdom was with the Lord in the beginning

c) Jesus is the perfect Imago Dei

- 1) Genesis 1:26-27- Created in God's image, but marred by fall.
- 2) 2 Corinthians 4:3-4/Colossians 1:15-Christ is the image of God

d) Jesus created his instruments on redemption

- 1) Genesis 1:9-10-In water/land. Woman at the well (John 4:14).
- 2) Genesis 1:11-12-In vegetation. Mustard seed. Wheat tares. Became the canvas for his illustrations.
- 3) Genesis 1:20-21-In animals. Sheep (Psalm 23; John 10). Birds and anxiety (Matthew 6:26). Camels and needles (Matthew 19:24).
- 4) Also created wood and metal, fully knowing where they would wind up. On his back and in through his hands.

e) Jesus wove our story in his story.

- 1) The order of creation reflects the order of our redemption
 - (1) (Genesis 1:2; John 6:63)-Creation starts w/ the Spirit giving life; our salvation does the same
 - (2) (Genesis 1:3; 2 Corinthians 4:6)-Creation begins w/ light; our salvation does the same
 - (3) (Genesis 1:4; 1 Thessalonians 5:5)-Light is separated from darkness; so are we
 - (4) (Genesis 1:11; Galatians 5:22-23)-Creation produces fruit; so should our salvation
 - (5) (Genesis 1:28-31; Hebrews 2:6-9)-Creation ends with dominion and control

f) Jesus is the seed of the woman

- 1) Genesis 3:15