

The New Testament Speaks of the Old

In the first century, the Jews accepted as scripture the same 39 books that are in the OT today. The Jews of Alexandria put the apocrypha with those books, but did not consider the apocrypha as scripture. There is material in the back of many Bibles that is not scripture. So, material in the same book with inspired scripture is not automatically counted as scripture. More than 300 verses from the OT are quoted in the NT as scripture with all but 5 of the OT books quoted. Jesus quoted from 24 of the OT books. Besides quotes, there are many allusions to OT events. All of these references treat the OT events the same, that the cities existed, the people lived, and the events happened.

This list is particularly useful in countering the claims of liberals and skeptics that parts of the Old Testament may be true and historical but other parts are not. For example, some claim that the story of Adam and Eve is just a fable. They would say the characters are fictional, invented only to tell a story with lessons. But, the list below shows that all Old Testament figures and places and events are treated equally, historically. Thus, the New Testament declares that the Old Testament account was historical and not comprised of fables and fictional people.

Adam and Eve - Mark 10:6 But from the beginning of creation, God made them male and female.”

David - Matt.1:1,6 (his sin with Bathsheba, the wife of Uriah); 12:3,4 (entering the tabernacle and eating the showbread); John 7:42 (Bethlehem, where he was); Acts 7:46 (wanted to build a temple)

Abraham - Matt.1:1; Acts 7:2-7 (Haran, depart, inheritance, prophecy, circumcision, Isaac); Rom.9:7 (descendants through Isaac); Heb.7:1-3 (met and gave a tithe to Melchizedek after the slaughter of the kings); Heb.11:8-10 (called, obeyed and went out to another land, dwelt in tents); v.17 (offered up Isaac)

Isaac - Matt.1:2; Acts 2:8; Heb.11:20 (blessed Jacob and Esau)

Jacob - Matt.1:2; John 4:12 (Jacob's well); Acts 7:8 (father of 12); Heb.11:21 (when dying, blessed the sons of Joseph)

Judah and his brothers - Matt.1:3

Boaz and Ruth - Matt.1:5

Solomon - Matt.1:6; Acts 7:46 (built the temple)

Hezekiah - Matt.1:9

Manasseh - Matt.1:10

Jeconiah - Matt.1:11 (the deportation to Babylon)

Sodom and Gomorrah - Matt.10:15 (judgment thereof); 11:24

Tyre and Sidon - Matt.11:21,22 (judgment thereof)

Jonah - Matt.12:39-41(3 days and nights in the fish; Nineveh repented at his preaching)

Queen of the South - Matt.12:42 (came to see Solomon)

Abel - Matt.23:35 (blood shed); Heb.11:4 (offered a better sacrifice)

Noah - Matt.24:37-39 (ark, flood); Heb.11:7 (built the ark by faith and thus condemned the world); I Pet.3:20 (8 persons saved)

Elijah - John 1:25 (prophet); Rom.11:2-3 (pled with God); James 5:17 (Elijah and the drought)

manna - John 6:31,32 (bread from heaven in the wilderness, Moses)

Samuel and the prophets - Acts 3:24

Joseph - Acts 7:9-16 (brothers jealous, slavery, Egypt, rose, famine, family comes, death, buried back in Shechem)

slavery in Egypt - Acts 7:17-19

Moses - Acts 7:20-44 (exposed, rescued by Pharaoh's daughter; nursed by own mother; educated as Egyptian; killed an Egyptian; fled to Midian; burning bush; wonders and signs in Egypt; Red Sea crossing; Mount Sinai and the Law; made the tabernacle according to the pattern); Heb.11:23-29 (hidden by parents; refused to be called son of Pharaoh's daughter, left Egypt; kept that first passover in Egypt; passed through the Red Sea on dry ground and the Egyptians drowned)

Aaron - Acts 7:40-41 (golden calf)

Joshua - Acts 7:45 (conquering the promised land)

wilderness wandering - Acts 13:18; Heb.3:16-19 (40 years; didn't believe; didn't enter; died); I Cor.10:1-10 (through the Red Sea with Moses, ate the manna; drank water that sprang from the rock, sinned, grumbled, 23000 killed in one day)

conquering the Promised Land - Acts 13:19 (destroyed 7 nations)

judges until Samuel - Acts 13:20

Saul - Acts 13:21 (asked for a king, son of Kish, tribe of Benjamin)

Sarah - Rom.9:9 (promise of a son); Heb.11:11-12 (received the ability to conceive though past the normal time of life); Gal.4:21-28 (conflict between Sarah and Hagar)

Rebekah - Rom.9:10 (twins)

Esau - Rom.9:13 (one of twins, older served the younger)

Pharaoh - Rom.9:17

Melchizedek - Heb.7:1-3 (king of Salem, priest; Abraham gave him a tenth of the spoils)

Cain - Heb.11:4; I John 3:2 (Cain killed his brother)

Enoch - Heb.11:5 (taken up and did not see death)

Jericho - Heb.11:30 (by faith walls fell down after being encircled 7 days)

Rahab - Heb.11:31 (hid the spies and lived)

Gideon - Heb.11:32

Barak - Heb.11:32

Samson - Heb.11:32

Jepthah - Heb.11:32

Sinai and the giving of the Law - Heb.12:18-20 (blazing fire; noise; don't touch the mountain; Moses' fear)

Balaam - II Pet.2:15-16 (son of Beor; loved money; donkey spoke to him)

Korah - Jude 11 (his rebellion)