

- "I read for 2 hours."
- "I read 100% of the assigned reading carefully and took notes from it."
- "I watched all of the videos."

The historical books are the accounts of God's laws and covenants made with his people put to the test. Here, we find the books of Joshua Judges the books of Samuel, Kings, Ruth, Chronicles, Ezra, Nehemiah and Esther where as the Israelites obey or disobey God's word by breaching the covenant in Deuteronomy (Deuteronomy 28), there is a series of events that God makes good on his words according to the covenant.

The purpose of the book of Joshua is to show God's story in that he gives Joshua the military strategy to fulfill the covenant agreement to give them the land in which their forefathers dwelled, and thereby demonstrating his faithfulness to Israel and their forefathers (Joshua 6-12).

The message of the book of Judges is to show how God is longsuffering and merciful as he demonstrates this attribute with Israel in this book as they are over and over again found breaching his covenant between them and he choosing to deliver them out of his mercy to a unrepentant people (Judges 2-16).

The take away for the book of Ruth is that God is faithful and as demonstrated by Ruth's faithfulness to Naomi and Boaz's faithfulness to Ruth (Ruth 1-2). Through this family God shows his faithfulness to his covenant to Israel to continue the genealogy to raise up a King to Israel that would birth King David (Ruth 4).

The books of 1 and 2nd Samuel serve the purpose of showing God's Kingship to Israel eventually through his choice of a King for Israel King David who knew God was the one who fights the battles and he could be an instrument that he worked through to establish his covenant to Israel (1 Samuel 16). God references David as a man after his own heart (1 Samuel 13:14).

The books of 1 and 2nd Kings continue the story of Kings to Israel and the split into Israel and Judah at the death of King Solomon but the various Kings now by their lack of keeping covenant with God turn the people to Baal worship (1 Kings 16:29-31) and thereby cause the consequences of God's judgement to the people because of disloyalty to God's covenant and relationship with him.

The book of chronicles brings the emphasis on restoring hope to Israel and God's faithfulness to Israel. They have no King and believe God's is not faithful to his word so Chronicles is to remind Israel that God is still moving as he delivered and established before in their history he will fulfill his promise to them again (1chronicles 11-29).

The books of Ezra and Nehemiah are meant to bring the restoration both spiritually and physically to Israel. So they are coming back in alignment with God. He with them and they with him, a renewal of covenant (Ezra 7-10 Neh. 1-7).

Esther's purpose is God working behind the scenes. Even as his name is never mentioned here (Esther 1-7).

One event that was challenging was the event in Esther where God is not mentioned ever but we come to the conclusion that God's message is he doesn't have to announce himself but he is always working it out (Esther 1-7)

Two issues I would like to research are the study of Ezra Nehemiah and their relationship to Haggai as this leads to the temple restoration and the people of Israel. The other is the relationship deeper in the law covenant in Deuteronomy 28 and what was occurring in these books of history.