

- 1) I watched the entire introduction and lection videos.
- 2) I read approximately 90% of the assigned readings for the week. I plan on finishing chapter 19 this week and reviewing the chapters I already read.
- 3) Chapter 1 of Hill and Walton's book did a great job of making the reader excited to read and explore the Old Testament. I appreciated how they described the Old Testament as a means by which we get to know God by experiencing his attributes (page 21), and reading the Old Testament is one way we accomplish this. They also remind us that while the Old Testament has much to teach us, we must be diligent to ensure we are not reading a teaching the Old Testament never intended to teach. This is a fundamental Bible study skill that we constantly need to remind ourselves so we can see God in an accurate light and prevent ourselves from assigning false characteristics to him. A worthy God deserves reverent and contextually informed study.

Focusing only on the first chapter I could not see any weaknesses. The chapter was meant to prepare the student for what to expect while reading the Old Testament and as far as I am concerned, they succeeded in the goal they set out to do. Their suggestions for study are reasonable and will most likely help the student remain open minded and observant of what they are reading.

For someone like me who has had prior academic study of the Old Testament, I see how consistent most scholars are when approaching the study of the Old Testament; therefore, I too who desire to study the Old Testament with scholarly integrity would be wise to heed Hill and Walton's suggestions.