

SCRIPTURE STORYLINE
An Invitation to Biblical Theology

TODD R. CHIPMAN

Fontes

Scripture Storyline:
An Invitation to Biblical Theology

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ISBN-13: 978-1-948048-39-2 (hardback)

ISBN-13: 978-1-948048-40-8 (paperback)

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FONTES PRESS
DALLAS, TX
www.fontespress.com

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FOREWORD

Many living out the history of ancient Israel encountered shepherd-leaders who fed only themselves rather than their sheep (Ezek 34:2-5). Therefore, Yahweh promised that he would seek out his flock and shepherd his sheep by raising up one shepherd, his servant David, who would both provide for and protect his people, establishing with them a covenant of peace (34:11-25). Earlier, the Lord had noted that this Davidic shepherd king would actually work through under-shepherds. He would lead a second exodus and bless a multitude of nations as God promised Abraham (Jer 3:16-18; 23:5-8), and in his days God would give his people “shepherds who are loyal to me, and they will shepherd you with knowledge and skill” (Jer 3:15; cf. 23:4). The New Testament stresses that the chief, great, and good shepherd has now come (John 10:11, 16, 27-30; Heb 13:20-21; 1 Pet 5:4), and this present study supplies significant evidence that God in Christ is now fulfilling his promise to lead and feed his flock well through faithful shepherds who know the chief shepherd and who are able to guide God’s sheep in paths of righteousness for his namesake (see Acts 20:28; Eph 4:11; 1 Pet 5:1-3).

This book is a seasoned, pastoral invitation to biblical theology. It was birthed in the context of the local church yet was tested in the context of the academy. It seeks to show you how the storyline of Scripture progresses, integrates, and climaxes in Christ. It is a book that accounts for how the biblical covenants develop, how the New Testament authors use the Old Testament, and how Jesus supplies the solution to all problems, provides the Yes to every promise, fulfills all hopes, and operates as the substance to which all shadows point. Chipman is a scholarly pastor and a pastoral scholar. He writes for the church and for Christian families that shape the church. His book shows the fruit of extensive, thoughtful, and faithful biblical study matched by the clear communication and convictional care of a master shepherd who is following the chief shepherd.

At one level, this book is a Bible reading plan with commentary that seeks to trace the storyline of redemption as it develops from the Old Testament to the New. This book not only guides the reader but also comments on nearly every chapter from Genesis to

Revelation in a way that highlights Scripture's intertextuality. The book is loaded with faithful exposition of God's Word and an awareness of Scripture as a whole. As such, it is filled with life!

Chipman is inviting you to read the Bible in light of how all of its parts relate to each other and with a view to how Jesus fulfills all that the Old Testament anticipated. Working from the Old Testament to the New and then from the New Testament back to the Old, he highlights how New Testament authors directly quote or allude to Old Testament texts, and he points to how events, persons, and institutions in the Old Testament both predict and clarify Jesus' person and work.

This is a book designed to serve pastors, teachers, and students of the Word. As a reference tool, it provides detailed intertextual commentary on every substantial cross-reference that the original Holman Christian Standard Bible (HCSB) listed between the Testaments. As a daily Bible study companion, it faithfully leads readers to discover Scripture's overarching unity and to see and savor Christ's beauty and supremacy as they follow a trustworthy tutor through the whole Bible in a year. As a resource for small group study, it guides Christians to celebrate their part in God's overarching purposes from creation to consummation and to read their Bibles more like Jesus and the New Testament authors did and intended.

Following Moses, Jesus stressed that "man must not live on bread alone but on every word that comes from the mouth of God" (Matt 4:4; cf. Deut 8:3). He also said, "I am the bread of life.... No one who comes to Me will ever be hungry, and no one who believes in Me will ever be thirsty again" (John 6:35). *Scripture Storyline* is loaded with clear and compelling, rich and rewarding exposition of God's Word that exalts Jesus's divine nature and saving deeds. A faithful shepherd has led you to springs of living water and to plains rich with produce. As you read you will find a banquet that will continue to satisfy. Come, and feast!

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