

III. Conclusion: The study of the Bible is serious and yet happy work---a joy to learn more about God and His ways and an absolute necessity if we are to have witness or benefit to others. We should not make it sound mysterious but we should remain reverential and respectful in our approach, work, and conclusions.

For added help in the matter of Bible study I note:
Howard Vos: Methods of Bible Study
Irving Jensen:: Independent Bible Study
Both published by Moody

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3. BRISTOL, 1972 (maybe!) THE STUDY OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

An Introductory Note: I am still not sure of the date but this was the second week in my Bible Study "series", I decided to move to the Old Testament and talk generally about its study. As I recall it, Don Pelon was the other speaker. He was from Florida and I had never met him but we quickly became the best of friends and have continued in that relationship since. He spoke about Jonah and it gave us a strong Old Testament week if nothing else.

The Ministry: The Study of the Old Testament

- 1. The Importance for this study**
- 2. Basic concepts and principles**
- 3. Lessons about God, His people, His program**
- 4. Notes on the study of prophecy**
- 5. Notes on the study of poetry**

The Idea: The Old Testament is the foundation for the New Testament.... and together they make one Word of God. A full study of this subject is a long process and I have extracted some things that I think are helpful in the study but this work is neither conclusive nor exhaustive. It is unfortunate that much of the Old Testament is almost foreign territory for us although some parts are well known. The Hebrew Old Testament is divided into three parts, the Law, the Prophets and the Writings. We will take some very small samples from this literature and hope it will encourage more thorough and enthusiastic study of the Old Testament.