in my earlier talk with regard to the Bible. There are some special concepts for the various types of literature that may be treated when I get there!

C. Some key distinctions must be made regarding matters in the Old Testament...especially in matters of history and legislation.

1. Is the "teaching" eternal or temporal in its understanding
2. Is it a matter that is physical or spiritual
3. Is it a local or universal teaching
4.. Is it personal or omnipersonal.

If the teaching or incident is totally described by the first four terms it must be regarded as instructive but not a mandatory statement for all time...if it is described by the last four terms it should be seen as a given principle or guidance for all the ages. If it is in between or cannot be discerned along these lines it must be compared with all other Scriptures that have a similar teaching to determine the sphere of its intention.

D. So we go back to our simplistic formula: What does it teach of God, of His relationship with His people, of His program,.

E. And we will see throughout all of the Bible that God wants His own to be a people after His heart.

III. Conclusion: Our Old Testament teachings will accord perfectly with our New Testament revelation as the Bible is one book that thoroughly agrees with itself. Conflicts exist when we try to press one into the other or out of the other. The Old Testament prepares us for everything in this age while the New Testament will show us how God will work things to accomplish that end. And these are sketchy notes so if you have slept through the meeting..I hope you had a good rest and will not blame me for not saying it with more meaning.

A closing note added as I type these things...this is a complicated study and I am not able to write out all the data in this ministry summary. Fuller details may be found in Mickelson: Interpreting the Bible or in the tapes of David Reed on hermeneutics (Emmaus) There is a lot of other material as well and the science of interpretation becomes a life study.

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