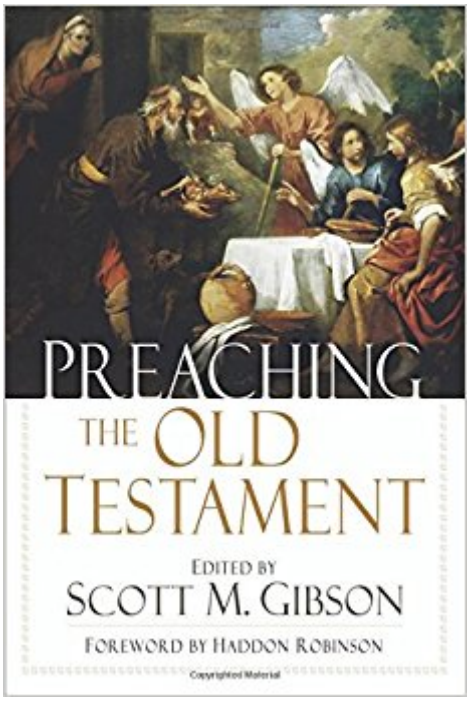
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Preaching The Old Testament



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Synopsis

Many pastors find it easier to preach on the New Testament than the Old Testament, with its powerful and often shocking narrative, prophetic warnings and calls to holiness. For many preachers seeking to make the Bible relevant, it’s far easierand saferto stay out of the woods and plow the wellworn fields of the newer canon. Preaching the Old Testament equips pastors to journey into the forest and find a passion and confidence for preaching on the Old Testament. This book helps them keep up on their Hebrew, understand the themes of the Old Testament, and unpack Jesus’ foundational text to take their congregations to a deeper understanding of Christ himself.

Book Information

Paperback: 224 pages

Publisher: Baker Books (October 1, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0801066239

ISBN-13: 978-0801066238

Product Dimensions: 6 x 0.5 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 13.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 7 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #461,944 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #342 inÃ Â Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Sermons #360 inÃ Â Books > Religion & Spirituality > Worship & Devotion > Sermons #530 inÃ Â Books > Christian Books & Bibles > Ministry & Evangelism > Preaching

Customer Reviews

Your guide to preaching the Old Testament with confidence and powerPreaching the Old Testament, which can seem harsh and foreign to modern listeners, can be a challenge. In fact, many preachers abandon it altogether because of the difficulties in making it understandable and relevant to those in the pews. But to appreciate the full depth and beauty of New Testament teaching we must build our foundation on an understanding of the Old Testament. The insights of the Hebrew language, poetry, historical narratives, and prophetic offerings were important to the writers of the New Testament, and they should be to us as well.Preaching the Old Testament equips pastors to keep up on the Hebrew language, prepare to preach the various sections of the Old Testament, and see how it can be interpreted in light of its context and of our world today."An outstanding collection of insights for preaching from the two-thirds of Scripture that compose our Old

Testament. This is a valuable resource that deserves a place on every preacher’s bookshelf."-Michael Duduit, editor, Preaching magazine"This is the book I have been waiting for! Those who let these pages impact their preaching will better serve their congregations for having done so."-Greg R. Scharf, associate professor and chair of pastoral theology, Trinity Evangelical Divinity School"Preaching the Old Testament is not primarily a book about how to prepare sermons. It is more about the ’what’ of preaching than the ’how.’ We will be better preachers and teachers by attending carefully to what it says."-Wayne E. Shaw, dean emeritus and professor of preaching, Lincoln Christian Seminary Scott Gibson is Haddon W. Robinson Professor of Preaching and Ministry at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and is one of the founders of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.

Scott M. Gibson (D.Phil., Oxford) is the Haddon W. Robinson Professor of Preaching and Ministry and Director of the Center for Preaching at Gordon-Conwell Theological Seminary and one of the founders of the Evangelical Homiletics Society.

It is a series of articles written by various authors dealing with preaching the Old Testament. It deals with preaching from the different genres, keeping your Hebrew in good shape, preaching the OT in light of its culture, etc. Some of the articles were better and easier to read than others. Overall, I was pleased with the book and will probably read it again.

Glad to receive this book!

I had to read this book for my seminary advanced preaching course. As soon as I finished, I gave it to my wife and said "You will enjoy this. The writers make it relatively easy and enjoyable to read, and it will help you understand better how to relate the Old Testament to people."That basically sums up why I enjoy this book so much!

great book. Thanks.

I was personally challenged with this charge from Gibson to recognize the value and contemporary value of preaching from the Old Testament, more tactfully titled, First Testament, or Hebrew Bible. Historically, I have justified my limited use of the O.T. to N.T. excerpts referenced by the Apostle Paul, and others. Consequently, I have established personal goals that will intentionally drive me

into the O.T. over the course of the coming months to broaden my scope of study and further my understanding of the valuable teachings found in these passages.The idea of maintaining knowledge of the Hebrew language was comforting, and at the same time, disturbing. Comforting that Gibson appreciates the countless hours and labor expended in wrestling with the Hebrew language during seminary. Gibson's comments were disturbing, in that he encourages the reader to perform routine maintenance in keeping language skills current and accessible during the course of our preaching ministry. Nonetheless, I will dust-off the overburdened shoe boxes bulging with 3x5 cards which to date entombed these once familiar friends. Again, this is a discipline that will pay dividends in enriching communications skills, and confidence in rendering the proper translation.The timeless application of Big Idea concepts were touched upon in principal once again in addressing the O.T. text. Understanding the historical record as a redemptive story sets a much-needed perspective which informs the overall applications toward the listener which affords the speaker to integrate the Person of Christ, as appropriate.Preaching the Old Testament was the most helpful reading in this particular series in that it was comprehensive in speaking to the responsibilities of one who opens the text on any given Sunday and declares, "thus saith the Lord." To this end, chapters that focused the reader's attention on understanding the Law were foundational in establishing a positive framework upon which to build a positive message around such complex topics. Additionally, the well placed emphasis on cultural aspects of a historical passage or context is essential to grasping the original intent of the author. Reference to the pervasive and prevailing culture, as the "software of the mind," was most appropriate in communicating this critical aspect of communication in the information age.Although already thoroughly convinced of my need to focus greater attention on the O.T., chapter 10 drove home the final nail for added strength. Theological foundations are established, the prophesied Messiah is announced, the redemptive plan of God is strategically unveiled, and it offers the preacher a commentary of sorts on understanding the unseen hand of God through the halls of history past.

Many people don't understand the importance of the Old Testament; however, if you neglect the Old Testament you will leave the New Testament incomplete. All that was spoken in the Old Testament was fulfilled in the New Testament. Therefore, in preaching we must be careful not to neglec the Old Testament as if it is not relevant to our lives. Gibson's work has truly been a blessing to my preaching and I recommend this to any preacher that takes ministry serious.

Preaching the Old Testament, which can seem harsh and foreign to modern listeners, can be a

challenge. In fact, many preachers abandon it altogether because of the difficulties in making it understandable and relevant to those in the pews. But to appreciate the full depth and beauty of New Testament teaching we must build our foundation on an understanding of the Old Testament. The insights of the Hebrew language, poetry, historical narratives, and prophetic offerings were important to the writers of the New Testament, and they should be to us as well. This book equips pastors to keep up on the Hebrew language, prepare to preach the various sections of the Old Testament, and see how it can be interpreted in light of its context and of our world today.

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