

We often see what we want to see, or look for illustrations of what we already know or think we know, instead of going to the Bible humbly to say, What does it teach? ~~Not~~/ Not, here is an illustration of something that I know already. Not, here is something that I think, and I'm looking for evidence to back me up in it. What should I get from this? What objectively does this have that is vital for me? And so the attitude of Jesus toward the OT was that on these most important matters they should have been able to get into the OT and see them there and get these great truths without ~~His~~ having to explain them to them.

So we see then that the OT is not simply a collection of words which you can take a sentence out of to illustrate something you already know, or a sentence which alone will present a great truth, or an illustration to illustrate something you already know, but that it is a book ⁱⁿ which God has presented great vital principles ^{one thing that is} that are of importance to His people at all times. Now I think ~~that/one/of/the~~ ^{great} important to recognize that makes one of the great difficulties of understanding the Bible, and also one of the great important things for its understanding is this that God gave us the whole Bible, all 66 Books/as guidance for the Christian in all periods. But the situation in periods often varies . It may vary from century to century, from decade to decade, or even from year to year. And within the compass ^{compass of this} of the comparatively small ^{boundary, volume?} ~~time~~ the Lord has implanted guidance for us in many varying situations that will arise during the long course of centuries ^{between} ~~from~~ the time ^{when} it was given and the time ^{when} that our Lord returns to this earth. And therefore one section of the Bible may seem to us of tremendous importance at one particular time and then a little later it does not seem of any particular relevance, and then another section meets our particular need at that time. And so sometimes when we have difficulty understanding a portion and we have made a real careful effort to learn what it has for us, the reason we don't get it may be that perhaps it was of tremendously vital significance to people two centuries ago, or perhaps will be ^{for them} ten years from now, but is not of such great importance of us right in our immediate situation. It is the