

types of covenant discernable in Scripture. A covenant between God and the first man and his wife, a covenant with Noah, with Abraham, with Moses. A covenant with David. A new covenant at the time of Ezra and Nehemiah -- that there are successive periods of covenants in the Biblical text. In effect what is binding on the people of God in any given period is the covenant with God at that moment. That is to say that what is binding on us particularly is the NT which re-iterates

Aldrich A testament means covenant.

Dillard Exactly. Which re-iterates for us much of the principle in the Old. You could say then that the NT is particularly canon for us while we look at the OT as something of an archive of previous canons between God and His people. Now again, there is continuity because much that is in the Old is re-iterated in the New. That's another type of looking at it.

Aldrich And yet it must have a particular fascination for some people. Because two of you gentlemen here made it a special area of study within the context of Christian theology two of you chose OT theology as your main area of research and interest. What was the fascination that the OT held? I'll include all three of you in that.

AAM I believe that all our problems in life root back into the Bible and they find their answer in the ~~xxx~~ Bible as a whole. I think that many of them find a partial answer in the NT, but they root back into the Old, and there are many vital questions in philosophy and in human life which have not been thoroughly studied from this viewpoint, of getting into the OT in the original and seeing exactly what it says and ~~w~~ seeing what light there is there that we have not yet followed that is vital for our lives.

TVT The thing that fascinated me with the OT was the concept that is a little bit indefinable that of the life value expressions that are given within it, the setting of goals, and bounds and life values and sustaining of those values which I found to be very interesting. The NT ~~xxx~~ didactically or in a teaching sense says a lot of things along that line, but the OT with dozens of pages and endless numbers of examples and illustrations and long drawn out accounts is full of that sort of thing. Helping us set goals that are godly and spiritual and that are in accord with God's requirements for His people. That really was the fascinating part of it for me.

Dillard For myself this interest originates in much the same way area that this whole conversation began, and my interest in the OT was truly because it is so poorly known in the church. It is toward that end that I've given a large part of my studies and I hope ~~xxx~~ to give a good part of the rest of my life toward trying to increase the knowledge of that portion of God's Word among His people. You know we're all products of a variety of circumstances. I have ~~xxx~~ had a great interest in history and the OT gives me several millennia to look into