

Dillard There is a certain reciprocal relationship.

Aldrich It would work either way?

Dillard Yes. Scholarship I think has shown over the years just how much a ~~NT~~ book the ~~OT~~ is. The underlying language, the un-
 OT NT
 derlying though structure, the culture, these are ^{largely} very much the world of the OT. In order to deal very much at all with it adequately, you must do it from a thoroughly Reformed viewpoint on the OT. On the other hand as a Christian looking at the OT you are very hard put to understand it other than through the eyes of the New. So there's a total reciprocal relationship there that you can't ~~say~~ say the one contributes more than the other.

Aldrich Is it harder to get into the OT than the NT? I find it harder for me, to be honest with you.

TVT I think it's harder, probably, as you said earlier Mr. Dillard, because of our age, of our culture and the ~~mandate~~ mandate of the church, I think it might be harder. I think it might be harder because a different culture, the Semetic culture is one we're not normally used to. I think that makes it harder. But now "harder" is kind of an ~~arbitrary~~ arbitrary word there. It is more difficult from a more general interest point of view I think. Many of the institutions of the OT are not easily understood. When we begin reading about them we often find ourselves looking for something ~~easier~~ easier to understand.

Dillard It is hard to feature from the standpoint of the NT why in 1 Chron.* 1-9 nine chs. of geneology is very relevant now when you ~~look~~ look at that! In the context of the whole message of the book of Chronicles the place of those geneologies is very important, otherwise they become a kind a Scriptural somnifex for sleepless nights!

AAM To the history of the Israelites those geneologies could have been of very great importance. I would feel that every part of the Bible is of great importance for followers of Christ at some time, but what is of great interest and importance for us today may have little meaning for us 50 years from ~~now~~ now. And some things that will be very meaningful 50 years from now perhaps we can't understand today. God so planned His revelation that it fits the needs of his people at all times from the time it was written on until the time when Christ returns.

Aldrich From age to age the particular focus of attention may shift, from book to book, and from ch. to chapter, and from verse to verse.

AAM Yes, not merely from age to age, but ^{perhaps} from decade to decade.

Aldrich ? And from person to person I suppose according to his needs. Given the difficulty, is it worth the effort. Why should a Christian who has X number of hours to read the Bible, say, I ~~might~~ might as well zero in here on the NT, and sort of leave that to the scholars.