

HOW TO USE **GOD'S BIG PICTURE**

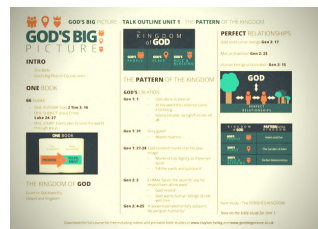
9 UNITS



10 minute video with Vaughan Roberts each covering a stage in the Bible's story



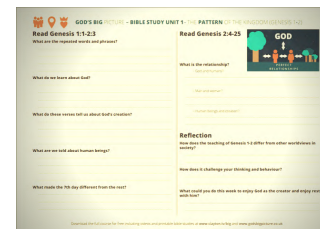
TALK OUTLINE



For scribbling extra notes as you watch Vaughan

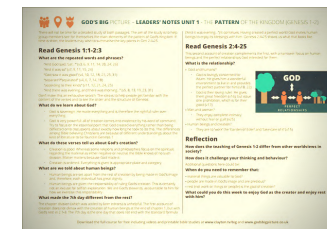
3 PRINTABLES

BIBLE STUDY



Hour long study on a Bible passage related to Vaughan's video

LEADERS' NOTES



Answers and helpful comments about the Bible study questions

(Each printable is 1 sheet of A4 and will print happily as colour or black and white)

WHAT IS THE GOD'S BIG PICTURE COURSE?

It's a totally free Bible overview course tracing the story of the whole Bible, taught by Vaughan Roberts. Each of the nine units takes 1- 1 1/2 hours to do.

WHO IS IT FOR?

Anyone who wants to see more deeply how the whole Bible fits together and understand each passage better in the light of the whole book.

HOW COULD I USE IT?

- In a mid-week group at church, such as a home group
- As an individual watching online
- In a one to one Bible study with a new Christian or someone investigating Christianity
- As an intensive training course on a weekend away

HOW TO DOWNLOAD (for the non techy)

- You can watch all the videos online at www.clayton.tv/big but if you want to play them offline (e.g. in a group setting) download by clicking on the red link under the video. It could take 30 minutes to download them all (at average download speed, 10Mbps).
- Right click to extract the zipped files (or double click on a Mac). There are 10 video files (9 units and an intro).
- Simply double click to play the video files (using the video player on your computer - or install a player e.g. VLC player from www.videolan.org).
- If you want to watch in a group - connect your computer to a TV or projector using an HDMI cable.
- All the printables download as PDF files in the same way.



GOD'S BIG PICTURE

THE STORY SO FAR

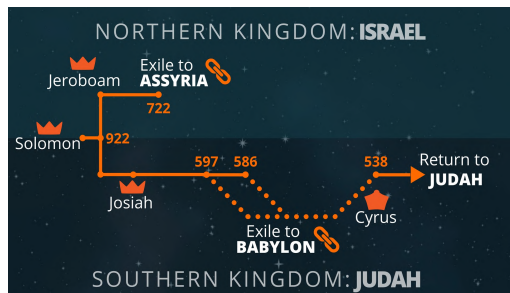


THE PROPHETS' ROLE

- God's spokesmen: Speaking God's word **2 Pet 1:21**
- Enforcing God's covenant

THE PROPHETS' CONTEXT

- Kingdom splits 922BC



ISRAEL

- King Jereboam's idolatry continued by his successors **1 Ki 12:28-30; 1 Ki 15:34, 16:19 etc**
- Kingdom destroyed by Assyrians 722BC **2 Ki 17**

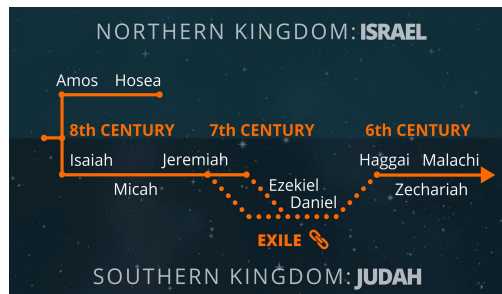
JUDAH

- Some good kings- e.g. Josiah **2 Ki 22-23**
- Corruption and compromise
- Defeated by Babylonians and exiled 597 and 586 BC **2 Ki 25**

THE PROPHETS' MESSAGE

A MESSAGE OF JUDGMENT

- God's judgment is the reason behind Israel and Judah's destruction **Amos 2: 4-5, 6-16**
- God warns, reminds and explains



GOD'S COVENANT

Conditional (Moses) and unconditional (Abraham)

A MESSAGE OF HOPE

PEOPLE

- A new exodus **Jer 16: 14-15**
- A new Passover lamb **Isa 53: 6**
- All nations included **Isa 49: 6**

PLACE

- A new temple **Ezek 40-48**
- A new creation **Isa 65:17**

RULE AND BLESSING

- A new covenant **Jer 31:31**
- A new king **Isa 9:6**

THE RETURN FROM EXILE

- Cyrus allows the people to return home 538BC
- Waiting for the king **Mal 3:1**

KINGDOM of GOD	PROMISED KINGDOM
GOD'S PEOPLE	New Israel including the nations
GOD'S PLACE	New temple = new creation
GOD'S RULE & BLESSING	New covenant & new king

Now do the bible study for Unit 6

Next study- THE PRESENT KINGDOM



Read Hosea 1-3

What are the different stages in the relationship between Hosea and Gomer?

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What does God want the Israelites to learn about their sin from Hosea's marriage?

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What do the children's names teach them about God's judgement?

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GOD'S COVENANT	
CONDITIONAL	UNCONDITIONAL
MOSES	ABRAHAM
Disobey - lose God's blessing	'I will bless you'
JUDGMENT	HOPE

What hope is there? (look for echoes of the promises to Abraham and David)

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What do we learn about God from this passage?

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What impact should these chapters have on our lives?

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Read Hosea 1-3

Hosea prophesied to the Northern Kingdom of Israel during the latter half of the eighth century B.C., in the period leading up to its destruction by the Assyrians in 722 (1:1).

What are the different stages in the relationship between Hosea and Gomer?

- The marriage
 - God commands Hosea to marry 'a promiscuous woman' (1:2). She is a very surprising wife for a holy man of God.
- The children (1:36-39)
 - We are explicitly told that the first child is Hosea's (v3b), but it is likely that the next two are not (see 2:4).
- The restoration (3:1-3)
 - We are not told that the details, but it is clear that Gomer is with another man. She seems to be owned by him as a slave, or bond-servant. At God's command, Hosea buys her back and takes her once more to his home, although they do not yet return to full intimacy.

What does God want the Israelites to learn about their sin from Hosea's marriage?

Israel's sin is not a breach of a set of impersonal rules, but a terrible betrayal of God. God's covenant relationship with Israel is often likened to a marriage. The holy God 'marries' a sinful people, who are unfaithful to him (1:2), by turning to other gods.

What do the children's names teach them about God's judgement?

- 'Jezreel' (1:4) was the site of a massacre (2 Ki 10:1-8). This is like calling a son 'Somme' or 'Hiroshima'. God will inflict terrible military defeat on Israel.
- The name 'Lo-Ruhamah/Not loved' (1:6) speaks of the fact that God will no longer relate to his people with love and mercy, as before.
- 'Lo-Ammi/Not my people' (1:8) describes God's judgement in the most serious terms possible. God often spoke of his covenant with Israel by saying, 'They shall be my people and I will be their God' (e.g. Gen 17:7-8; Ex 6:7; Lev 26:12). But now, because of their sin, he will break his covenant and no longer treat them as his people. God's judgement is a fulfilment of this warning through Moses that the Israelites would lose his blessings if they did not obey him (e.g. Dt 28:15ff).

What hope is there? (look for echoes of the promises to Abraham and David)

Although God's word through Moses makes it clear that there is a conditional element to his promises, there is also an unconditional element to them. His promises to Abraham (Gen 12:1-3) and David (2 Sam 7:11-16) will be fulfilled, despite Israel's sin. The judgement Hosea prophesies in 1:4-9 will be discipline, but not divorce.

- God will fulfil his promise to Abraham to make his descendants into a great people (Gen 12:2; 22:17; Hos 1:10).
- God will unite his divided people under one leader (1:11). Hosea 3:5 speaks of 'David their king', a reference to the Christ, the son of David (2 Sam 7:12), who will bring salvation to God's people.



What do we learn about God from this passage?

- He is gracious in choosing sinful people to be his bride
- He is holy and just in punishing sin
- He is faithful to his promises. Hosea's purchase of his wife foreshadows God's amazing grace in redeeming his people by the death of his son (1 Peter 1:18-19)
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What impact should these chapters have on our lives?

The parallels between Hosea's marriage and God's relationship with his people help to reveal the awfulness of our sin and the wonder of God's love. The result should be deep repentance and a whole hearted determination to be faithful to God.