

Study Aids

Discussion Questions and Suggested Readings for “What’s the Message?” Lessons

Lesson Twelve

What are the major themes that have been introduced in our studies to date? List them. Why is it valid to call them major themes?

Although most of these themes were initially given to a people over four thousand years ago, are they still relevant in our society today? Why, or why not?

In this lesson we introduced the principle of “think like a Hebrew.” Several courses in the new Faith Academy curriculum at Lamb of God – such as The Bethel Series, Think Again, and Reading the Bible with Understanding – incorporate aspects of this principle, and there is too much to try to cover in a basic introductory course on the Bible such as this. The serious student should make an effort to attend the next time one of the courses mentioned above is presented. But a couple of points can be made here to illustrate the difference in Hebrew and our Greek-oriented thinking.

We think in terms of abstract concepts, while the Hebrew thinks in optical, or visual terms. An example would be the abstract concept of “stubborn.” It is a familiar concept to us. But the Hebrew would say, “stiff-necked.” And we can visualize a picture of a stubborn person in this word usage. In Lesson One we spoke of the Hebrew thinking in terms of “realities” when we stated that the first point of the Hebrew message was “God is.” In contrast, the Greek thinks in terms of origins, and asks; “Where did creation come from, what was its origin?” Corollary to that, the Greek asks; “How did it happen?” while the Hebrew asks; “Why did it happen, and what does God want me to learn from this?” The more we learn to “think like a Hebrew” the better we will be able to understand a more complete message of the Bible.

It is something that we will build on in bite-size pieces as we go through this course.