

WHAT IN THE WORD: LESSON THREE

Making Sense of the Bible's Setting

Setting

Understanding _____ and _____ things happened helps us to understand how and why and what and who.

Setting: "the _____, _____, and _____ in which something occurs or develops"¹

The _____ of the Bible is wherever _____ is shown to be working to draw His people back to Himself.

God is present everywhere, but the _____ that bring about the salvation of mankind and the restoration of His creation happen in _____ throughout time.

The Setting throughout Scripture

The setting of the Bible is _____...until it isn't!

God called Abraham out from his homeland in _____ (Mesopotamia) to go to the land that God would show him. That land is the land of Israel, often referred to as _____.

The descendants of Abraham end up in _____ where they endure 400 years of slavery.

When God leads the Israelites out of Egypt and _____ He had promised to Abraham, He makes the Old Covenant with them.

For the duration of the Old Covenant, two important questions to ask when considering the setting of an event in the Bible:

- Are the Israelites living _____?
- Are they prospering and _____ in the Land?

Under Kings _____, the nation of Israel reached the zenith of its prosperity.

¹ "Setting." Merriam-Webster.com Dictionary, Merriam-Webster, <https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/setting>. Accessed 6 Oct. 2024.

With the building of the Temple and the palace, _____ became the religious and political capital of Israel.

Because of Solomon's disobedience, Israel _____:

- 10 tribes in the north ("Israel")
- 2 in the south ("Judah" and Benjamin)

The Northern Kingdom of Israel was defeated by _____ and was assimilated into the surrounding nations.

The Southern Kingdom of Judah was later conquered by _____, who allowed them to remain more intact as a people group. This begins the period known as the Exile.

From the time the Israelites return from Exile until Jesus' birth, Israel was only independent for a very short time. The rest of the time they were ruled by:

- _____
- _____
- _____

When the Messiah comes on the scene, the Jewish people are expecting _____.

**How does _____ affect the ways that we encounter Him?
(Acts 17:26-27)**