

Old Testament history. Does it matter to know the Old Testament history? Certainly it doesn't matter when one-tenth as much to know the Old Testament history as it does to know the Lord Jesus Christ. You can know all the facts of the history and be lost. You can know all the details of the background of the Bible and its skeleton and ~~xxxx~~ live a life that is absolutely unworthy of the Lord and that is a hindrance to His kingdom. Certainly it is far from the most important thing in the Christian life to know. ~~Yet,~~ ~~number 1 here~~ the knowledge of the history in the Bible. Yet, number 2, here the Old Testament history ~~just~~ must be important or there wouldn't be so much of it in the Bible. The historical section of the Old Testament is about as long as the whole New Testament put together. It is a very large section of the Bible. There is a great deal of it there. And one thing that I think we fundamentalists often forget is that when Paul says, that all Scripture is inspired of God, he didn't stop there. He talked a lot about the fact that it is all inspired and that we believe it all, but ~~he~~ went on to say, "All Scripture is inspired of God and is profitable." Every bit of it is profitable and a person who only deals with a few verses of the Scripture or a few books is not using the Scripture properly because ~~xxx~~ if you believe the ~~whole~~ Bible and only use a part of it, you are giving a lie by your actions to your words. If you believe it all, you must use it all. You must be interested in it all. You must try to understand ~~xxxx~~ what it all means. It is all profitable. The Old Testament history is quite a large section of the Bible.

Number 2. The Old Testament history teaches valuable lessons. We notice that history in general does. It shows action in the results. We don't need to linger over this because, of course, it is a ~~phase~~ phase of it which every Sunday School student is familiar, the lessons drawn from it, lessons of analogy, of ~~Old Testament~~ illustration. The simplest thing in the Bible to teach is the lessons of example ^{and of} ~~that they~~ illustration. They are very important but far from being as important as ^{many} ~~any~~ other features of Biblical study. So much