

but God intervened. He grabbed ^u hold of a few men, and turned them to Himself, and gave them His knowledge, and sent them out to present the Word to others, and we have in the OT thus the knowledge of God kept alive in difficult situations, and we have God's nature and purposes revealed in such a way that He would gradually bring individuals to understand more ~~about~~ of the important facts about God and His plan of redemption, and that they would gradually come to get a clearer idea, even though seeing through a glass darkly, of the way in which God was going to redeem (them) from sin through the coming of ^{His Son} the Lord Jesus Christ.

And thus, what some call salvation history - the story of how God dealt with men, the story of how God prepared the way for the coming of His Son, this is certainly one of the great purposes. There is no purpose more important than this. A great vital reason for the giving of the OT, and it is tremendously interesting to us with the ⁽²⁾ clear and ⁽¹⁾ full revelation of the NT to see how God kept the knowledge alive, prepared the way for Him, looked forward to Christ and made people have something to which they could look in faith and ^{could} thus be saved through the death of Christ ~~and thus be saved~~ through that which they saw through a glass darkly and yet really., and definitely. And no one ever has been saved, or ~~e~~ ever will be saved except through what Jesus Christ did on the cross, and through being given the gift of faith in order that their lives might be transformed in accordance with the will of God. And so we study about the calls of Noah, Abraham and others, and see how God revealed himself, and how he gradually opened up these wonderful truths to people's eyes. And another aspect of this same portion of our ^{purpose} portion of the OT is found in such matters as the plan of the Tabernacle. The NT tells us that the Tabernacle spoke of Christ. The purpose of the Tabernacle was not only a place where people could come together to worship God; it was in the arrangement of the place, everything was so arranged - perhaps that word everything is a little bit too strong - but yet it is not too far from the fact. The Tabernacle was planned of the Lord in order that great truths about God, His character, ~~His~~ and his purpose, and His plans for Christ, should