

CHARACTER STUDY SERIES

Conclusion

For the past year and a half, we've been studying single people in the Bible and how God has used them for His glory. Tonight we'll briefly recap those we've studied and see if we can draw some conclusions.

The first person we studied was Abel.

A brief review of the people we have studied:

ABEL - Key verse: Gen 4:4, Heb 12:24

Gen 4:4, "And Abel also brought of the firstlings of his flock and of the fat of it. And Jehovah had respect to Abel and to his offering "

Heb 12:24, "and to Jesus the Mediator of the new covenant, and to blood of sprinkling that speaks better things than that of Abel."

Abel's sacrifice and death were a foretelling of Jesus' sacrificial death.

MELCHIZEDEK - Key verse: Gen 14:18, Heb 5:10

Melchizedek's priesthood was a foretelling of Jesus' priesthood.

HAGAR - Key verse: Gen 21:13, Gal 4:31

Hagar's life is used as a contrast to the freedom from sin we have in Jesus.

JOSEPH (son of Jacob) - Key verse: Gen 45:7, Acts 7:9

Gen 47:7, "And God sent me before you to preserve a posterity for you in the earth, and to save your lives by a great deliverance."

Acts 7:9, "And being jealous of Joseph, the patriarchs sold Joseph into Egypt. But God was with him"

Conclusion

“Singles of the Bible” *Character Study series*

Joseph’s suffering and going forth to Egypt is a foretelling of Jesus’ suffering and His preparation for us.

MIRIAM - Key verse: Num 12:10, Acts 7:9

Our study on Miriam demonstrates the Lord’s faithfulness and protection of His servants.

JOSHUA - Key verse: Joshua 1:5-6, Mark 9:35

Joshua’s faithful service to the Lord and servant to all of Israel was a foretelling of Jesus’ earthly ministry. (remember, he didn’t receive any portion of the promised land)

SAMSON - Key verse: Judges 14:6,9, Mat 28:20

Samon’s life demonstrated that the Lord is always with us.

RUTH - Key verse: Ruth 4:10, Mat 1:5

The story of Ruth illustrates the salvation by Grace that we receive through Jesus.

SAMUEL - Key verse: 1Sam 3:20, Heb 11:32

Samuel obedient service to the Lord was a fortelling of Jesus’ obedience to God the Father.

ELISHA - Key verse: 2Kings 2:9, Luke 4:27

Elisha’s miracle-filled ministry foretold the miracles that Jesus would perform.

JOB - Key verse: Job 1:1, James 5:11

The suffering of the righteous Job was a foretelling of Jesus’ suffering.

ESSENTIAL TRUTH (and LIFE APPLICATION)

A herald of Christ’s return. The backgrounds and experiences of these people varied greatly. The one thing that all of these people had in common however is that in one

way or another, their lives foretold the coming of the Messiah. God used them to prepare the world for Jesus' arrival.

All of us will find ourselves being single at one or more times throughout the course of our lives. The Lord has very specific reasons why and when we're single...those reasons are particular to our individual situation. However, if the pattern we've seen is any indication, there is a greater responsibility... a greater opportunity for us. If we're willing, the Lord will use our lives to prepare the world for Christ's return. I believe that this is a unique opportunity for singles.

I don't recall any married people in the Bible being used in this manner. A few of the people we studied were married at one time, but it was only when they were single that the Lord used them for that unique purpose.

practical application → **Serve the Lord!** When a single person serves the Lord it has a special significance. A single person's life can be a great witness to others. With a married Christian couple, it can be difficult to know if they are primarily relying on the Lord, or each other. But when a single person steps out and serves, it is easier to see if that person is relying on the Lord. God is glorified when we put our faith and trust solely in Him.

If you are content being single, this "special assignment" should be a confirmation to you. If you are not, then perhaps knowing this will help sort out what the Lord has for you.