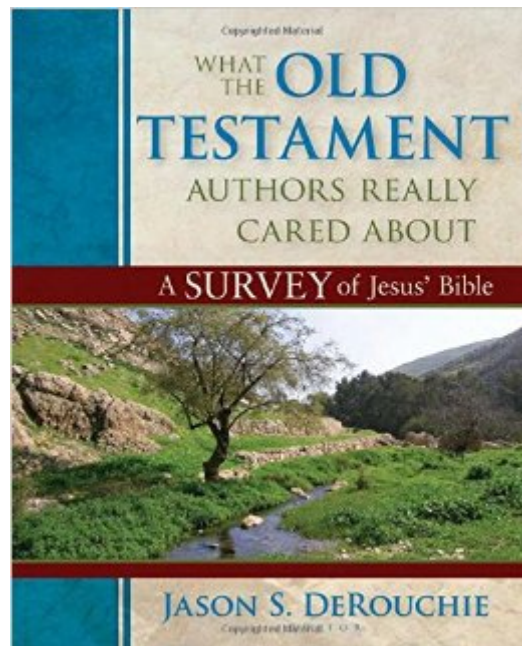


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# What The Old Testament Authors Really Cared About: A Survey Of Jesus' Bible



## Synopsis

An accessible, full-color OT survey textbook focusing on the message of each book, written from an irenic, evangelical perspective, this Old Testament survey is designed to unpack what the biblical authors most intended to communicate in the Scripture that Jesus read. As the corresponding volume to the previously published, *What the New Testament Authors Really Cared About* (Kregel Academic, 2008), it is well-suited for use in a college, seminary, or church context. Students of the Bible will find this full-color textbook accessible and engaging. *What the Old Testament Authors Really Cared About* is gospel-centered, portraying the Old Testament as the foundation for a fulfillment found in the New Testament. Each chapter is written by an Old Testament scholar who is a skilled teacher at one of the finest evangelical schools across North America and specializes in the biblical book covered. Readers will find Introductory issues (who, when, where, why) condensed to one-page snapshots of essential information at the beginning of each chapter. The clarity of the biblical message enhanced through nearly two hundred high-resolution photographs, over eighty charts and tables, and twelve color maps. Very readable text, appropriate for broad audiences. A format simpler and intentionally shorter than many other surveys, making it a very manageable textbook for a single semester Old Testament survey course or a useful guide to accompany devotional reading of Scripture.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The resurgence of Biblical theological studies is enriched by Jason S. DeRouchie's *What the*

Old Testament Authors Really Cared About. Seventeen authors contributed articles to this redemptive-historical survey of the Old Testament. Through numerous charts and illustrations, the kingdom theme is unfolded from the Law to the Prophets. The Old Testament was the Bible that Jesus read; the Scriptures that He claimed "testify of me." For too long, this volume of Scripture has been viewed as the Jewish book; the part of the Bible that related to Israel. In *What the Old Testament Authors Really Cared About* we discover that the Old Testament is a Christian book; it is the book of the coming Messiah. *What the Old Testament Authors Really Cared About* is textbook material. It is rich in photographs, charts, illustrations, and maps. Chapters end with a review of key words and concepts. This is not a survey in the traditional sense of a survey, nor is it an introduction. Critical matters such as authorship are given scant attention. Rather, it is an overview of each Old Testament author's contribution to the unfolding story of redemption. Readers from a dispensational perspective will be less thrilled about this volume. The contributors do not take that approach to the prophetic books in particular. One example of this is found in contributor Gary E. Yates remarks concerning the new covenant prophesied by Jeremiah; The new covenant would [provide] spiritual transformation for all who belonged to the covenant: "They shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest" [for I will forgive their iniquity] (31:34; cf. Deut. 30:6). Ultimately, it is the work of the Messiah Jesus that makes this possible, "to the Jew first and also to the Greek" (Rom. 1:16).

When I first heard of the title of this book, I was a little skeptical. This guy has the gumption to tell us all what the Old Testament authors really cared about? Pretentiousness in the title! Surely this book can't live up to its claim. Well, I was wrong. This book, edited by Jason DeRouchie, is an excellent introduction to the Old Testament with a keen focus on authorial intent. In this review, I will offer a brief summary of the book and then my reflections. In this Old Testament survey, several authors and professors walk through each book in the Old Testament in the order of the Hebrew scriptures, which has a definite impact when it comes to understanding the theme of certain books (ex: 1-2 Chronicles). In each chapter, the respective author walks through the purpose(s) each scriptural author had for writing by answering the whos, whens, wheres, and whys of the book. DeRouchie states plainly the purpose of this book: "this survey attempts to present the essence of what is revealed in the Old Testament, with a conscious eye toward the fulfillment found in Jesus in the New Testament" (p.13, emphasis original). This book pairs very well with other works on biblical theology. The chapters are sprinkled with relevant pictures, sidebars, visual and textual graphs, and most importantly, solid biblical exegesis - as far as this amateur theologian can tell. I was very

pleased with the overall content of this book, especially considering that I had never read almost any author contained in this volume before. There are too many helpful things I underlined and noted to share here in this review. I only noted a few items of biblical interpretation which seemed to be a little bit of a stretch.

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