THE STORY Episode Summary
OF THE BIBLE AS A WHOLE

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1. ESSENTIALS

What Do You Need to Know First About the Whole Bible?

SPAN: ***Creation–New Creation:*** 16 Turning Points
BOOKS: ***66 Books:*** Old & New Testaments
COVENANT: ***Binding Relationship:*** God Unites with Us
KEY PERSON: ***Jesus Christ:*** It Is All About Him
KEY TERM: ***Turning Point:*** Changes the Story for Good
PURPOSE: ***Eternal Purpose:*** Revealed in God's Story

2. STORYLINE

How Does the Whole Story Fit Together?

God's Purpose in Four Covenant Eras

- I. The Covenant Conceived
- II. The Covenant Confirmed
- III. The Covenant Challenged
- IV. The Covenant Completed
- Begins and Ends with a Wedding

KEY VERSES

To me, though I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given, to preach to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ, and to bring to light for everyone what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God, who created all things, so that through the church the manifold wisdom of God might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places. This was according to the eternal purpose that he has realized in Christ Jesus our Lord...

- Ephesians 3:8-11

3. THEMES & IDEAS

What Major Biblical Concepts Run Through the Whole Bible?

- God's Eternal Purpose
- Covenant: God Binds Himself to Us
- Turning Points That Turn Hearts
- Creation, Fall & Grace
- Disobedience & Unbelief
- God Keeps His Promises
- Jesus Fulfills Every Covenant
- Brought into God's Story

4. COVENANT ERAS

What are the Bible's 4 covenant eras?

BEFORE 2166 BC: 1. The Covenant Conceived
Creation, the fall, the flood, and the call of Abram

2166-931 BC: 2. The Covenant Confirmed
One family becomes the nation of Israel

931-63 BC: 3. The Covenant Challenged
The nation splits, falls, and returns as a remnant

4 BC-TODAY: 4. The Covenant Completed
Jesus fulfills the covenant and sends his church



4. COVENANT ERAS

4. What are the 16 turning points?

5. What do we learn about God from each of these sections?

6. What do these sections offer our Christian life?

BEFORE 2166 BC: 1. THE COVENANT CONCEIVED

From creation to the call of Abraham: the foundations everything else is built on

POINTS 1-2: Creation & the Fall
God speaks creation into being and makes mankind in his image to co-rule; mankind rebels and sin enters

POINTS 3-4: Flood & the Call of Abraham
Noah finds grace and God restarts humanity; then God calls Abram out of idolatry to form a people

2166-931 BC: 2. THE COVENANT CONFIRMED

Patriarchs, exodus, conquest, judges, and kings: God stays faithful to his promises

POINTS 5-6: Patriarchs to the Land
Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph carry the promise into Egypt; God rescues Israel and brings them into the land

POINTS 7-8: Judges to Kings
The cycle of idolatry and deliverance gives way to one nation under Saul, David, and Solomon

931-63 BC: 3. THE COVENANT CHALLENGED

Division, prophets, exile, and return, then a silent wait for the promised Messiah

POINTS 9-10: Split & Exile
The kingdom divides and prophets call it back; Assyria disperses the north and Babylon exiles Judah

POINTS 11-12: Return & Silence
A remnant rebuilds the temple, then 400 years pass without a prophet as Greece and Rome rise

4 BC-TODAY: 4. THE COVENANT COMPLETED

Everything has led to Jesus, and the story goes on through his church until he returns

POINTS 13-14: Messiah & Early Church
Jesus dies and rises again to fulfill the covenants; the Spirit sends the church from Jerusalem to the world

POINTS 15-16: New Testament & Church Today
Apostles write to the churches, and God's people carry the gospel today until Jesus comes back

5. HOW THE WHOLE STORY POINTS TO CHRIST

- The volume of the book is written of Jesus
- Noah's ark: being in the ark is like being in Christ
- Jesus puts the old covenant to rest and inaugurates the new
- As Eve came from Adam's side, Christ's bride came from his

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