

## ***Biblical Theology: The Story of Scripture***

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### **Class 6: The People of God**

**Introduction:** Mixed Metaphors, Anyone?

#### **I. The Story**

*Why are there two genealogies for Shem?*

**A. Called-Out Special Covenant Members: Nation, Seed, Children**

Deut. 7:6-9 – all of God’s grace

**B. Sons of God, Son of Man, Image, King, Priest**

**C. Christ as the New Adam, Abraham, Israel, David, Image, King, Priest, Son of Man, Son of God, Seed of Abraham**

**D. A New People Through Union With Christ**

### **III. Systematizing it All**

**A. The Church is a Justified People**

**B. The Church is a United People**

**C. Each one of the metaphors for the church has a job to do for describing something about our union in a church**

**D. Each of these metaphors gets put into practice locally**

**E. The metaphors aren’t really metaphors but shadows**



**Goal:** Better understand Scripture and be shaped by its story.

**Schedule:**

**The Stories to be Told: Biblical Theology Displayed**

7. Sacrifice Oct. 24

8. Mission Oct. 31

*Based on a core seminar from Capitol Hill Baptist Church (DC).*

**Resources for Further Study:**

- *New Dictionary of Biblical Theology (IVP), “People of God” and “Church”, pp, 684-687 and 407-411.*
- *Kingdom Through Covenant: A Biblical-Theological Understanding of the Covenants* by Peter J. Gentry & Stephen J. Wellum (Crossway), pp. 683-702.

### ***E. Church as New Israel, or Seeds of Abraham, but Through the Promise***

Galatians 3:29: *“If you belong to Christ, then you are Abraham’s seed, and heirs according to the promise.”*

Galatians 6:15-16: *“Neither circumcision nor uncircumcision means anything; what counts is the new creation. Peace and mercy to all who follow this rule—to the Israel of God.”*

Genealogy gives way to re-genealogy, or regeneration.

### ***F. Church as Regenerate and Baptized***

*Different Structure*

*Different Nature*

*Different Strategy*

*Different Sign*

### ***G. Many of the Metaphors for the Church are Rooted in the Old Testament***

Like Israel, the church is called the “beloved of God” (Deut. 32:15; 33:12; Ps. 60:5; Isa. 44:2; Jer. 11:15; Hos. 2:23; Rom. 9:25; Thes. 1:4); “church” (see LXX of Deut. 23:2-3; 31:30; 1 Sam. 17:47; 1 Chron. 28:8; Neh. 13:1); “son(s) of God” (Exod. 4:22-23; Deut. 14:1; Isa. 1:2, 4; 63:8; Hos. 1:10; 11:1; Matt. 5:9; Rom. 8:14, 19; 9:26; Gal. 3:36; 4:6); “Abraham’s

seed” (Gal. 3:26, 28); children of the “Jerusalem above” (Gal. 4:26, 31); “fellow citizens” with the Jewish “saints” (Eph. 2:12, 19); a “Jew...inwardly” and “the true circumcision” (Rom. 2:26-29; Phil. 3:2-3); the “temple” (1 Cor. 3:10-17; 6:19; Eph. 2:20-22); “the bride of Christ/God” (Isa. 54:5-6; Ezek. 16:32; Hos. 1:2; 2 Cor. 11:2; Eph. 5:25-27); a “vineyard” or “cultivated field” (Is. 5:1-7; Jer. 12:10; Ezek. 19:10; Joh 15:1-11; 1 Cor. 3:5-9); an “olive tree” (Isa. 17:6; Jer. 11:16; Hos. 14:6; Rom. 11:17, 24); “sheep” (Jer. 23:1; 50:6; Ezek. 34:6f; Mic. 2:12; Matt. 10:6; 25:22-23; John 10:1f; 21:16-17; Heb. 13:20); a (special) “people” (Exod. 19:15; 23:22; Deut. 7:6; 14:2; 26:18; Tit. 2:14; 1 Peter 2:9-10); a “royal priesthood and holy nation” (Ex. 19:6; 1 Peter 2:9); a “chosen race” and “the Israel of God” (1 Peter 2:9; Gal. 6:16); the “image of God.”

### ***H. The people of God and the New Jerusalem***

“Local churches should see themselves as outcroppings of heaven... providing on earth a corporate and visible expression of ‘the glorious freedom of the children of God.’” - D.A. Carson

## **II. Biblical Theology Tools**

### ***A. Covenants***

### ***B. Continuity/Discontinuity***

### ***C. Typology***

### ***D. Promise/fulfillment***