

Storyline of Scripture- What Is the Bible Basically About?

1. Creation — God's Kingdom Established

- God is the Creator of all things (Genesis 1:1)
- Creation displays God's glory (Psalm 19:1)
- God is worthy of worship because He created all things (Revelation 4:11)
- God is King (Psalm 24:1)
- Man is created in God's image (Genesis 1:26-27)
- Man is commissioned to rule under God's authority (Genesis 1:28)

Summary

Everything begins with God, exists for God, and flourishes under God's rule.

2. The Fall — God's Kingdom Ruined

- Man rejects God's rule (Genesis 3)
- Sin brings separation, suffering, and death (Romans 6:23)
- All people are sinners (Romans 3:23)
- Sin spreads throughout humanity (Psalm 51:5)
- God's holiness requires judgment (Genesis 6:5-7)

Summary

The Fall reveals man's rejection of God's glory and our desperate need for a Savior.

3. God's Rescue Plan — Kingdom Promised

- God's plan of redemption existed before creation (Revelation 13:8)
- God promises a coming Savior (Genesis 3:15)
- God covenants with Noah to preserve creation (Genesis 9:8-17)
- God promises Abraham a people, land, and blessing (Genesis 12:1-3)
- God promises David an eternal King (2 Samuel 7:12-13)

Summary

God remains faithful to His promises despite human failure.

4. Israel — Kingdom Foreshadowed

Exodus

- God saves through substitution at Passover (Exodus 12)
- God saves through power at the Red Sea (Exodus 14)
- Christ is our greater Passover Lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7)
- Christ delivers us from slavery to sin and death (Hebrews 2:14-15)

Law

- Reveals God's holiness (Leviticus 19:2)
- Reveals human sinfulness (Romans 3:20)
- Points to our need for a Savior.

Tabernacle

- God's presence among His people (Exodus 25:8)
- Sacrifice point to the need for atonement (Leviticus 17:11)

Israel's History

- Joshua
- Judges
- Kings
- Exile

Summary

Israel previews God's kingdom but ultimately points beyond itself to Christ.

5. The Prophets — Kingdom Foretold

The Prophets Announce

- Judgment for sin.
- Hope for restoration.

Future Promises

- New Covenant (Jeremiah 31:31-34)
- New Heart (Ezekiel 36:26-27)
- Full Forgiveness (Jeremiah 31:34)
- Greater Temple (Ezekiel 40:4-7)
- Coming King (Isaiah 9:6-7)

Summary

God promises a future kingdom that will be fully established through the Messiah.

6. Christ — Kingdom Inaugurated

- God sends His Son at the fullness of time (Galatians 4:4-5)
- Jesus is the son of David and Abraham (Matthew 1:1)
- Jesus announces the arrival of the kingdom (Mark 1:15)
- Jesus is the Lamb of God (John 1:29)

Jesus is the fulfillment of God's Kingdom

- God's people are those in Christ
 - Jesus is the true Adam
 - Jesus is the true Israel
- God's place is found in Christ
 - Jesus is the true Tabernacle
 - Jesus is the true Temple
- God's rule found in Christ
 - Jesus is the mediator of the New Covenant
 - Jesus is the true King
- God's blessing found in Christ
 - Jesus is the fulfillment of all blessings promised

The Cross

- Justice satisfied
- Mercy displayed
- Sin forgiven
- Reconciliation accomplished

The Resurrection

- Christ defeats sin, Satan, and death (1 Corinthians 15:55-57)

Summary

Everything in the Old Testament finds its fulfillment in Jesus Christ.

7. The Church Age — Kingdom Proclaimed

The "Already, But Not Yet"

- Christ reigns now. (Ephesians 1:20-22)
- Salvation has been accomplished (Hebrews 10:12-14)
- The kingdom has begun (Colossians 1:13-14)
- Full restoration still awaits (Romans 8:23)

The Mission of the Church

- Proclaim the gospel (Acts 1:8)
- Make disciples (Matthew 28:19-20)
- Live holy lives (1 Peter 1:15-16)
- Display God's glory (Matthew 5:16)

Summary

Believers live with hope while proclaiming Christ to the nations.

8. The Restored Kingdom — Kingdom Consummated

Future Hope

- Christ will return (Revelation 22:20)
- Evil will be judged (Revelation 20:11-15)
- Death will be defeated (Revelation 21:4)
- Creation will be renewed (Revelation 21:1)
- God will dwell with His people forever (Revelation 21:3)

Summary

What was lost in Eden will be fully restored in Christ.

9. Conclusion: Reading the Bible

Questions to Ask

1. Where does this passage fit in the storyline of redemption?
2. What does this teach about God?
3. What does this reveal about human sin?
4. How does this point to Christ?
5. What does this teach about my future hope?
6. How should I respond?