Jesus In The Old Testament 1: The Garden of Eden

January 17

Genesis 3

You all know the game "Where's Waldo?" In case you don't know, it's a book with lots of pictures. In each picture, there are lots of things going on. Here's an example: Where's Waldo picture.jpg

I actually found a game called Wheres The Goat? Let's play a few rounds. https://www.downloadyouthministry.com/p/where%27s-the-goat%3F/games-6122.html

We can play a game sort of like this when we read the Bible.

Quick overview: Bible is book filled with many other books. Two main parts: Old Testament and New Testament. Some don't like the name "old" because it can make us think it's irrelevant. Some choose to call it the Hebrew Bible. It's all God's inspired Word to us and contains no errors.

You may notice that a majority of lessons we teach are from the New Testament, which is the part that focuses on Jesus' teachings and the early church.

But that does not mean the Old Testament is unimportant. There is so much to learn from this part of the Bible!

One interesting way to read the Old Testament is to play game like Where's Waldo, but instead it's called Where's Jesus?

Even though Jesus' name is not explicitly mentioned in the Old Testament, it doesn't mean that he's not there. We may have to work hard and pick up on clues, but we see evidence of Jesus all over the Old Testament. Or hints of Jesus.

So for the next few weeks we're going to do some "Where's Jesus?" with the book of Genesis, which is the first book of the Old Testament.

Real quick overview of the first few chapters of Genesis:

God creates a perfect world. Some people say it was six literal days. Some people say it took thousands or millions of years. There are valid, biblical arguments to support both positions and that's something you have to decide for yourself.

Then he creates Adam and Eve.

He tells them be fruitful and multiply and exercise dominion over the world.

One rule: Don't eat the fruit from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. Why did God put it there? I don't know.

They eat the fruit, in a way saying, "We want to become like God!"

This is when sin first enters the world.

Genesis 3:8-13: Jesus was there in 3:8 (need to research this further)

3:14-15: Verse 15 is a foreshadowing of Jesus, who came to crush Satan's power!

Fast forward to 3:21

They were embarrassed, they tried to hide, and so he covered them with animal skin. An animal had to die so that their shame could be covered.

Gal. 3:27

Isaiah 61:10

This points to how Jesus died so our sin could be covered over by him.

So we see Jesus present in the garden, see a future prediction of his defeat over Satan, and God clothing Adam and Eve is an early hint about how he would cover up our sin and shame through the death of Jesus.

From the beginning, God had a plan to save all of us, and we see his plan woven all throughout the entire Bible. It's always been about jesus, all along. From the beginning, we see how Jesus was meant to be our savior. You can receive him as your savior today! If you're a follower of Jesus, may this encourage you to look at the Bible with a sense of curiosity, especiall in the Old Testament, as you see God's plan laid out throughout all the pages of Scripture!

Need a stronger conclusion