

Study 5

THE STORY (1): THE GOD WHO IS—AT WORK IN FALLEN HUMAN HISTORY

His nature:

(as Initiator of an eternal covenant-of-love with all creation)

- Redeemer Father
- Redeemer Creator
- Redeemer King

HIS REDEPTIVE ACTIVITY B.C.E.

**** the LORD'S covenant love & faithfulness from the
Creation—preparing for the Coming of the Christ***

His place-centred, holy purpose worked out during the times of:

- **the Fall**—*the self-exaltation & death of humanity in Adam*
(gospel promised, eviction, Cain's kind & the line of Seth)
- **the Flood**—*judgment by a grieved yet 'faithful Creator'*
(Noah 'finds grace' & the line of Shem begins)
- **the Babel Scattering**—*'mighty' Nimrod foiled*
(nations created & given up to idolatry; but not Shemite Job)
- **the Patriarchs**—*covenant with Abraham, Isaac & Jacob*
(promised a people, a land & blessing for the nations; Jacob named 'Israel'; Joseph betrayed & blessed for Israel's sake)
- **the Exodus**—*Israel redeemed & Moses mediates at Mt. Sinai*
(freed from awful bondage in Egypt & consecrated as a holy priest-nation, receiving divine wisdom in the covenant gifts of the law & tabernacle worship; rebelling, then made to wander)
- **the Entry, Conquest & Rest**—*Joshua leads into blessing*
(eventual possession of the land promised to Abraham)
- **the Judges**—*sad cycles, & then God's gift of Samuel*
(rest, covenant violation, judgment & merciful deliverance—x7)
- **the Kingdom of Israel**—*Saul fails / the line of David begins*
(David a man who knew the grace of God & whose throne was to be eternal; Solomon richly endowed with wisdom & building the temple, but then, a foolish oppressor of Israel)
- **the Divided Kingdom**—*Israel & Judah*
(prophetic ministry to both: proclamation of righteousness, retribution (finally eviction from the land) & restoration)
- **the Two Exiles & Judah's Return**—*the Faithful One*
(after 70 long years the redemptive word fulfilled—& yet!!!)