

Book Report
By Allen Dvorak

Simplified Summary of the Old Testament, 2nd Edition
By Vicki Copeland
Pages: 150
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Available at FC Bookstore and Amazon

This book is exactly what its title suggests – a summary of Old Testament history. That history is divided into 9 periods as follows:

Period 1: Beginnings
Period 2: God's Promises Unfold
Period 3: Mosaic Leadership
Period 4: Conquest and the Judges
Period 5: The United Kingdom
Period 6: The Divided Kingdom
Period 7: Judah Alone
Period 8: Captivity and Return
Period 9: Between the Testaments

The book includes a table of maps and charts (black and white), a timeline of the Old Testament period and a listing of the reference materials used in her research.

Vicki has struck a good balance between summary and detailed discussion, making this book a good reference for the average Bible student. Her material evidences a penchant for thorough research and the ability to summarize the results of that research. This would be a good gift for new converts who may struggle with making sense of Old Testament history and chronology.

There is also a helpful appendix on "The Dating of Old Testament Events," in which she addressed the date of Abraham, the length of Israel's slavery in Egypt and the dating systems used by the two Israelite kingdoms.

The book concludes with a comprehensive alphabetical index of people, places and things mentioned in the book.

She has also published a separate adult Bible class workbook (26 lessons), designed to complement the Simplified Study. It comes with a teacher edition and editable PowerPoint download.