My thanks go out to author Bob Beasley and Livingstone Books for providing me a review copy of this book.

Many Christians are bewildered by the Old Testament. They start reading in Genesis and give up by the time Leviticus comes around. They remember bits and pieces of a smattering of OT Bible stories: David and Goliath, the Red Sea, Daniel and the lion's den, etc. But the Old Testament (except for Psalms and Proverbs) remains generally obscure and mysterious to many.

For those who have discovered the many connections between the Old Testament and Jesus Christ, this is quite sad. Recognizing how Jesus fulfills the types of the Old Testament truly makes the Bible come alive. Nothing is so spiritually impacting as finding Christ in the Old Testament, and being moved by the picture of our God so beautifully illustrated by His works with the Israelites.

Bob Beasley is eager for the average Christian to become familiar with the many portraits of Jesus in the Hebrew Old Testament. In his book 101 Portraits of Jesus in the Hebrew Scriptures, he marches through the Old Testament highlighting many of the clearest pictures of Jesus found there. He uses promise/fulfillment and type/anti-type models as he explains the significance of the OT's witness to Christ.

Beasley explains:

…Jesus does not jump into the pages of history as a little child in a stable in Bethlehem. His story begins much further back in history than that.... all history is His Story. Jesus is the Creator God, the promised Redeemer, the great Prophet, Priest, and King of the Hebrew Scriptures. He is Yahweh, Jehovah—the great I AM—of the burning bush. He is Immanuel—God with us!

The book deals with 101 such places in the Old Testament. Each is given just two pages of space, which is why no passage is really covered in too much depth. The result is a good introduction to the Old Testament witness to Christ, most helpful for the new Christian who may be inexperienced with the Old Testament.

Beasley will give one an eye for finding Christ all throughout the Old Testament. The book's emphasis on the unity of the Bible and the person and work of Jesus Christ make it especially good. Anyone interested in learning more about the harmony of the Bible and how the OT speaks of Jesus Christ, should certainly consider this book. With its simple layout, 101 Portraits makes for a great devotional book. Each portrait of Christ can be considered slowly and provide meat for one's soul.

Originally published on July 15, 2009 at Fundamentally Reformed by Bob Hayton.
If Jesus didn't come along until the New Testament, what is He doing in the Old Testament? In his forthcoming book, 101 Portraits of Jesus in the Hebrew Scriptures, author Bob Beasley, a graduate of Westminster Theological Seminary, seeks to answer that question in many more than 101 ways. In fact, even though the Old Testament, or the Hebrew Scriptures, was written 2,000 to 500 years prior to Jesus' earthly ministry, some say the Lord may be found on its every page. Just as a great novel or movie will provide early warnings of things to come later on, the Old Testament is full of fo Beasley's 101 Portraits of Jesus is superb, for at least three reasons. First, it is the sort of book that can only be written by an elder in Christ's Church. I am referring here more to the biblical character of elder, one who has lived long and well as a follower of Christ, having gained the wisdom that can come only from experience. Beasley's book blows away the depriving conspiratorial fog, speaking truth to head and heart, and showing us the glorious Savior on every page of the Hebrew Scriptures. I am deeply thankful for this book, and highly commend it to anyone and everyone.

Dr. Jeff Hutchinson, Senior Pastor, Trinity Presbyterian Church, Asheville, North Carolina. Read more. About the Author. Bob Beasley lives with his wife, Amy, in the mountains of North Carolina.