



“Forget About It”

By Pastor Jeff

Growing up in the New York metropolitan area I often heard and used the phrase, ***“Forget About It.”*** My friend Greg from New Jersey recently pointed out to me that this simple phrase has many uses depending on the context and voice inflection. ***“Forget About It”*** can mean:

- Something is no big deal. The phrase minimizes an action or a situation.
- Something is impossible to achieve. Don’t even think about trying that!
- Something is not good to think about. Don’t keep running a bad situation over and over again in your mind.

Now there are times in our Christian life when it is good for us to ***“Forget About It.”*** Philippians 4:8 states,

“Finally, brothers, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence, if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.”

In Jersey terms, Paul is saying the things in your life that are not honorable, just, pure, lovely, commendable, excellent, worthy of praise, forget about them. Don’t dwell on your past failures, sins and shame. Don’t dwell on the hurts and sins done against you by others, ***“Forget About It!”***

However, the Scripture also tells us some things we should NOT forget about. In Psalm 119:15-17 we read:

I will meditate on Your precepts and think about Your ways. ¹⁶ I will delight in Your statutes; I will not forget Your word. ¹⁷ Deal generously with Your servant so that I might live; then I will keep Your word.

One of the primary ways a believer grows is by the intake of God’s Word. Over the first five months of 2016, we studied the Old Testament Timeline. I so enjoyed teaching these survey messages. In this series, we learned the theme of each of the first 15 books of the Bible, developed that theme, and then most importantly applied the theme to a transformation aspect of our Christian lives! An understanding of OT timeline gives you a basis for studying each of the books more deeply, the rest of the Old

Testament, and a better foundation for understanding the New Testament. Due to all these benefits, it would be a real detriment to your spiritual life and maturity to ***“forget about”*** the Old Testament timeline. To help you not forget the content and application of that preaching series here are four suggestions:

1. Attached is a review quiz on the Old Testament Timeline. Take it to see how much you remembered.
2. Use the sermon notes from the series, taking one book at a time and page through the biblical book. For example, the theme of Genesis is beginnings. The outline in the notes reflects that theme. So with the notes before you, page through Genesis using a good study bible. Your goal is not only to remember the theme of the book but also to see how the theme is developed and supported in the book! Many study bibles state a theme for a book but then do not show how that theme develops and supports that book. Your understanding of God’s word and your faith will soar if you know the book’s theme and see that theme development in the book. The Bible will begin to make greater sense to you! If you need sermon notes go to the church website or see myself.
3. Again, with the sermon notes in hand read each of the 15 books that we have studied? These books are comprised of 370 chapters. If you begin in July reading just two chapters a day from these first 15 books, you will complete them before the end of the year! As you read always ask, how does this chapter fit the theme of the book and how should the truth of this chapter affect my faith?
4. After you have done your review of the Old Testament Timeline, retake the review quiz to see how much you have retained and improved.

I want to encourage you to do the review of the Old Testament Timeline as a family devotional activity. As you review together you will grow in love for God, His Word and one another, and those are some items you should NOT ***“Forget About!”***