





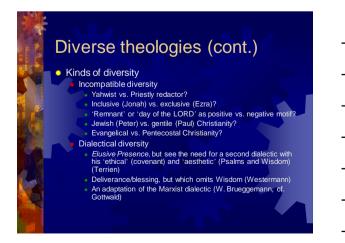
# \*Center' (cont.) Problems Perhaps no 'center' but the diversity of Heilsgeschichte itself; however, which version? OT Deuteronomist (von Rad), Priestly, or Elohist? Christological fulfillment of redemptive history (Irenaeus) Reductionism OT 'Promise' leads to NT 'Fulfillment' But this makes little room for Sinai, cult, or curse. OT has not only promise but also fulfillment, and NT has not only fulfillment, but also promise. 'Kingdom of God' or 'Covenant' leaves no room for 'Wisdom', the step-child of biblical theology.

#### Thematic survey Identify themes from Bible itself rather than from foci of dogmatic theology. Dogmatic themes ultimately from the Bible Selectivity leads to reductionism What is criterion for inclusion/exclusion? Quantitative: frequency of mention? Qualitative: fundamentals? What to make of what your 'net' doesn't catch it If my 'net' doesn't label it a biblical-theological theme, I can safely ignore it? If my 'net' doesn't catch it, my net's deficient and must be modified or discarded in favor of something more comprehensive?



# Formation-of-tradition • Gese (OT) follows Stuhlmacher (NT) in defining biblical theology in terms of 'continuity of development'. • OT is beginning of formation, leading into the NT, and... • NT is completion of formation, flowing out of the OT. • Problems • What of the discontinuities of development • Pharisees, Saduccees, and Essenes • Extra-canonical development (e.g., Apocrypha and Pseudepigrapha) • Judaism and Christianity • How to develop the identifiable continuities? • Along lines of critical reconstruction of OT and NT history as Historie? • Along canonical lines of OT and NT as Helisgeschichte. • How then to relate Helisgeschichte to Historie and therefore to 'now'—how to move from what it meant to what it means.

# Opting for diverse theologies Levels of diversity Theologies of OT and of NT Theologies of JEDP? Theologies of Moses and Paul Theologies of Peter and Paul Theologies of Matthew, Mark, Luke, and 'Q'? Red letter' theology and 'black letter' NT theology?



# Diverse theologies (cont.) • Compatible diversity • Over-arching unity in divine authorship Not competing 'theologies' but complementary perspectives • No 'theology' trumps another: • The Decalogue does not trump the ceremonial law. • Grace does not trump Pater or James. • The 'red letters' do not trump Moses, or Paul, or the gospel writers. • Hebrews does not trump the ceremonial law.

# New biblical theology method Overcoming the 'what it meant' vs. 'what it means divide' Diminished reliance of the historical-critical method Ignoring critical reconstructions of Israel's Historie in favor of canonical witness to history. Ignoring comparative Religionsgeschichte in favor of authoritative theology. Demanding not only 'descriptive' function but also 'confessional' function for biblical theology. Prospects 'Crisis' of biblical theology (Childs 1970) Biblical theology declared 'dead' (Smart 1979) Biblical Theology of the Old and New Testaments (Childs 1992)

