



That is how Scripture differs from an encyclopedia. When I use an encyclopedia, I do not need to read other articles to understand the one I am reading at the moment. One article has no connection to another; there are no overarching themes. In the Bible, however, every passage is dependent on the whole, and the whole Bible is held together by interdependent themes that run through every passage like rebar, the steel rods that reinforce concrete. . . These themes give me a sense of identity, purpose, and direction that will fundamentally alter the way I think, desire, speak, and act. . . The sad fact is that many of us are simply not biblical in the way we use the Bible! Being biblical does not mean merely quoting words from within its pages. Being truly biblical means that my counsel reflects what the entire Bible is about. The Bible is a narrative, a story of redemption, and its chief character is Jesus Christ. He is the main theme of the narrative, and he is revealed in every passage in the book. . . Lasting change begins when our identity, purpose, and sense of direction are defined by God's story.

Pp 26-28 Instruments in the Redeemer's Hands, Paul David Tripp