

Exodus: Stepping into Freedom

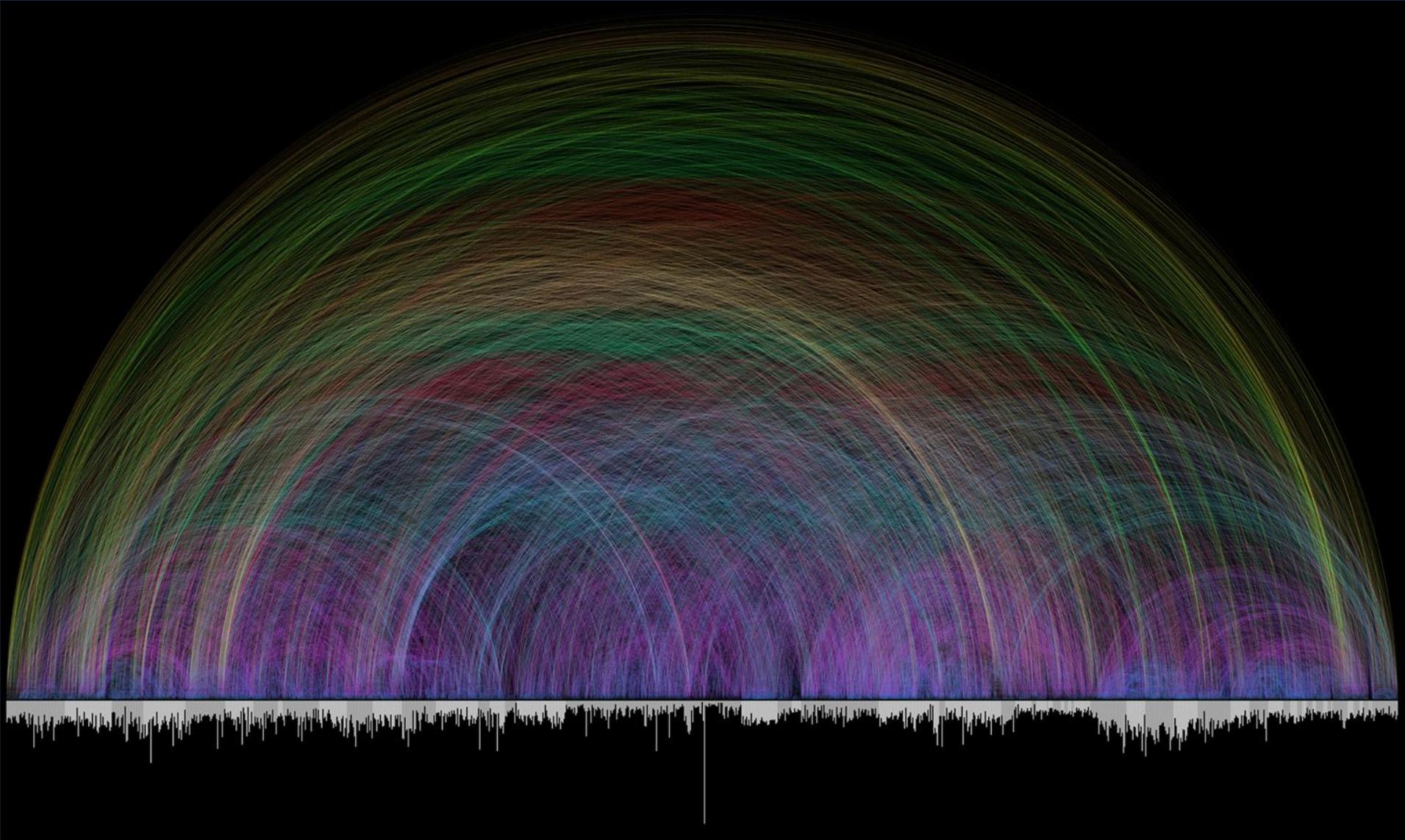
Rev Denis Adide

A little bit about me...

- St Stephen's, Shepherds Bush
- M.A in Theology Ministry and Mission @ Trinity College Bristol - *primary focus of M.A thesis was Divine Suffering.*
- Family.

A few interesting books:

- *'Introducing the Old Testament'* by John Drane
- *'How to read the Bible for All Its Worth'* by Gordon D. Fee & Douglas Stuart
- The book of Exodus



A few things to remember...

- The bible is a deeply interconnected book. Its author is phenomenal, his writers were gifted and its lessons have yet to be exhausted.
- It is self-referential and thematically interconnected. The Word being revealed is One. It is one person's self revelation.



Freedom as a thread in the Grand Narrative

- What is the Story of the Bible?
- What is the Story of the Old Testament?
- What part does the book of Exodus play?
- What's my story in all this?

What is the Story of the Bible?

- God
- Man
- The interplay
 - Creation, Revelation (of both God and man to man), and Consummation.

NB: These are acts of an eternal God thus have an eternal quality themselves. Therefore:

- Creation might just be a continuing process within an Alpha and Omega
- Same for Revelation
- We cannot talk about Freedom as though it is concluded. There is the longer war within which smaller scale battles are waged, fought and come to an end.

Exodus in its historical context: an ever widening circle.

- From the dirt (Adam)
- From Ur (Abraham)
- From Egypt (Israel)
- Where am I from and where am I headed?

Exodus in its theological context

- Birth of a Nation (Israel)
- Introduction of the Prophets
- God amongst his people (Emmanuel).
- Passover (possible introduction to ritual).
 - Rituals have symbolic and thus revelatory qualities.

What does Liberty look like for a human being?

- Clearer sense of self, or at least the path to it (Israel)
- Clarity on the past, and the chaos one emerges from.
- God within, God ahead, God behind.
- Salvation as Event
- The consummation road.

denis.adide@ststephensw12.org