

“OT is God’s Word **TO** us, but not **FOR** us”

Christ = Looking forward

Veil is looking back

II Corinthians 3:7-18/Exodus 34:29-35

- The OT is “veiled” until we turn to Christ
- When we do the veil is removed

How is the veil removed?

Acts 8:30-35 = Eunuch Example

- From that passage
 - Who Jesus is
 - Why he died
 - Mode of receiving forgiveness – Faith & Baptism
- All from the OT!
 - II Timothy 3:16-17 - About the OT

Christ & The Gospel in the OT

Topics: Messianic Prophecies

Christ in the OT

Gospel in the OT

Modern Usage

Messianic Prophecies

- 300+ prophecies – See Appendix B: Messianic Prophecies & Fulfillments
- Incredible testimony – See Appendix B: Odds of fulfillment

Christ in the OT Text

Entire OT points to Christ = Christology

John 5:36-40, 46

v. 37 = God testifies to Jesus – Where?

v. 39 = It is in the OT

v. 46 = Moses also testified to Jesus

Luke 24:27 = Road to Emmaus

“And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning him.”

The OT is meant for us to see Christ

We don’t know how to get it

The only way to properly understand the OT is in Christ

How do we do this?

1. Determine Literary Genre

- General Rule: “The Bible cannot mean now what it was not intended to mean back then”

- In order for us to understand it now, we must discern what it meant to them
- The Bible is written in many different forms or genres of literature
- Each is meant to be taken in a different way
- We understand this in modern language:
 - Classified ad
 - Short story
 - Legal document
 - Wedding invitation
- We in no way read these types of literature the same way
- There are rules or accepted norms in processing the meaning
- This is no difference in the OT text:

Narrative	Apocalyptic
Poetry	Law
- Each has its set of rules in understanding it
- A Bible commentary will help a lot in discerning the genre
- We will discuss how to read the different genres in a few weeks
- But suffice to say for now we must determine what type of literature it is to understand the meaning

2. Place in Salvation History

What is Salvation History? = The historical framework in which God has worked, is working and will continue to work in revealing His plan for man's salvation

Entire Bible can be divided into three epochs or eras

The Kingdom Revealed

The Kingdom Reprimanded & Reiterated

The Kingdom Realized

We will focus on the Salvation History of the OT = two eras

We need to identify what part of history the text is in

This helps us understand where God is coming from to determine the meaning

But once we: 1. Determine the genre of literature

2. Place it in salvation history

Then we have a responsibility to understand it as foreshadowing of Jesus

3. Discern the Christology of Text

Christology is a big word for seeing Jesus in the text

How does this passage point to Christ

Two types:

Explicit Christology

Examples: Adam = Genesis 3/Romans 5:12-21

Tabernacle = Exodus 25-30/John 1:14

Temple = I Kings 5-6, 8/John 2:19

Implicit Christology

When there is no mention of a direct connection to Christ

Some would argue that this is bad interpretation

That overlooks the stated premise of scripture that all of it points to Christ

Word of caution: We can go overboard – Gordon & Fee

Example: Isaac – Genesis 22
 Son of God's Promise
 He through whom God's people come
 Received based on faith
 Abraham offered him on faith that God would raise him again
 "Sacrificed" on Moriah
 He carried the wood to the place of sacrifice
 Ram offered
 Jehovah Jireh = God Provides

Break it down:

Genre: Narrative
 Salvation History: First Era – The Kingdom Revealed
 Christology: Son of God's Promise
 He through whom God's people come
 Received based on faith
 Abraham offered him on faith that God would raise him again
 "Sacrificed" on Moriah
 He carried the wood to the place of sacrifice
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 Jehovah Jireh = God Provides

Other Examples of Christology

- Isaac
- Israel
- Prophets
- Kings
- Passover Lamb
- Noah
- Tabernacle
- Sacrifice of Atonement

Missing Christ in the OT is being "veiled" (I Cor 3:14-17)
 We must learn to see Christ in each book of OT

Gospel in the OT

- Just as the OT points to Christ it then also points to the gospel he brought
- What is a gospel? = Gospel is what we must believe to be saved
- Some would point to the seven "Ones" of Ephesians 4
 - Body, Spirit, Hope, Lord, Faith, Baptism, God
- See the gospel the same way that we see Christ
 1. Prophecies: Jer 31:31 = new covenant
 Isa 2:1-5 = mountain of the Lord
 Eze 36:24-27 = new heart/covenant
 2. Explicit Foreshadowing
 Example: Noah (Genesis 6-8/I Peter 3:18-22)
 Moses (Exodus 12/I Corinthians 10:2)
 Hagar & Sarah (Genesis 16/Galatians 4:21-31)
 3. Implicit Foreshadowing
 Example: Collection for the temple (I Chr 29)

Davidic Example – Jesus' example
Offering from Israel – Jesus is the true Israel
Willingness – Jesus willingly laid down his life, we willingly respond

- Never makes this connection explicitly
- Word of Caution: Be careful – we aren't inspired writers
- Gospel found: Work of God
Good news of God's unmerited favor
Fulfilled in Jesus

Modern Usage:

- Build our faith in Jesus (Rom 15:4)
- Build others faith in Jesus (Acts 8:32-35 - Eunuch)
- Deepen our understanding of Christ (Luke 24:44-45)

In closing:

Jesus spoke to the struggling disciples from the OT

“Then he opened their minds so they could understand the Scriptures”

Homework

- Pray That God Removes The Veil For Us
- Find One Christology in Genesis 26-50
- Continue to Memorize Verses and Key Dates
- Choose Four Useful OT Passages to Memorize

Appendix B: Messianic Prophecy & Fulfillment

- Born of a virgin (Isaiah 7:14; Matthew 1:21-23)
- A descendant of Abraham (Genesis 12:1-3; 22:18; Matthew 1:1; Galatians 3:16)
- Of the tribe of Judah (Genesis 49:10; Luke 3:23, 33; Hebrews 7:14)
- Of the house of David (2 Samuel 7:12-16; Matthew 1:1)
- Born in Bethlehem (Micah 5:2, Matthew 2:1; Luke 2:4-7)
- Taken to Egypt (Hosea 11:1; Matthew 2:14-15)
- Herod's killing of the infants (Jeremiah 31:15; Matthew 2:16-18)
- Anointed by the Holy Spirit (Isaiah 11:2; Matthew 3:16-17)
- Heralded by the messenger of the Lord (John the Baptist) (Isaiah 40:3-5; Malachi 3:1; Matthew 3:1-3)
- Would perform miracles (Isaiah 35:5-6; Matthew 9:35)
- Would preach good news (Isaiah 61:1; Luke 4:14-21)
- Would minister in Galilee (Isaiah 9:1; Matthew 4:12-16)
- Would cleanse the Temple (Malachi 3:1; Matthew 21:12-13)
- Would first present Himself as King 173,880 days from the decree to rebuild Jerusalem (Daniel 9:25; Matthew 21:4-11)
- Would enter Jerusalem as a king on a donkey (Zechariah 9:9; Matthew 21:4-9)
- Would be rejected by Jews (Psalm 118:22; I Peter 2:7)
- Die a humiliating death (Psalm 22; Isaiah 53) involving:
 - rejection (Isaiah 53:3; John 1:10-11; 7:5,48)
 - betrayal by a friend (Psalm 41:9; Luke 22:3-4; John 13:18)

- sold for 30 pieces of silver (Zechariah 11:12; Matthew 26:14-15)
- silence before His accusers (Isaiah 53:7; Matthew 27:12-14)
- being mocked (Psalm 22: 7-8; Matthew 27:31)
- beaten (Isaiah 52:14; Matthew 27:26)
- spit upon (Isaiah 50:6; Matthew 27:30)
- piercing His hands and feet (Psalm 22:16; Matthew 27:31)
- being crucified with thieves (Isaiah 53:12; Matthew 27:38)
- praying for His persecutors (Isaiah 53:12; Luke 23:34)
- piercing His side (Zechariah 12:10; John 19:34)
- given gall and vinegar to drink (Psalm 69:21, Matthew 27:34, Luke 23:36)
- no broken bones (Psalm 34:20; John 19:32-36)
- buried in a rich man's tomb (Isaiah 53:9; Matthew 27:57-60)
- casting lots for His garments (Psalm 22:18; John 19:23-24)
- Would rise from the dead!! (Psalm 16:10; Mark 16:6; Acts 2:31)
- Ascend into Heaven (Psalm 68:18; Acts 1:9)
- Would sit down at the right hand of God (Psalm 110:1; Hebrews 1:3)

Appendix C: Odds of Messianic Prophecies Fulfilled

Messianic Prophecy Odds Without God

1.	Jesus would be a descendant of David.	10^4 (1 in 10,000)
2.	Jesus would be born in Bethlehem.	10^5 (1 in 100,000)
3.	Jesus would be a miracle worker.	10^5 (1 in 100,000)
4.	Jesus would present Himself as King riding on a donkey.	10^6 (1 in 1,000,000)
5.	Jesus would be betrayed by a friend for 30 pieces of silver.	10^6 (1 in 1,000,000)
6.	Jesus would be crucified.	10^6 (1 in 1,000,000)
7.	Jesus would first present Himself as King 173,880 days from the decree of Artaxerxes	10^6 (1 in 1,000,000)

	to rebuild Jerusalem.	
	Total Probability (without God)	10³⁸ (1 in a 100 billion, billion, billion, billion)