

## Noah as a Type of Christ

- 1 Last week John opened the first sermon in this miniseries of Christ types talking about Moses and the wilderness. This week I am going to talk a little bit about Types, what they are and why would we would even take the time to look at these.
- 2 Understanding what a type is makes a lot more sense when you know what it is and how it works.
- 3 Imagine if you were looking for Where's Waldo, but you had no idea of what Waldo looked like. It would make the process much more difficult.
- 1 Types of Christs are looking for examples of Christ in the Old Testament, these are going to be examples of Jesus' attributes, behaviors and actions that were given as a lesser example in comparison to the perfect example of Jesus.

As we study the New Testament, we are presented with who Jesus Christ is, what his lineage is through the genealogy presented at the front end of Matthew and of course in Luke. It starts off with "The record of the genealogy (or origin) of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham:

The Gospels and the rest of the New Testament show us who Christ is, his divinity, how we are to live as believers, prophecy on what will come in the end times glorification, reigning for a thousand years and then for eternity. It also shows us an image from the past, how Jesus fulfilled Old Testament Prophecy, he was the completion.

When we look at the Bible as a whole there are 39 books in the Old Testament and 27 books in the new. We don't often look at Christ

Types in the OT. But what we need to remember is that the whole of scripture is Christ centered.

While in the OT there are many references to the coming Messiah, Jesus is not mentioned in every book of the OT. God in His infinite wisdom provided a foreshadowing of what the Messiah would be like through these Old Testament examples.

We want to start by having a clear picture of who Jesus is in relation to the whole of scripture. I want to start by looking at the word Messiah, it comes from the Hebrew word *māšîaḥ* which means “anointed one”. The Old Testament is filled with people who are anointed ones. This refers to anyone that was anointed with oil for service. It could be a prophet a king or priest, these were anointed ones. Over time through different prophecies the Jewish people began to anticipate an ultimate anointed one that would lead them out of bondage. The Hebrew word *māšîaḥ* is translated into the Greek as Christos which is where we get the word Christ, it is the same meaning, the anointed one. Christ is not Jesus’s last name; it is a description of fulfillment. He was THE CHRIST, the fulfillment of God’s promise to His people. Jesus’s name is Yeshua which is related to the Hebrew word for salvation, so his name actually means “our Savior the anointed one”.

When we preach, we use a process called exegeses to pull out the meaning of the text. What is that you ask? It is a fancy term that means to critically explain or interpret a text, especially of scripture. We will normally work through a passage of scripture verse by verse. Something that we need to be careful of when preaching is to not practice eisegesis.

- 7 We have two words here Exegesis and Eisegesis. These words are derived from Greek exēgēsis, from exēgeisthai ‘interpret’, from ex- ‘out of’ + hēgeisthai ‘to guide, lead. Eis means in or into. So, while exegesis is to pull out the meaning of the text, Eisegesis is putting our own meaning into the text.
- 8 Here is an example of this: Matthew 12:39-41 <sup>39</sup> *He answered, “A wicked and adulterous generation asks for a sign! But none will be given it except the sign of the prophet Jonah. <sup>40</sup> For as Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of a huge fish, so the Son of Man will be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth. <sup>41</sup> The men of Nineveh will stand up at the judgment with this generation and condemn it; for they repented at the preaching of Jonah, and now something greater than Jonah is here.*

When after three days Jonah came up out of the belly of the great fish onto dry land, we see that this a type of Christ in that Jesus was in the grave for three days and was raised up.

We can see easily the connection between the two, and this type is pointed out to us in the verse in Matthew.

What we shouldn’t do: We wouldn’t make up some other connection that since Jonah had say - come out of the whale onto dry land, and so that would mean he is entering the land, and from that deduce that Israel will once again inhabit Palestine.

This would be an example of Eisegesis, and that is what the Jewish people were doing with Scripture in Jesus day. They were looking for Waldo, not knowing what he looked like, just having a description. The impact of eisegesis is felt through the rejection of Jesus as the Christ by Jews at the time of the writing of the New Testament. They

had thought that the bondage they would be freed from would be the Roman Empire occupation and oppression. This was not the case however, the bondage that God sent the Messiah to free all men from was the bondage from sin.

- 9 We are not going to take the time today to look at all of the fulfilled prophecies from the Old Testament to the New Testament concerning Jesus, but I want to delineate the difference of prophecy in the Old Testament about Him and types of Christ which are a kind of foreshadowing.

For fun I wanted us to look at some more modern types of literature to see what I am talking about. This is the prologue to Romeo and Juliet by William Shakespeare:

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Two households, both alike in dignity,  
In fair Verona, where we lay our scene,  
A pair of star-cross'd lovers take their life;  
Do with their death bury their parents' strife. The fearful passage of  
their death-mark'd love,  
And the continuance of their parents' rage,  
Which, but their children's end, nought could remove.

This is a prophecy of what is to come, it is not a hint. Bill Shakespeare is telling us directly that the two lovers die in the story. Now we contrast this with Typology which is a kind of foreshadowing. When we talk about typology, we are looking deeper into passages of the Old Testament to find reference to the coming Messiah.

Let's look at two examples of foreshadowing: If you have ever watched the Star Wars movies there is a scene where Obi Wan Kenobi is talking to Anakin who will later become Darth Vader. In the scene we will see

Obi Wan tell Anakin that his light saber is his life, and hints or gives some foreshadowing that someday this will be his cause of death. 32 years later in the timeline we see Anakin now Darth Vader Kill Obi Wan with a light saber. Here is the scene:

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Our second example:

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In the original trilogy we find out that Darth Vader is Luke Skywalker's father. The foreshadowing is that Vater is father in German, and the costumes for the imperial army are modeled after the German officers in WWII.

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The idea is that when watching the movie, it is not obvious that this is going to result in the ending that you as the reader or movie goer can easily deduce. We can see though looking back through time that there was an intentional hint at what was to come. This tool of foreshadowing is used by authors to give continuity to their work and is another method by which they can reinforce their story or message to the reader.

We as Christians want to know God better and that is one of the reasons why we study Christ types, it reinforces our understanding of who He is and what his attributes are, but this isn't something that we made up just to be theatrical or interesting.

- 15 Paul tells us in Romans 5:14 it says, “**Death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come**”. I am showing this example because it is interesting to see how Paul as an author of much of the New Testament viewed Adam as a type of Christ in the Old Testament. The word Type here is Paul's word not ours.

My goal is that you would take the time as you read through the old Testament to discover some of these Christ types on your own, or perhaps you are in a Bible Study and would take on looking at more of the types presented in the Old Testament even after we complete this series. So, in order for you to do that we have some basic rules or characteristics about what Christ types are:

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1. OT Christ types must have a representative quality of Jesus. Resemblance from the type to the antitype is the first trait.

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2. OT Christ types must be definitely designed as a part of redemptive history. Analogies are simply observed similarities, but types predict. They give insight into the plan that God has for the future, particularly to the redemptive work of Christ.

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3. OT Christ types must have spiritual meaning for God's people both in the original story and the meaning as it points to Christ and they are predictive in nature. The purpose as we look at these types is to find GOD DESIGNED types. The foreshadowing that God put into scripture is this method of showing us His finger throughout the writing of the whole of scripture. It reaffirms our belief and understanding of the divine authorship of the word.

With the understanding of what a type is, and why we look at them, it is time to look at our example of the day, Noah's Ark, not NOAH, but the Ark. Which if you have your bible is found in Genesis chapters 6-8

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**1. Just like the ark was graciously available by God for Noah, salvation in Christ is provided by grace from God for sinners.**

(Gen. 6:13-14) <sup>13</sup> So God said to Noah, "I am going to put an end to all people, for the earth is filled with violence because of them. I am surely going to destroy both them and the earth. <sup>14</sup> So make yourself an Ark of cypress[a] wood; make rooms in it and coat it with pitch inside and out.

II Peter 2:5 calls Noah “a preacher of righteousness” We can assume from this that he was letting people know about the coming judgement. Would God would have allowed others on the ark had they repented?

Noah was a sinful man that loved God, but deserved to be destroyed because of his sin against God. “But Noah found favor [or grace] in the eyes of the Lord” (Gen. 6:8). It was only by God’s grace that there was a way to be saved from the flood of God’s judgment on a sinful world. This is just like our situation, we in our sinful state deserve judgement, but God graciously provided us a Savior offering escape from the fire of God’s wrath in hell. Just like Noah and his family didn’t deserve the ark, we do not deserve Christ either. We did not deserve heaven; we deserved hell. God gave us the exact opposite of what we deserved.

20 **2. Just like the ark was planned by God, salvation in Christ planned by God (Gen. 6:14-15).**

Noah did not come up with the design of the ark, it was God that told him the details. Noah did not plan for his deliverance. God did. In the same manner, God was the one who planned for our deliverance from the power and penalty of sin. God gave us his Son, so that through faith in him we might be saved from sin. And God planned this provision of salvation before the creation of the universe (Eph. 1:4-6). <sup>4</sup>For he chose us in him before the creation of the world to be holy and blameless in his sight. In love <sup>5</sup>he predestined us for adoption to sonship through Jesus Christ, in accordance with his pleasure and will <sup>6</sup>to the praise of his glorious grace, which he has freely given us in the One he loves. Imagine this: God was already planning for our salvation even before we were born. He was already thinking of you, before you were even able to think of him. You think of him because he first thought of you. I John 4:19 says “we love Him because He first loved us.”

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22 **3. Just like the ark was a place of safety, Christ a place of safety (Gen. 6:17).**

The ark was a place of safety for Noah and his family. It was a shelter from the flood of God's judgment. Jesus is our shelter against the storm of God's wrath. Those who are in Christ are protected but those who are outside Christ will die. Those who are in Christ are saved; they are safe and have the promise that they will not lose that Salvation.

- 23 Romans 8:38-39 **For I am convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor principalities, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor any other created thing, will be able to separate us from the love of God, which is in Christ Jesus our Lord.**  
Hebrews 7:25 **Therefore He is able also to save forever those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.**

Those of you, however, who are struggling with assurance of salvation may say, "I believe in Jesus but I don't feel like I am saved."

*A man once came to D. L. Moody and said he was worried because he didn't feel saved. Moody asked, "Was Noah safe in the ark?" "Certainly, he was," the man replied. "Well, what made him safe, his feeling or the ark?" The inquirer got the point. "How foolish I've been!" he said. "It is not my feeling; it is Christ who saves!"*

24 **4. Just like Noah and his family had to be obedient and come into the ark for their safety, we also have to come to Christ for our salvation.**

- 25 (Gen. 6:18). God says to Noah, **"But I will establish my covenant with you, and you will enter the ark—you and your sons and your wife and your sons' wives with you".**

This point has three sub points as we ask the question of: How will they come into the ark?



26 **First, they will come into the ark in response to God's command.** In Genesis 7:1 God commands Noah, "The Lord then said to Noah, "Go into the ark, you and your whole family."

Delivering them from the flood is God's work, but to enter the ark is their responsibility. If Noah and his family hadn't come into the Ark, they would have died with the rest of mankind.

Jesus also commands us to come to him: "Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." (Matt. 11:28). Giving you rest is Christ's work, but to come to him is your responsibility.

You must come to Jesus by faith, or else your soul will forever be restless!

27 **Second, they will come by faith in God's promise.** God's promise is two-fold: to destroy those who don't believe in him and to deliver those who believe in him. Noah and his family believed God's promise and so they entered the ark (Heb. 11:7). In the gospel Jesus promises never to cast out those who come to him (John 6:37). He promises to save those who believe in him.

28 **Third, they will come into the ark individually.** Noah must enter the ark and so must his family. Noah cannot come on their behalf. They must come by themselves. In the context of salvation, no one can come to Christ on your behalf. You yourself must come to Jesus by faith. Salvation is personal.

29 **5.The ability to enter the ark was for a limited time.**

Gen 7:13 and 16 says "On that very day Noah and his sons, Shem, Ham and Japheth, together with his wife and the wives of his three sons, entered the ark. 17 The animals going in were male and female of every living thing, as God had commanded Noah. Then the Lord shut him in."

Just like the call to come into the ark was a limited-time offer for Noah, God's call to come to His Son has a limited time. It says in the beginning of Genesis Chapter 6:3 **Then the Lord said, "My Spirit will not contend with humans forever, for they are mortal; their days will be a hundred and twenty years."**

God shut the door in his appointed time and He did it for the protection of those inside and as a punishment for those outside.

Once the door is shut, once you die, there will be no more chance to seek protection from the wrath of God. You can imagine what it would have been like for Noah and his family listening to the cries from the people outside of the Ark.

(Isa. 55:6). **"Seek the LORD while he may be found; call upon him while he is near"** Matthew 7:7 says **"Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you."**

30 **6. Just like the flood was unexpected, the second coming of Christ unexpected.**

After the doors were closed and the flood began even though they knew about the Ark and the call to righteousness it was too late. They had been warned but not even Noah knew the timing of the flood. It came on the earth suddenly; it says the fountains of the deep opened up and the floodgates of the heavens opened up.

31 Jesus says in Matthew 24:37-39 **<sup>37</sup>As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man.**