

## Finding Jesus in the Old Testament - Book by Book

Now, some of you read through the Bible in a year, others pick a Book. But, if it's true that the Old Testament is about Jesus and salvation history, there ought to be something about Jesus in every Book – agree?

What about the Old Testament Book that doesn't even mention God? Still think it's there?

### Genesis

In addition to those we have already talked about, consider the following:

- Genesis 14 introduces us to Melchizedek, king of Salem and “priest of the God Most High.” He blesses Abraham and Abraham gives him a tenth of everything he owns.
  - Psalm 110:4
  - Hebrews 6:20
- What about Joseph being a type of Christ?

### Exodus

In addition to those we have already talked about, consider the following:

- The essential theme of Exodus – God's deliverance of the people and their redemption – points to Jesus Christ
- A little more on the Passover
  - How were the Israelites supposed to handle the Lamb? Exodus 12:46
  - How does that compare with Christ's crucifixion? John 19:33-36
  - What about the Passover blood – was it just enough to kill the Lamb? What was required? \_\_\_\_\_.
- The exodus – the delivery of Israel out of Egypt and into the Promised Land points to the work of Christ in salvation, representing judgment on the wicked world and salvation for God's people
- The Rock
  - Exodus 17:1-7
  - 1 Corinthians 10:4

- The Tabernacle
  - How many entrances to the Tabernacle Courtyard?
  - How many ways to get to God today?

### Leviticus

The first section of Leviticus shows that for man to gain access to God there must be both an offering and an offeror – the priest.

#### The Offerings

- The Burnt Offering – Leviticus 1:3-5
- The Sin Offering – Leviticus 4:1-3
- The Trespass Offering – Leviticus 6:1-6

#### The Priesthood and Day of Atonement

The Day of Atonement, which occurred once a year, was the most solemn Old Testament ritual. God’s instructions were given in Leviticus 16. On this day, atonement is made for the high priest and people for sins committed over the previous year. It was the only day that the priests could enter the Holy of Holies.

This is obviously a pattern for Christ. But, what are the two big differences?

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_

Hebrews 9:6-14.

### Numbers

Question – God could have just transported the Israelites to the Promised Land from Egypt. Why did He not do that?

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Obviously they disobeyed, but was it just punishment. Or was it the desire to teach them lessons about the importance of maintaining a proper relationship with Him and walking by faith as opposed to their own devices?

Hebrews 3:19

Hebrews 3:8-13

## Deuteronomy

We have addressed some of the appearances of Christ in Exodus and Numbers. One from this Book would be the Messianic prophecy of Deuteronomy 21:22-23. Paul explained how that verse applied to Jesus in Galatians 3:13-14.

## Joshua

Christophany – Joshua 5:13-15

Type - Joshua as a type of Christ in that he brought temporary salvation and deliverance. He was a servant, gave Israel what Moses couldn't (the Promised Land) like Jesus gave us salvation (which no man could get)

## Judges

When entering Canaan, “everyone did what was right in his own eyes.” Judges 21:25. This leads to a repeated cycle in the Book - sin, servitude, sorrow and salvation.

Who came to the aid of the people when they realized their sin and repented?

Does this teach us anything about Christ and our need for intervention?

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## Ruth

What's this Book about on its face? It's about a Moabite widow living at the time of the Judges who leaves her own culture for love of her Israelite mother in law, Naomi. She ends up falling in love with Boaz, a prosperous Hebrew farmer who takes care of her.

Type – The whole story is about the concept of a Kinsman-Redeemer. In Old Testament Law, this was a male who had the privilege to act for a relative. He would buy back the relative's mortgaged property (Leviticus 25:25-34), or buy that person back out of slavery (Leviticus 25:48-52). To achieve this redemption, the redeemer had to pay a price. Leviticus 25:27.

So, we now have a story about a man who takes on obligations he doesn't owe, and actually pays a price to ear those burdens, for the benefit of someone he loves.

This is an unmistakable type of Christ. Christ was our redeemer by becoming man and taking on the sins of the world. He paid a price for us.

**God's Plan** – also note that Boaz and Ruth have children. They continue the family line that will include King David and Jesus.

**God's Plan** – Ruth was not an Israelite, yet she came under the protection of her lord. What does that say about God's plan for the Messiah to be 'to all people'?

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### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel

In the Books of Samuel, we see David as a type of Christ. David foreshadows Christ as the coming king in the context of the Davidic Covenant. We have talked about this, but it's important to realize that David is not the eternal king. This is someone to be born of his line.

### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Kings

The Temple, which is featured in both Books, has replaced the Tabernacle as the place where God resides with His people. This foreshadows the indwelling of the Holy Spirit in believers through Jesus Christ.

- What separated the other parts of the temple from the Holy of Holies? A \_\_\_\_\_
- What happened to that veil when Christ completed His work on the cross? Why? Matthew 27:51

Type – King Solomon is also seen as a prefiguring of Christ with respect to his God-given wisdom. What does Paul tell us about Godly wisdom in 1 Corinthians 1:30 and Colossians 2:3?

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How did Christ compare himself to Solomon in Matthew 12:42?

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### 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles

We have already discussed most of the material pointing to Christ in these two Books. But, there are still some nuggets to be gleaned. For instance, the tribe of Judah is placed first in the national genealogy in 1<sup>st</sup> Chronicles, reflecting God's decree that the future King and the Messiah would come from the tribe of Judah.

2<sup>nd</sup> Chronicles talks about Solomon's temple and suggests Christ's incarnation. 2 Chronicles 6:18-19. As you know, there are many discussions about the Temple, as it relates to Jesus Christ.

## Ezra

Ezra tells of the release of the Jewish people from their Babylonian captivity and return to Jerusalem to rebuild the Temple. Obviously, this is a crucial event in reestablishing the Israelite presence in the Promised Land and keeping David's descendants alive. The Book is filled with the theme of repentance, as evidenced by Ezra's penitent prayer in Chapter 9:6 – 15:

And said, O my God, I am ashamed and blush to lift up my face to thee, my God: for our iniquities are increased over our head, and our trespass is grown up unto the heavens. Since the days of our fathers have we been in a great trespass unto this day; and for our iniquities have we, our kings, and our priests, been delivered into the hand of the kings of the lands, to the sword, to captivity, and to a spoil, and to confusion of face, as it is this day.

And now for a little space grace hath been shewed from the LORD our God, to leave us a remnant to escape, and to give us a nail in his holy place, that our God may lighten our eyes, and give us a little reviving in our bondage. For we were bondmen; yet our God hath not forsaken us in our bondage, but hath extended mercy unto us in the sight of the kings of Persia, to give us a reviving, to set up the house of our God, and to repair the desolations thereof, and to give us a wall in Judah and in Jerusalem.

And now, O our God, what shall we say after this? for we have forsaken thy commandments, Which thou hast commanded by thy servants the prophets, saying, The land, unto which ye go to possess it, is an unclean land with the filthiness of the people of the lands, with their abominations, which have filled it from one end to another with their uncleanness.

Now therefore give not your daughters unto their sons, neither take their daughters unto your sons, nor seek their peace or their wealth for ever: that ye may be strong, and eat the good of the land, and leave it for an inheritance to your children for ever. And after all that is come upon us for our evil deeds, and for our great trespass, seeing that thou our God hast punished us less than our iniquities deserve, and hast given us such deliverance as this; Should we again break thy commandments, and join in affinity with the people of these abominations? wouldest not thou be angry with us till thou hadst consumed us, so that there should be no remnant nor escaping?

O LORD God of Israel, thou art righteous: for we remain yet escaped, as it is this day: behold, we are before thee in our trespasses: for we cannot stand before thee because of this.

**God's Plan** - But the more interesting point is the recurring Biblical theme of God's preserving a remnant for Himself. This message runs from Noah, to Lot's family, to the Israelites released from Egypt, up to Babylon. In the New Testament, Paul connects this theme to Christ by referring to believers as what in Romans 11:5? \_\_\_\_\_.

### **Nehemiah**

The Book continues with the restoration of the Jewish people to Jerusalem, telling of the rebuilding of the city walls. This Book reaffirms the Law. When the wall is completed, Ezra gathers the people and reads from the Book of Moses for 6 hours. (Nehemiah 8:1-8). This dedication can foreshadow Christ's reaffirmation of the Law, including his proclamation that he came not to abolish the Law, but to fulfill it. (Matthew 5:17-18). Many analogies regarding God's protection in the face of adversity may be drawn from the experience of the Israelites in rebuilding the Temple and the walls.

### **Esther**

Ezra and Nehemiah deal with those who returned after the exile, Esther records the events among the larger group that remains in the land of the Persians. This Book describes God's preservation and deliverance of the Jewish people from the threat of annihilation at the hands of an evil Persian official.

God is never directly mentioned in this Book.

**God's Plan** – This Book demonstrates the absolute sovereignty of God in bringing about His redemptive plan.

Esther's intercession for her people was not based upon their merit, but rather upon her love for them. Sound familiar?

### **Job**

We have recently finished a study in Job, so we won't spend much time here, but there are some things we just can't pass up. Remember, Job was at the time of Abraham – before Moses. Yet, we saw his recognition of certain things that can only come true through Christ: