

## “THE TYPOLOGY OF THE BIBLE” SERIES

### #3: “Types of Jesus” (Part 2)

SCRIPTURE: John 5:39-40

INTRO:

Last week we saw how Adam was a “type” of Christ:

- He was like Christ in his origin;
- He was like Christ in his likeness to God;
- He was like Christ in that he was the son of God;
- He was like Christ in that he was given authority or dominion over the earth;
- He was like Christ in that he gave up his life in order that the world could be saved;
- He was like Christ in that he was the father of all the people of the earth; and
- He was like Christ in that while his sin caused us all to be sinful, Christ’s sinlessness enables all of us to be righteous.

Before we move on to another “type” of Christ, I want to remind you of what Jesus himself said in John 5:39-40: *“You search the Scriptures, because you think you will find eternal life in them. The Scriptures tell about me, but you refuse to come to me for eternal life.”*

The first “type” of Christ I want to call to your attention today is Adam’s and Eve’s second son,

#### **ABEL.**

In Genesis 4:1-8, the Bible relates:

*Adam and Eve had a son. Then Eve said, “I’ll name him Cain because I got him with the help of the Lord.” Later she had another son and named him Abel.*

*Abel became a sheep farmer, but Cain farmed the land. One day, Cain gave part of his harvest to the Lord, and Abel also gave an offering to the Lord. He killed the first-born lamb from one of his sheep and gave the Lord the best parts of it. The Lord was pleased with Abel and his offering, but not with Cain and his offering. This made Cain so angry that he could not hide his feelings.*

*The Lord said to Cain: “What’s wrong with you? Why do you have such an angry look on your face? If you had done the right thing, you would be smiling. But you did the wrong thing, and now sin is waiting to attack you like a lion. Sin wants to destroy you, but don’t let it!”*

*Cain said to his brother Abel, “Let’s go for a walk.” And when they were out in field, Cain killed him.*

Abel is very much like Christ in many ways. Consider some of them with me...

**1. *Abel was totally innocent; he suffered for being righteous, for doing the right thing.***

Apparently, his offering complied with God's instructions, but Cain's did not. Perhaps the requirement was a lamb. Or maybe it was the first or best part of the flock or harvest. We don't know. What we do know is that Abel died for doing the right thing.

The New Testament, in Hebrews 4:15, tells us that Jesus was *"tempted in every way that we are. But he did not sin!"* In Luke 23:4, Pilate declared, *"I don't find him guilty of anything."* But he appeased the crowd and ordered him crucified anyway. Like Abel, Jesus suffered for being righteous.

**2. *Abel gave an offering that God was pleased with.***

The Bible says, *"The Lord was pleased with Abel and his offering..."*

Of Jesus, the New Testament records that after He was baptized, *"the Holy Spirit came down upon him in the form of a dove. A voice from heaven said, "you are my own dear Son, and I am pleased with you" (Luke 3:21-22).*

**3. *Abel was envied for his righteousness.***

Genesis 4:6 indicates that Cain was extremely jealous over God's acceptance of Abel's offering and His rejection of his offering. He killed his own brother out of envy.

The New Testament tells us in Matthew 27:18 that *"Pilate knew that the leaders had brought Jesus to him because they were jealous."*

So, both were envied because of their righteousness.

**4. *Abel was slain by his own brother.***

And who was it that plotted and schemed against Jesus and cried out to Pilate, *"Crucify him! Crucify him!"*? None other than his own Jewish brethren of the tribe of Judah!

**5. *Abel's slayer was punished with a sentence of a lifetime of wandering.***

Genesis 4:11-12 tells us that God told Cain:

*"...I'll put you under a curse. Because you killed Abel and made his blood run out on the ground, you will never be able to farm the land again. If you try to farm the land, it won't produce anything for you. From now on, you'll be without a home, and you'll spend the rest of your life wandering from place to place."*

And that's exactly what happened. He produced some outstanding descendants, such as Enoch and Lamech, but they were tent-dwellers, nomads who wandered from place to place.

What about those who killed Jesus? What was their punishment? It is well-documented that the Jews, who were under the thumb of Rome at the time, went without a land of their own until 1948, and even today, they must share it with the Palestinians.

Another "type" of Christ to consider is

### **MELCHIZEDEK.**

Hebrews 7:3 says of Melchizedek, *"He is like the Son of God and will be a priest forever."*

So, who is this *Melchizedek*? How is he a "type" of Christ?

Melchizedek is one of the mysterious characters of the Bible that appears and then disappears. He's first mentioned in Genesis 14:18-20, where Moses wrote that after Abram had defeated Chedorlaomer and some other kings, *"King Melchizedek of Salem (the city in Canaan that became Jerusalem) was a priest of God Most High. He brought out some bread and wine and said to Abram: 'I bless you in the name of God Most High, Creator of heaven and earth. All praise belongs to God Most High for helping you defeat your enemies.'* Then Abram gave Melchizedek a tenth of everything."

The name, Melchizedek, means "king of righteousness." His title, King of Salem, means "king of peace." As far as we know, since Palestine was first settled by descendants of Noah's son, Shem, later to be overrun by Canaanites, we can be relatively sure that Melchizedek was a descendant of Shem who retained the knowledge of and faithfulness to the one true God.

The Bible never mentions him again, until the Psalmist prophesies of the Messiah in Psalm 110:4, *"The Lord has made a promise that will never be broken: 'You will be a priest forever, just like Melchizedek.'"* Then, the writer of the New Testament book of Hebrews says of him in chapter 5, verses 10: *"...God chose him (Christ) to be a high priest like Melchizedek."*

So, Melchizedek was a "type" of Christ. How were they alike?

1. *Both appeared when Abraham's kindred were in trouble;*
2. *Both were kings of peace;*
3. *Both were kings of righteousness;*
4. *Both were kings of Salem/Jerusalem;*
5. *Both were priests and kings upon thrones;*

6. *Both served bread and wine;*
7. *Both were priests of the Most High God;*
8. *Both are priests forever (We have no record of Melchizedek's priesthood being terminated.);*
9. *Neither were of the Levitical lineage otherwise required;*
10. *Both have a priesthood superior to the Levitical;*
11. *Both are eternal (We have no record of Melchizedek's birth or death; he may have been translated into the presence of God as was Enoch.);*
12. *Both became priest by an oath or promise of God;*
13. *Both had untransferable priesthods;*
14. *Both received tithes;*
15. *Both transcend racial boundaries;*
16. *Both were the only priests of that order; and*
17. *Both could have had more said about them (See Hebrews 5:11; John 21:25.).*

Still another "type" of Christ is Abraham's son,

#### *ISAAC.*

The name Isaac, which means "he laughs," was derived from his parents' reaction when God told Abraham that he, at 100 years old, and his wife Sarah, at the age of 90, would have a son. Isaac was Abraham's second son; his first, Ishmael, was by Sarah's maidservant, Hagar, as a result of Sarah's impatience to give Abraham a family. As soon as Isaac was weaned, Sarah insisted that Abraham send Hagar and her son away, ensuring the family inheritance would go to Isaac.

As a teenager, Isaac was taken by his father up a mountain, Mount Moriah, where Abraham, in obedience to God, prepared to sacrifice him. Just before Abraham brought the knife to his throat, an angel of God cried out, "*Abraham! Abraham! Don't hurt the boy or harm him in any way! Now I know that you truly obey God, because you were willing to offer him your son*" (Genesis 22:11-12). So, Isaac grew up to become the father of Jacob, the progenitor of the children of Israel, the Jews, through whom the Messiah came.

That Isaac was a "type" of Christ, there can be no doubt.

1. *Both were children of promise: God promised Isaac to Abraham by a 90-year-old mother (Genesis 18:10) and through Isaiah, God promised "Immanuel" to the world by a teen-aged virgin (Isaiah 7:14).*
2. *Both their births were announced to their mothers (Genesis 18:14-15; Luke 1:31).*
3. *Both came at the divinely appointed time (Genesis 18:14; Galatians 4:4).*
4. *Both were pre-named by an angel (Genesis 17:19; Matthew 1:21).*

5. *Both were miraculously born, in that Isaac was born to a woman past the age of childbearing, and Jesus to a virgin (Genesis 21:2; Luke 1:34).*
6. *Both were only begotten sons (Genesis 22:2; John 3:16).*
7. *Both were dearly loved by their fathers (Genesis 22:2; John 3:16).*
8. *Both were hated by brothers without cause (Genesis 21:9; John 15:25).*
9. *Both were ordered sacrificed (Genesis 22:2; Luke 24:7).*
10. *Both were “sacrificial lambs” (Genesis 22:7; John 1:36).*
11. *Both went up a hill of Moriah (Genesis 22:2; Luke 23:33).*
12. *Two men were with them (Genesis 22:3; Luke 23:32).*
13. *Both carried their own wood (Genesis 22:3; Luke 23:26).*
14. *Both were dead in the minds of those who loved them three days (Genesis 22:4; Luke 24:46).*
15. *Both willfully offered himself (Genesis 22:9; John 10:18).*
16. *Both were raised from the dead, figuratively, for Isaac, actually, for Christ (Hebrews 11:19; 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 15:4).*
17. *Both were freely given by their fathers (Genesis 22:12; Romans 8:32).*

#### **CONCLUSION:**

Joseph is another “type” of Christ that we could consider, but I’ll not try to get into that today. I think you “get the drift,” so to speak, when it comes to these “types” and “anti-types” links between the Old and New Testaments.

**The Bible: It’s all about Jesus.**