

Lesson Seven

JESUS CHRIST IN THE BIBLE

Some have believed that the Bible is a record of man's religious discoveries, and of his progress as he gropes his way for a truer concept of God. This is not true. The Bible is the record of God's unfolding revelation of Himself and of His own entrance into the world as the God-man, Jesus Christ.

The Bible is God's portrait album, and although it contains portraits of many saints and sinners, there may be found on every page a portrait of Him. What we see when we open our Bible is "the face of Jesus Christ" (II Corinthians 5:6) "who is the image of the invisible God" (Colossians 1:15).

As the planets revolve around the sun, so the truths of the Bible may be said to revolve around Jesus Christ.

The Bible is the written Word; Jesus is the living Word. The entire written Word is centered around the living Word.

Jesus is the Author of the Bible. In every part of the Bible, we are introduced to the Author.

A. JESUS CHRIST IS IN OLD TESTAMENT PROPHECY:

"And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself" (Luke 24:27).

"To him give all the prophets witness, that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins" (Acts 10:43).

The Old Testament prophecies all point forward to Jesus Christ giving a great deal of information concerning His coming and His ministry. We shall content ourselves with just a few examples:

- Genesis 3:15—Seed of the woman.
- Isaiah 7:14—Virgin birth.
- Isaiah 53:1-12—Christ's sufferings at Calvary.

- Psalm 22:16-18—Piercing His hands and feet; Parting His garments.

There are altogether about one thousand prophecies in the Bible; about eight hundred in the Old Testament and about two hundred in the New Testament. Of those in the Old Testament, no less than three hundred and thirty-three center on Jesus Christ.

B. JESUS CHRIST IS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT TYPES:

The Old Testament is full of types of which Jesus Christ is almost always the anti-type. Again we shall not attempt in dealing with a large number of these but content ourselves with the consideration of a few examples.

1. JACOB'S LADDER (Genesis 28).

The word "ladder" really means "stair way." Jacob saw a stairway and angels ascending and descending. There is no other ladder in mentioned in Scripture. The ladder reached to God.

Jesus Christ is the Anti-type as explained in John 1:45-51. Jesus is the ladder by which God came down to man. God was on earth in Christ. If there is no virgin birth than God didn't come down.

Jesus could love you from Heaven, but He couldn't save you from there. The ladder touched earth and Heaven. It was set up on earth by way of the virgin birth. Then it touched Heaven by way of the ascension. Man can never enter Heaven in any other way.

2. THE BAZEN SERPENT (Numbers 21).

This is one of the types that Jesus pointed out to us (John 3:14-15). The Israelites were sinful and were murmuring against God. As judgment, fiery serpents were sent among them. When the people cried to Moses for aid, God instructed Moses to construct a serpent of brass and lift it up on a pole. All that was necessary was to look—"look and live."

There is no man or woman living who has not the poison of the serpent bite. We are sinners under the sentence and shadow of death. The poison of the serpent is the poison of sin.

Brass in the Scripture is typical of judgment. So the serpent of brass on the pole speaks of judgment. Christ was judged in our stead. The anti-type gives us judgment, for Christ on the cross was judged.

A look at the serpent on the pole brought life. The serpents brought death, but the look brought life.

3. MANNA (Exodus 16).

The manna was the wilderness food for the Israelites. Jesus Christ is the anti-type as stated in John 6:30-58.

Manna came down from Heaven. Christ is the bread that comes down from Heaven. They didn't have to understand the manna; all they had to do was eat. All we have to do is accept Christ; we don't have to understand. Manna rested on the earth only a little while; the thirty-three years of Christ's life was brief in the face of eternity. Manna came then and has never come since; Christ came once as a Savior.

The Old Testament is full of types pointing forward to Jesus Christ. It is possible to name a long list of such types: Adam, Aaron, Isaac, Jonah, Joseph, The Passover Lamb, The Cities of Refuge, The Tabernacle in the Wilderness, The High Priest and his garments, etc.

C. **JESUS CHRIST IS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT OFFERINGS AND SACRIFICES:**

Every offering and sacrifice, of which the Old Testament is full, points to Jesus Christ, from every conceivable point of view.

In Genesis we have the sacrifice for the individual—Isaac in Genesis 22:13.

In Exodus we have the sacrifice for the household—Passover in Exodus 12:3.

In Leviticus we have the sacrifice for the nation—Leviticus 4:13-15.

In John we have the sacrifice for the world—John 3:16.

D. **JESUS CHRIST IS IN THE NEW TESTAMENT:**

The entire New Testament is the record of the life and ministry of our Lord in bringing salvation to mankind. Each division of the New Testament gives us a different aspect of His life and ministry.

1. THE GOSPELS:

Matthew wrote for the Jews and set forth Jesus as King. Here God says to us, "Behold thy King" (Matthew 21:5).

Mark wrote for the Romans and sets forth Christ as the true Servant and Son of God. Here God says to us, “Behold My Servant” (Isaiah 42:1).

Luke wrote for the Greek and sets forth Christ as the Son of Man. Here God says to us, “Behold the Man” (Isaiah 40:9).

2. ACTS AND THE EPISTLES:

In the book of Acts and the Epistles we see Jesus Christ living and ministering to His church.

3. REVELATION:

In Revelation, Jesus Christ is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords. In fact, the entire prophecy is the “Revelation of Jesus Christ.”

SELF HELP TEST

LESSON SEVEN

1. Show clearly how Jesus Christ was revealed in the Old Testament prophecies.
Give at least TWO Scriptural References.

2. Show clearly how Jesus Christ was revealed in the Old Testament types. Give at least TWO Scriptural References.

3. Show clearly how Jesus Christ was revealed in the Old Testament Sacrifices.
Give at least TWO Scriptural References.

If you wish to obtain your AIS Bible and Theology Certificate or work toward your B.A. Degree from Indiana Bible College, complete this Self-Help Test as completely as possible and return it to: AIS, P.O. Box 47917 Indianapolis, IN 46247 or email it to: ais@apostolic.edu or fax it to: (317) 781-7700.

Bible Introduction