

Reading the OT Christologically

How Do All of the Scriptures
Point us to Christ?

Reading Christologically

- ◉ Christophanies
- ◉ Direct Predictions
- ◉ Thematic Fulfillment
- ◉ Historical-Redemptive Story
- ◉ Legitimate Types
- ◉ Jesus, the Ultimate Prophet

Christophanies

- ◉ Christophanies are pre-incarnate appearances of Jesus
 - Man Walking in Fire with Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah (Dan 3:24-25).
 - Angel of the LORD (Judges 13)

Christophanies

- ◉ Angel of the LORD is called Yahweh and Elohim.
- ◉ Angel of the LORD demands worship, while other angels forbid it.
- ◉ Angel of the LORD is distinct from God the Father.

Christophanies

- ◉ Angel of the LORD in OT theologically should be identified as Pre-existent Christ.
 - Jesus is the only visible manifestation of God (John 1:18).
 - The Angel of the LORD is only an OT phenomenon and never appears after Jesus is born in Bethlehem.

Direct Predictions

- Seed of the Woman (Gen 3:15)
- The descendant of Judah (Gen 49:10)
- Immanuel (Isaiah 7:14; 9:6)
- A Branch from the Root of Jesse (Isaiah 11)
- My Servant (Isaiah 53)
- My Servant, the Branch (Zech 3)
- A Ruler born in Bethlehem (Micah 5)
- A King Riding on a Colt (Zech 9)

Thematic Fulfillment

- ◉ The Presence of God
- ◉ Atonement by Sacrifice
- ◉ Redemption/Salvation
- ◉ The Kingdom of God
- ◉ The Providence of God
- ◉ Covenant
- ◉ Righteousness/Justice of God

Thematic Fulfillment

- ◉ Three Questions to Ask in an OT Text
 - What truth about God and his saving work is disclosed in this passage?
 - How is this particular truth carried forward in the progress of revelation?
 - How does it find fulfillment in Christ?

Historical-Redemptive Story

- ◉ Not every verse has to have a Christological meaning.
- ◉ But, every verse does fit into the overarching redemptive story that culminates in Christ.
- ◉ John 5:39-40
- ◉ Luke 24:25-27, 44
- ◉ Matthew 5:17

Historical-Redemptive Story

- Hosea – Jesus is the one who loves the unlovely and makes those who were not a people his people – see 1 Peter 2:10.
- Zephaniah – Jesus is the final judge on the last great Day of the Lord, who will separate the sheep from the goats (Matt 25; Acts 17:31)

Typology

- ◉ Type – a person, event, or institution that foreshadows and prefigures a higher and ultimate fulfillment of the pattern.
 - People
 - Events
 - Institutions

Typology

○ People

- Covenant Representatives all typify Jesus
 - Adam (Noah)
 - Abraham
 - Moses
 - David
- Joshua, the High Priest (Zechariah)
- Zerubbabel, the governor (Haggai 2:20-23)
- David (Hosea 3:5; Ezek 37: 24)

Typology

○ Events

- Jonah's Three Night Stay in the Fish
- Abraham out of Egypt; Israel out of Egypt; Jesus out of Egypt – completes the type
- Passover
- Return from Exile as a New Exodus, but prefiguring the Deliverance on the Cross

Typology

○ Institutions

- Israel
- The Temple
- The Priesthood
- The Sacrifices
- The Prophetic Office

Jesus, the Ultimate Prophet

- ◉ Jesus perfectly fulfills the prophetic office
 - Jesus faithfully represents God to the people in word and deed.
 - Jesus faithfully represents his people before God as intercessor and mediator.
 - Deuteronomy 18:15-19; Matt 21:11, 46