

PRECIOUS TRUTHS IN THE O.T. TYPES

I. INTRODUCTION

A. SOME DEFINITIONS CONCERNING A TYPE

1. A type can be a person, event or thing which is fashioned to resemble another.
2. These two counterparts are called the type and its antitype and the thing which binds them together is the points of similarity one with another.
3. A type is a divinely purposed prefiguration of a corresponding reality. This demands two essential elements:
 - a. First a type must be a divinely purposed prefiguration. It must involve more than the natural order of things and prefigure a certain truth or be prophetic of it. For example Joseph's life involved many natural things but it was an unnatural thing to be sold into Egypt.
 - b. Secondly a type must have a corresponding reality. This means it must have an antitype with some point of similarity.

B. SOME OF THE DIFFERENT KINDS OF TYPES

1. Types can be seen in certain O. T. personalities. Examples would be Isaac (Gen. 21-24), Joseph (Gen. 37), David (I Chron. 17:7).
2. Types can be seen in O.T. institutions and offices. Examples would be the mediatorship of Moses and the theocratic kingdom.
- 3 They can also be seen in O.T. events such as the wilderness wanderings and the waters of Marah.

4. Types can be seen in the actions of certain individuals such as the ministries of the O.T. high priest.
5. Finally types can be seen in certain places and objects of the O.T. such as Egypt or the Tabernacle.

C. SOME RULES FOR INTERPRETING TYPES•

1. We should determine what the N.T. establishes as a doctrine and view a type in light of its teaching.
2. We should realize that a type always prefigures something future and is predictive prophecy.
3. We should search the N.T. to find an antitype for the type under consideration.
4. We must realize while there are points of similarity between the type and its antitype there are also points of dissimilarity. Typical truth is to be found in the points of similarity.
5. We should determine what portions of a passage is typical and what portions are incidental. That which has no N. T. counterpart is incidental.

D. SOME CAUTIONS CONCERNING TYPES•

1. We must not build doctrine on the types. Doctrine should be built upon the truths which are clearly taught in the N. T.
2. We shouldn't try to find a N. T. counterpart for every detail in an O. T. type. Every O. T. type breaks down at some point. Therefore we should use a type to amplify only truth taught in the N. T. For example some of what is written about the tabernacle has no typical significance. The same thing is true of some of the actions of the priests and the elements of the sacrifices which were offered.

E. SOME REASONS FOR STUDYING TYPES•

1. Without seeing the various types of the O. T. the historical events, personal biographies and godly exhortations would be rather dry reading and often seem meaningless.
2. The prophetic element of the O. T. which is so many times fulfilled in the N. T. shows us a relationship that demands our investigation.
3. The Lord Jesus used the O. T. to teach the disciples about Himself (Luke 24:25-44).
4. The Lord Jesus exhorted men to search the Scriptures for Him and this is an invitation to us as well (Jn. 5:39-44).
5. The truth of the N. T. can be illustrated and amplified in the types of the O. T.
6. N. T. writers gave examples of Christ in the O. T. for us to see (Eph. 5:2; Heb. 9:9-11, 23,24; I Cor. 10:4).
And Christ can be seen thousands of times in the O. T.