



An Examination of Typology

Prophetic Images of the Future

The Use of Typology

- Related to symbolism, foreshadowing, etc.
- Seen by many as a danger — perhaps even invalid
 - Allegorical approaches and wild speculations
- Typology is not the same thing as allegory!
- “A figure... of something future...” (Bullinger)

The Use of Typology

- “...happening in history...to be a prophetic picture...”
(Jackson)
- They are found throughout the Scriptures
 - Hebrews has quite a bit of typology
- Hebrews 11 is the roll call of types
- They are pointing to Jesus

The Heroes of Faith

- Abel
- Enoch
- Noah
- Abraham
- Sarah
- Isaac
- Jacob
- Joseph
- Moses
- Various Others

NT Usage of Types

- Print/mark (John 20:25)
- Figure/image (Acts 7:43)
- Pattern (Acts 7:44)
- “Symptoms”
- Shadow (Hebrews 10:1)
- Copy (Hebrews 8:5)
- Parable (Hebrews 9:9)

Characteristics of Typology

- Make sure you avoid extremes!
- Firmly grounded in history: both type and antitype must be historical
- Notable correspondences: make sure you are not “forcing” these
- Intensification of ideas: graduation from type to antitype, lesser to greater

Categories of Typology

- Persons (Adam, Melchizedek, David, Moses)
- Places (Egypt, Jerusalem, Babylon)
- Things (Jacob's Ladder, Bronze Serpent, Tabernacle)
- Events (Creation, Flood, Manna)
- Offices (Prophet, Priest, King)
- Actions (Sacrifices, Cleansing)
- Institutions (Passover, Pentecost, Booths)

Example of Typology

- Look for the pattern in Creation itself: the waters are separated, the land is prepared, a Garden of Eden
- In Israel: the waters are separated, the land is entered, a land flowing with milk and honey
- In the church: through baptism we obtain an “inheritance” and we have fellowship with God
- We look for another “Garden of Eden,” an eternal city “which is to come.” (Hebrews 13:14)

Why Does This Matter?

- God is pointing us toward something
 - He revealed Himself over time
- Don't miss the forest for the trees
- The best is yet to come!



The 2 Samuel 7 Promise

- Make David's name great (9)
- Give David rest (10-11)
- Build a house / dynasty for David (11)
- Raise up David's seed (12)
- Establish kingdom of the seed (12-13)
- Have house built by the seed (13)
- Be father to the seed (14)
- Chastise the seed when he sins (14)
- Never remove hesed from the seed (15)
- House / dynasty / kingdom be forever (13, 16)

Who Fulfills 2 Samuel 7

- Solomon (1 Chron 22:6-10)
- Any king of Judah (Psalm 89)
- Jesus (Heb 1:5)
- All Christians (2 Cor 6:18; Rev 21:7)