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## Typological parallel interpretation of the bible

### Introduction

The coming of Jesus in the new testament is an event that had been foreshadowed by the Old Testament which forms the basis of the typology in the bible. Almost all the events in the new testament had been prophesized in the Old Testament. Therefore, we can say that a new testament is the confirmation of the promises made by God and prophets in the Old Testament. Understanding of the typology and interpretation of the Bible requires an analysis of the core events that took place to show the antitype and foreshadowing of Jesus Christ and other events that have been recorded in the New Testament.

Jesus had been ordained as the son of God from the beginning of scriptures and the New Testament, according to the fulfillment of the early scriptures of the Old Testament. Jesus' coming had been foreshadowed in the Old Testament on several occasions. Also, the origin of Jesus connects to the old prophets of the Old Testament such as David, Abraham, Moses to imply that Jesus' coming had been planned from the beginning of creation (Treier 16). Jesus existed from the beginning of time in the manifestation in human nature as it is described in the New Testament.

### **David's theme**

Jesus and David were closely connected; Jesus came from the lineage of David who was a Jew. The origin of Jesus from the Jewish community had foretold on the fulfillment of the

promise made to David that his generations would be blessed, (Luke 1:32) (Treier 17). Jesus was often referred to as the son of David (Luke 18:38). Through the birth of Jesus from David's lineage, it was easy to trace the ancestry of Jesus who was connected to people who had found favors well as obedient to God. The Jewish lineage did not begin from the Old Testament it had been there for generations, and they are people who followed the laws. Jesus and David had many similarities that showed that they were related; for instance, they were both born in Bethlehem. During his tender age David was the shepherd of his father (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 17:34), Jesus was also a good shepherd of His Father (John 10). Another similarity is that David was an excellent friend to Jonathan (1<sup>st</sup> Samuel 20) in the same way that Jesus is a true friend. Also, David had been subjected to many years of humiliation by Saul, but he was later given the throne of Israel in the same way that Jesus suffered persecution and finally crucified. In 2<sup>nd</sup> Samuel 15, it explains that his advisor Ahithophel had betrayed David in the same way that Jesus was betrayed by Judas (Psalms 41:9, John 13:18).

The similarities between Jesus and David show that David was very similar to Jesus, although, Jesus was greater than David. David depicted life is almost the same as of Jesus, this is because they were both led by God and they were destined for greatness in the kingdom of God. David symbolized the life of Jesus in the Old Testament, while Jesus was the new life in Christ and was the fulfillment of the earlier prophecies.

### **The Exodus theme and Moses**

In the Old Testament, there are many events of captivity a restoration (King James). The children of Israel had been captured, but through the mercies of God, they were re-released. During the birth of Jesus Joseph took Mary and Jesus into the land of Egypt as found in Mathew 2:15, but they later were taken out of Egypt. This event had been foreshadowed in Hoses 1:1

where it is told about a savior (King James). The Israelites are coming out of Egypt which is found in exodus implied exit of Jesus out of Egypt. The events that happened in the Old Testament had a meaning to the fulfillment of coming and teachings of the New Testament. Moses led the Israelites out of Egypt which implies Jesus would take people out of slavery and bring them new life. The Israelites had been under the ruling of Pharaoh in Egypt who had subjected them to a lot of bondage and persecutions, but Moses managed to take them off the hands of slavery and led them into Canaan, i.e. the Promised Land. In the same way, Jesus is to take the people out of sin and lead them into a new life of light which eventually grants the Christian the promised eternal life. Therefore, the exodus event was a foreshadow of the liberation of people from the slavery of sin through the fulfillment of the coming of Jesus Christ and conquering death.

During the release of Israelites from the enslavement by Pharaoh, they were ordered to sacrifice a lamb without blemish (1<sup>st</sup> Peter 1:19) and split the blood on the doorpost so that the angel of death would spare their children from death (King James). The use of the blood in this event symbolized the blood of Jesus on the cross which would save people from sin. The children of Israel were ordered to celebrate the Passover each year (Exodus 12:14). The keeping of the Passover was a reminder of how God had faithfully saved the children of Israel from slavery. On the other hand, the Passover feast was a foreshadower of the Passover lamb where Jesus was to save people from the slavery of sin through his blood. The event also symbolizes the Passover that was synonymous as in John 1:29 before the crucifixion of Jesus.

Moses made a clear connection between the Old Testament and the coming of Jesus. Moses was close to God, and he was given authority by God to lead the children of Israelites. At one point Moses was led into the wilderness by God. While in the desert Moses lifted a serpent

(Numbers 21:9) which was interpreted as a foreshadowed of the lifting of Jesus from the cross (Version, King James). Therefore, Moses had foreshadowed both the death and resurrection of Jesus as well as ascending up to heaven by God. The referenced verse is found in John 3:14 where it talks about Moses in the wilderness as the defeat of death by Jesus Christ. The suffering of Christians is remedied by Jesus through salvation. The coming of the Messiah had been compared because of his exceptional leadership and obedience to God. The old testament quotes that a prophet like Moses would come but more significant than Moses as recorded in Deuteronomy 18:18, this shows that the expected Messiah was to be more potent than Moses which indeed confirmed that Jesus was more powerful in the new testament. Jesus had supernatural powers that superseded that of Moses; for example, Jesus healed the such and raised the dead.

The birth of Jesus was the fulfillment of the prophecy that had been made in the Old Testament and it is found in Isaiah 7:14 where the delivery by a virgin woman had been predicted (King James). Therefore, Jesus being given birth by Mary was a fulfillment of the Old Testament which creates a connection between the Old and the New Testament. The prophecy about the birth of Jesus created anticipation where the people were looking forward to the fulfillment of the prophecies. During the prophesy the birth of Jesus had been labeled by the assigning of different names such as mighty counselor which were later confirmed to be right in the fulfillment of the New Testament. The prophecy of the birth of Jesus was meant to show that a great savior, and then the prophet of the ancient times was coming in fulfillment of the written scriptures.

### **The re-creation theme**

In the New Testament, Paul refers to Adam as a type of Christ which is recorded in Romans 5:14 where Paul explains about obedience to the Christians (King James). Paul says that Adam was a creator and so he has been granted a power by God to oversee all the other creations. Adam sinned by disobeying the rules given by God in the early times of creation which depicts that he was the person who introduced disobedience. But now Paul reassures the church that the coming of Christ implies a new beginning because Jesus was a symbol of obedience. Therefore, there is a connection between the obedience in the old era, and obedience in the new testament which is represented by Jesus Christ.

Additionally, Paul makes a link between the Old Testament and the New Testament as shown in the bible, verse of 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians 10:11, where Paul refers to the suffering of the children of Israel had to go through due to their disobedience to God.

In the same way, Christians of the new church are bound to suffering due to disobedience; Paul warns the church against disobedience. The typological connection is made between Adam and Jesus in that after the death of Adam Jesus comes to bring life and the redemption of life giving us a new life in Christ. Therefore, the falling of man at the beginning of the creation which symbolizes death creates a new path for the birth of the Messiah who would redeem man from sin and death.

In the New Testament, the writer of the book of Hebrew refers to Abraham as the type of Christ depicting that the coming of Christ had been foreshadowed through Abraham of the Old Testament. In Hebrew chapter 7, the writer of Hebrews refers to the priest-king of Salem, Melchizedek who worked with Abraham as the type of Christ who rules as a priest forever, this meant that Christ was to be the Priest forever (King James). Also, the Levitical day of atonement represented the Christ sacrificial ministries. This implies that the rituals that happened

in the Old Testament were a mirror of the things to come in the New Testament which had been fulfilled by the coming of Jesus Christ.

The mystery of Christ dying the death that incurred the divine curse as referenced in Deuteronomy 21:23 where the death of Christ in the New Testament is interpreted to imply the payment for the sins that had been committed by the sinners (King James). The death of Christ scripture in the Galatians 3:10 talks about the curses for those who do not follow the law, Christ bore the burden of the lawbreakers which is interpreted to mean the divine curse which had been documented in the Old Testament. Also, Hebrews 4:3 talks about rest which is interpreted to mean the resting of Christ after his creation as documented in Genesis 2:3.

While Jesus was executing his ministries, he questioned the understanding of the scriptures by the disciples. Jesus quotes the scripture in Isaiah 6:9 where it talks about the rejected stone that becomes the pillar of the house. In the same manner, Jesus wanted the disciples to understand that Jesus was the rejected stone and soon He was going to be the pillar of humanity. Given that Jesus was the pillar of the tower his ascendance to heaven would leave the disciples without a leader and, therefore, Jesus warns about this event by quoting the book of Zacharia 13:7, which warns the disciple of their splitting after the death of Jesus (King James). Jesus knew that the disciples would be faced by challenges upon his departure and, therefore, it was appropriate for the disciples to caution the disciples. The reference to the scripture in the Old Testament shows a typological connection of the Old and the New Testament.

In the Old Testament, the coming of Jesus had been foretold in Psalm 34:20 where it talks of the arrival of a righteous man who is declared righteous by faith and savior (King James). This scripture is a reference to the foreshadowing of the coming of Jesus in the New Testament who was indeed confirmed to be righteous, and he guarded his bones as found in John

19:36, the qualities of Jesus had been revealed to the psalmist in the Old Testament where they had a glimpse of the kind of Messiah they were expecting. The revealing of the coming of Messiah to the people of the Old Testament shows that the events of the new testament had been planned from the beginning of creation and each generation was being reminded of the coming of Messiah. The prophecies of the coming of Messiah recorded in the Old Testament were a preparation of the world towards receiving of Jesus who would bring the redemption of sins, it was necessary for God to inform the people of the old testament that there would be a savior who would come and redeem the world of sins.

In conclusion, the coming of Jesus which is the fulfillment of the Old Testament had been foreshadowed from the time of creation. All the great prophets of the Old Testament were aware of the coming of the Messiah, and they were eager to witness Him. Jesus brought redemption to humankind by taking away the burden of sin. The Old Testament stood in as a preparation for the coming of Jesus which was indeed fulfilled at the fullness of time. Jesus is the son of God and descended from the lineage of David born to virgin Mary, he became the savior of the world through his death and resurrection.

Works Cited

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