

Life of Joseph

Lessons in Humility, Leadership and Forgiveness

Old Testament References to Christ

- Jacob referred to the angel who redeemed him in Gen 48:16 and we noted that this was a reference to the pre-incarnate Christ.
- Jesus told the Jews that the Scriptures (Old Testament) testify about Him [John 5:39-47].
- On the road to Emmaus, Jesus explained the things about Him in the O.T. [Luke 24:25-27].
- In this study we will look at a number of O.T. passages that refer to Christ.
- Some are prophetic or typology looking forward to the coming Messiah (Christ).
- Some refer to appearances of the Son of God on the earth prior to His entrance into the world as a human in Bethlehem.
- Immediately after the fall of man, God tells Satan about the “seed of the woman” who would crush his head [Gen 3:14-15].
- God told Abraham that “in you all the families of the earth will be blessed” and “in your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed” [Gen 12:3; 22:18; Gal 3:8-16].
- When Israel was being attacked by serpents, Moses made a bronze serpent so that those who were bit by a serpent could look on it and live [Num 21:6-9; John 3:14-15].
- In the 2nd giving of the Law, Moses said the Lord would raise up a prophet like him from among the Jews [Deut 18:15; John 1:45].
- Joshua fell on his face when he met the Captain of the Lord’s hosts [Josh 5:13-15].
- Boaz is a type of Christ in that he was the kinsman redeemer in the book of Ruth.
- Jonah’s three days and nights inside the whale [Jonah 1:17] was a type of Christ’s three days in the grave [Matt 12:39-40].
- Job said that he knew his Redeemer was alive and at the last would take His stand on the earth [Job 19:25].
- Nathan told David that his house and his kingdom would endure before God forever and his throne would be established forever [2 Sam 7:16].
- Israel was promised that their King would come humbly riding on a donkey [Zech 9:9].
- Isaiah spoke of the one who would come to free the captives [Isa 61:1-2; Luke 4:17-21].
- Israel was told that in the end times they will weep for the One whom they had pierced [Zech 12:10; John 19:37].

- David prophesied a number of times about Christ in his Psalms...
 - The begetting of Christ [Ps 2:7-9; Acts 13:32-33].
 - Christ's betrayal [Ps 41:9; John 13:18].
 - Christ at the Cross [Ps 22:1, 16-18; 34:20; John 19:24, 36].
 - Christ's resurrection [Ps 16:10; Acts 13:35-37].
- God promised to provide a sign for Israel in which a virgin would give birth to a child whose name would be Immanuel (God with us) [Isa 7:14].
- God promised that One from the days of eternity would come forth from Bethlehem to be a ruler of Israel [Micah 5:2].
- Isaiah spoke of the Branch of the Lord who would one day come [Isa 4:2].
- He later clarified that this Branch will be a shoot of Jesse [Isa 11:1-5].
- That shoot would be an innocent Lamb who would render Himself as a guilt offering and bear the sins of many [Isa 53:1-12].
- Jeremiah spoke of the Branch of David who would one day reign [Jer 23:5-6; 33:15-16].
- That Branch would be both King and Priest simultaneously [Zech 6:12-13].
- The angel of the Lord admonished Joshua the high priest and spoke of the Branch that the Father would bring in [Zech 3:1-10].
- This passage and other passages in the Old Testament where The Angel of the Lord appears are all references to the Son of God [Gen 16:5-13; 22:9-17; Exod 3:1-6; Num 22:22-35; Judg 2:1-5; 6:11-23; 13:1-24; 1 Kgs 19:1-8; 2 Kgs 1:1-16; 1 Chr 21:5-30; Ps 34:7; Ps 35:1-6; Zech 1:7-21; 12:8].
- As we can easily see, Jesus Christ can be found in many passages of the Old Testament.
- In fact, the entire Old Testament points us to Christ [Gal 3:24].
- So, never let anyone tell you that the Old Testament is not important for us today.