

CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

LUKE 24:27; 44-45 • TV184B

A television broadcast sermon delivered
SUNDAY, JANUARY 2ND, 1983
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Transcribed, edited and published
DECEMBER 8TH, 2012

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Zebulon Baptist Church
6088 Zebulon Highway
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“And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning himself. And he said unto them, These are the words which I spake unto you, while I was yet with you, that all things must be fulfilled, which were written in the law of Moses, and in the prophets, and in the psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding, that they might understand the scriptures.”

This just possibly could be the most important message that you will ever hear. I do say, if you listen carefully, and God the Holy Spirit is pleased to bless it to your understanding and to your faith, it will be one of the most helpful messages that you have ever heard.

My subject today is: **CHRIST IN THE OLD TESTAMENT.**

I am reading from the book of **Luke, chapter 24, and verse 27.** Now, these are the words of our Lord Jesus Christ. He is speaking to His disciples after He had been crucified and raised from the tomb: He says to them; *“Beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he expounded unto them in all the Scriptures, the things concerning himself.”*

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This is what he said in **verses 44-45**; *“These are the words that I spake unto you while I was yet with you that all things must be fulfilled which are written in the law of Moses, (now that’s the first five Books of the Bible), and in the prophets, (that’s all of the prophets), and in the Psalms concerning me, the things which are written in the law of Moses, in the prophets, and in the Psalms, concerning me. Then opened he their understanding that they might understand the Scriptures.”*

Now, the New Testament was not then written. So, the Scriptures are referring to the Old Testament, not the New Testament at all, but the Old Testament. In fact, my friends, almost every reference to the Scriptures in the New Testament is a reference to the Old Testament Scriptures, **Genesis through Malachi**, and the **39 Books**. Almost every reference in the New Testament is referring back to the Old Testament.

Now, the scriptures of the Old Testament are full of promises and the prophecies. The Old Testament is full of prophecies, the patterns, the types, the ceremonies, and the sacrifices.

The history of the Jewish nation from Abraham to John the Baptist is especially marked by one thing. Do you know what that one thing is? I am saying that the promises, all of them in the Old Testament, in the prophecies, the types, patterns, pictures, shadows, ceremonies, and sacrifices, and the history of the Jewish people from Abraham to John the Baptist, is especially marked by one thing. Do you know what it is? It is the coming of the Messiah, the coming of the Christ. That’s right!

All the way through, Moses called him *“that prophet.”* He said, *“God will raise up from among the brethren, a prophet; him ye shall hear.”* Ruth called him the *“kinsmen redeemer.”* David called him the King, *“the King who shall sit upon the throne.”*

Solomon called him *“my beloved.”* Isaiah called him *“Wonderful, Counselor, the Mighty God, the everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.”* Jeremiah called Him *“the branch, the Lord our righteousness.”* All the way through the Old Testament He is called *“the Messiah, and the Christ.”*

The Jewish people of the Old Testament and the Jewish people in the New Testament looked for the coming of the Christ, the Messiah. That’s right, they looked for his coming.

In **John 1:41**, Andrew was looking for the coming of the Messiah. Now listen to this in **John 1:41**; *Andrew findeth his brother Simon and said to him; we have found the Messiah, (of whom Moses wrote and David wrote) which is being interpreted, the Christ; (the expected one).*

When our Lord came to the well at Samaria and talked to the woman of Samaria, she finally said to Him; *“I know that when the Messiah comes.”* Here is an ordinary woman. She is not a leader. She is a woman that had been married 5 times and was living with a man who was not her husband.

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She was a very lonely person and an outcast. She was a Samaritan, not even a Jew, but a Samaritan. She was looking for the Messiah. She was looking for the Christ. She knew something about the Old Testament Scriptures, evidently, from her parents or from the Pharisees who taught in the temple, and the Sadducees. She was looking for the Messiah.

There was a man called Simon in the temple. When Mary and Joseph brought the child Jesus to the temple, Simeon was looking for the Messiah. He was looking, the Scripture says, *“for the consolation of Israel.”* He was looking for the Christ.

All Israel looked for the Redeemer. All Israel looked for the Christ. All Israel looked for the Messiah. All Israel looked for the one who would come. He was called the Emancipator, the Redeemer, the Deliverer and the Saviour.

Now, that is what the Old Testament is all about, every promise, prophecy, picture, and pattern is about the coming Christ, the coming Redeemer, and the coming Saviour of Israel, the coming King.

I believe and this is what I am teaching; this is what the New Testament teaches. I believe that every promise of the Old Testament and every prophecy and every picture of the Messiah, the Christ, that prophet, the kinsmen redeemer, is fulfilled in Jesus of Nazareth who was born of Mary, who lived on this earth 33 ½ years. He was crucified on a Roman cross and who was buried and who rose again. His birth, His life, His death, His resurrection, and His ascension are a fulfillment of every picture, pattern, promise, and prophecy of the Messiah, the Christ, the Redeemer of the Old Testament.

That is what the angel said to Joseph in **Matthew chapter 1**, he said to him; *“Joseph; fear not but take unto thee Mary to be thy wife for that which is conceived in her is of the Holy Ghost. She is with child of the Holy Ghost. She shall bring forth a son and thou shalt call his name Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins.”*

This is accomplishing what was written by the prophet Isaiah when he said, *“behold; a virgin shall be with child and thou shalt call his name Immanuel, which is being interpreted (God with us).”* Jesus Christ is the fulfillment of the Messianic prophecy of **Isaiah 7:14**.

This is also what Philip said to the eunuch. The eunuch had been to Jerusalem to worship. He was a renowned, important man of Ethiopia. He was the treasurer of all of Ethiopia. He had gone to Jerusalem to worship.

On his way back to Ethiopia he was sitting in his chariot reading the prophet Isaiah, the Old Testament prophet. Philip came along side the chariot and joined himself to the caravan and was listening to the man read or watching him read.

Philip asked him this question: *“Do you understand what you are reading?”* He was reading **Isaiah 53** in the Old Testament Scripture. The man said, *“No; I do not understand. How can I understand except some man show me?”*

He said, *“Does the prophet speak of himself or some other man? Of whom does the prophet speak?”* Philip sat down beside him and began at the same Scripture *“and preached unto him Jesus of Nazareth.”*

Philip says that Jesus Christ, Jesus of Nazareth, is the Christ, He is the Messiah. He is the one of whom Isaiah wrote. He is the expected one; He has come.

This is what Peter said at Pentecost when he preached to the thousands of Pentecost's, those Jews who would gather there from every nation under heaven, for that special feast at Pentecost. He said; *“This Jesus whom you crucified is none other than the Lord and the Christ whom God sent. God hath made him both Lord and Christ.”* That is what Peter said to them, He is the fulfillment of the Scripture; he is the Christ.

Now, this is what Paul preached. I want you to listen carefully to two Scriptures that I am going to read, one from **Acts 17: verses 2 and 3**, and the other from **Acts 18**.

Now listen to **Acts 17:2-3**: *“And Paul, as his manner was, went in unto them, and three sabbath days reasoned with them out of the scriptures, opening and alleging, that Christ must needs have suffered, and risen again from the dead; and that this Jesus, whom I preach unto you, is Christ.”*

That is what Paul preached. He reasoned three Sabbath days; he said, *“The Christ for whom you look has come. The Messiah whom you expect has come. He is none other than Jesus of Nazareth whom you crucified.”*

In **Acts Chapter 18:28**, the Scripture says; *“and he mightily, (this is in Achaia) and he mightily convinced the Jews and that publicly, showing by the Old Testament Scriptures, that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ.”*

My friends, God has never had but one way of saving sinners. Our Lord said, *“Abraham saw my day and was glad.”* He said, *“Moses wrote of me,”* all the way through the Scriptures from **Genesis to Revelation** the Lord Jesus Christ is the revealed way of salvation.

I know that people today have divided the Scriptures up into what they call “dispensation.” There are dispensations. There are different ways that God has revealed himself. But He always reveals the same message, grace and mercy through Christ, and salvation by the blood.

Leviticus says, *“It is the blood that maketh atonement for the soul. I have given it to you upon the altar to make atonement for your soul.”* In **Hebrews 9:22** it says the same thing; *“without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins.”*

Moses was saved by looking for the coming Redeemer. We are saved by looking back to the Redeemer who has come. So, all the way through the Old Testament the Christ is promised, the Christ is pictured. The Messiah, the Christ, is prophesied. Every type, ceremony and sacrifice points to him.

What I am saying is that Jesus of Nazareth, the son of Mary, virgin born, the one who died on Calvary's cross, which was buried and rose again, is the Christ; He is the Messiah, He is the Redeemer.

Now, let's go back and see if we can make good on that. Let's look at the prophecies:

First of all: The first prophecy concerning the Christ, the Messiah, and the Redeemer is found in **Genesis 3:15**, when Adam and Eve being tempted of Satan who used the serpent, fell in the Garden of Eden.

God had several things to say and this is what He proclaimed. This is the first announcement of the Christ, the Messiah. He tells us that this Christ, this Redeemer, this Messiah, "*will be of the seed of woman.*"

He will come into this world, not riding on a white horse. He will come into this world, not riding on a chariot of fire; He will come into this world, this Christ, this Messiah, from the womb of a woman. That is how He is to come into this world.

He will not come the first time when every eye will see Him. The only one who saw him was the midwife who helped deliver Him. He came into this world as a baby from the womb of a woman. That is what it says in **Genesis 3:15**.

He said to the serpent; "*I will put enmity between thee and the woman, between thy seed and her seed, (the seed of woman), and he will crush your head (your power). You will bruise his heel, (the lowest part of his humanity).*"

"He will be crucified on a cross and suffer but His power will not diminish. His power will be accomplished; His victory will be accomplished. Your power will be broken by his death. By your bruising His heel, He will conquer your power. He will destroy your head."

When Eve gave birth to Cain in **Genesis 4: 1 and 2**; the Scripture says; "*Adam knew Eve his wife; she conceived and bare a son.*" Do you know what her first words were when that little baby came forth from her womb, that little boy?

She saw that man child and she said, "*I have gotten the man from the Lord;* (I have gotten the man, the man with the help of the Lord. Here He is, here is the Christ, and here is the Messiah)."

We know that it wasn't so but she thought it was. She thought that first man was come to restore them back to favor, to restore them back to holiness, to restore them back to glory, which they had lost by their fall.

But the man that came was not the man Christ Jesus because Isaiah said; "*He will be born of a woman (but not a married woman and not with the help of a man). He will be born of a virgin and conceived by the Holy Ghost.*"

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You see, Christ could not be Joseph's son because he would be partaking of Adam's sin. Cain was born in the image of his father. Jesus Christ was born of the virgin.

The Christ, will come into this world from the womb of a woman, just like you and I are born, but without the help of man, without the assistance of man. He will be the Son of God, the holy one of God. He will come from a woman.

Secondly: The next revelation said that he would be "*the seed of Abraham,*" a Jew. That's right; Abraham, the seed of Abraham.

God said in **Genesis 12**: "*I will multiply your seed like the sand of the seashore and the stars of heaven.*" He said, "*I will bless you and make you a blessing to all nations, for coming forth from your seed will be the redeemer, the Messiah.*"

Listen to **Galatians 3:16**: "*Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, and to seeds, as of many; but as of one, and to thy seed, which is Christ.*" Not only in Abraham, but, "*in Isaac shalt thy seed be called,*" not the son of Ishmael but the son of Isaac.

You see, Isaac was supernaturally born to Abraham and Sarah. He is a picture of Christ. Abraham was 100 and his wife was 90 before the child Isaac was conceived, a miraculous child. Even so, was Christ; He was brought forth by the power of God from a dead womb.

Thirdly: The third revelation. He will come from a woman, a virgin woman. He will be the seed of Abraham, through Isaac. The third revelation was that He should be from the tribe of Judah.

Now, Jacob had 12 sons but Judah is the tribe from which Christ would be born. As God narrows this down (if you will read the Scriptures, with an open heart as the Spirit of God teaches you); He will show you that Jesus of Nazareth is the Christ, the tribe of Judah.

He says in **Genesis 49:10**, when Jacob was blessing the 12 sons; "*the scepter shall not depart from Judah, (the scepter, the sign of power and kingship), shall not depart from Judah until Shiloh comes. Unto him shall the gathering of the people be.*" He will be the King, the one who comes from Judah. In **Hebrews 7:14**, it says; "*it is evident that our Lord sprang out of the tribe of Judah.*"

Then, you will not only come from the tribe of Judah but the next prophecy says in **Isaiah 11:1**, "*He will come from the family of Jesse.*" Jesse was David's father, the family of Jesse; it was not just any family in the tribe of Judah but the family of Jesse, not only from the family of Jesse but the seed of David.

The Lord Jesus Christ one day asked the Pharisees; "*what think ye of the Christ; whose son is he?*" They replied; "*The son of David.*" Do you remember when blind Bartimaeus cried for help? He said; "*Jesus, thy son of David.*" He recognized Jesus of Nazareth was the Messiah.

These Pharisees knew that, these Sadducees who rejected Him and called for His death. They knew that the Messiah would be of the tribe of Judah, the family of Jesse, and the household of David.

Did you know that Mary was of the house and lineage of David? That is the reason that she and Joseph went to Bethlehem to be taxed. That was their capital city. She was of the household of David.

Our Lord said to those Pharisees; *“what think ye of the Christ; whose son is he?”* They said, *“The son of David.”* They were exactly right!

Then, the place of his birth was foretold in **Micah Chapter 5:2**; these are all Old Testament Scriptures regarding the Christ, the Messiah. *“But thou Bethlehem; though thou be little among the thousands, yet out of thee shall he come forth unto me, the ruler of Israel, whose goings forth have been from of old, from everlasting.”* This is where the Messiah would be born, in Bethlehem.

Then, there is the lowliness of his birth; how was Jesus of Nazareth born? There was no room in the inn; he was born in a cow stable and laid in a manger surrounded by shepherds, cattle, and sheep.

Listen to **Isaiah 53:1**: *“He was despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows acquainted with grief. He shall grow up as a tender plant, as a root out of a dry ground. He has neither form nor comeliness, no beauty that we should desire him, (very poor, and lowly).”*

Zechariah said, *“Behold your King cometh riding upon an ass (riding upon an ass!)”* He was not in a chariot, not on a great stallion, not surrounded by satin and silk and all the finery of the kingship; no, he will come lowly, be born that way and live that way.

Then, His death; if you will read **Psalms 22**; (I wish every one of you would read the **22nd Psalm**). Here is David writing hundreds of years before Jesus of Nazareth died on that cross, hundreds of years before.

This is a Messianic Psalm. You preachers know what a Messianic Psalm is and some of the rest of you do. But, **Psalms 22**; I want you to listen to it, He said, *“My God, my God, why hast thou forsaken me? why art thou so far from helping me, and from the words of my roaring? O my God, I cry in the daytime, but thou hearest not; and in the night season, and am not silent. But thou art holy, O thou that inhabitest the praises of Israel. Our fathers trusted in thee: they trusted, and thou didst deliver them. They cried unto thee, and were delivered: they trusted in thee, and were not confounded. But I am a worm, and no man; a reproach of men, and despised of the people. All they that see me laugh me to scorn: they shoot out the lip, they shake the head, saying, He trusted on the LORD that he would deliver him: let him deliver him, seeing he delighted in him”*.

That is what they said about the cross.

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Another thing he said was; *“they pierced my hands and feet.”* David never had his hands and feet pierced. David was not writing about himself. He said; *“They cast lots for my garments.”* When did they ever cast lots for David’s garments?

He was writing under Holy Spirit inspiration; it was God breathed. He was writing prophecies concerning the Messiah. Every one of these things was fulfilled. *“They gave me vinegar to drink and gall.”* That is Christ on the cross.

The whole **22nd Psalm** is Jesus of Nazareth hanging on a cross, the very words that He spoke. This was written in the Old Testament hundreds of years before Christ came. I am saying that Jesus of Nazareth is the fulfillment of every prophecy, promise, and picture of the Messiah, the Christ, in the Old Testament.

Even His burial; it says in **Isaiah 53:9**: *“He made his grave (or his death) with the wicked and with the rich in his death.”* He hung between two thieves. This is talking about the Redeemer, the Messiah and the Christ.

“With the rich in his death;” how do you find this, where did the rich come into his death? In **Matthew Chapter 27:59** there was a rich man called Joseph of Arimathea that came to Pilate and asked if he could have the body of Jesus of Nazareth.

This rich man of Arimathea by the name of Joseph took His body down from the cross and took it and buried that body in his own tomb in which man had never been buried.

His resurrection is prophesied by Jonah. *“As Jonah was three days and three nights in the belly of the fish, so shall the son of man be three days and three nights in the heart of the earth.”*

There you have through the Old Testament; He will be the seed of woman. He will be the seed of Abraham through Isaac. He will be the seed of a virgin woman. He will be from the tribe of Judah, the family of Jesse and the household of David.

He shall be lowly in His birth and in His life. He shall die on a cross. He shall be forsaken of his own, despised and betrayed by His own disciple and sold for 30 pieces of silver.

His hands and feet will be nailed to a cross. He will be taken down and buried in a rich man’s tomb and he will rise again on the third day. That is all fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ. He is the Messiah.

Now; you can take the tabernacle in the wilderness; this is the second thing.

The worship of God took place and was centered on that tabernacle in the wilderness. The Jewish people, when they came out of Egypt and were going to the Promise Land; their whole worship centered about that tabernacle.

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That tabernacle is Christ. That tabernacle is where God met men and men met God. In itself, it is a picture of Jesus Christ.

Then, in its design, you can take the tabernacle; it was only 45 feet long by 15 feet wide. It wasn't a very impressive building, not on the outside. But, on the inside, it was gold, and silver, and beauty.

On the outside it was covered with rough badger skin. This is a picture of Jesus of Nazareth. On the outside He looked like any other man, *"no form, no comeliness, and no beauty that we should desire him."* But, on the inside, He was holy, pure, and spotless, the Lamb of God.

There were four coverings on that tabernacle. There was the white linen on the inside. Then, there was the goat's skin, which is Christ our scape-goat. Then, there was the lamb's skin died red, which was symbolic of His blood. Then, there was the dark brown badger skin that covered it.

When you stood off and looked at that tabernacle, you thought; that's a common tent; that's a common tabernacle; there is nothing there. But, when you walked on the inside, on the inside, there was the gold, the beauty, the very cleanliness, and the very presence and power of God. That is all fulfilled in Jesus Christ the Lord.

In its sacrifices, you can come to the tabernacle and here is the altar, the altar of burnt offerings. That is where the priest would bring the lamb, slay it and burn its body and take its blood and start for the tabernacle.

Christ suffered outside the gate, outside the walls. His body was suffering for the burning of God's wrath, for the burning of sufferings. He cried; *"I thirst."*

Then, the priest would come to the laver where he washed his hands and he washed his feet. That is sanctification in Christ.

He would go inside, inside the tabernacle in the holy place over here with a candlestick, seven of them, Christ the Light of the world. Over here was the showbread, Christ, the Bread of life.

Just before the veil was the altar of incense. That is the prayers of Christ that ascend for His people all the time.

Then, under the veil, into the Holy of Holies was the mercy seat over the ark. There the blood was put on the mercy seat. As that high priest entered into the holy place made with hands, *"even so Christ, entered the holy place not made with hands, into heaven itself, not with the blood of an animal but with his own precious blood."*

These priests were all pictures of Jesus Christ. There were many of them; He only one. They served a short time, only a lifetime; *"he is an eternal priest after the order of Melchisedek."*

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They offered many sacrifices; He offered only one. They offered animal sacrifices; He offered His own blood. Their sacrifices could not save; *“he sanctified forever those whom he represented.”*

They always stood. There was not a chair in that tabernacle, they never sat down. *“He sat down on the right hand of God.”* They went behind the veil; *“he tore the veil into and went into the very presence of God.”*

If you will go through the Old Testament, you will see Christ on every page. When Adam and Eve sinned in the Garden of Eden, they stood naked. They were trying to cover their nakedness with fig leaves. God slew an animal and took the skin of that animal and covered their nakedness.

Even so, our Lord Jesus Christ, the innocent died for the guilty. He shed His blood and covered us with His righteousness.

When Abraham took Isaac on the top of Mount Mariah and put him on the altar and would have sacrificed his son, God said; *“touch not the lad.”*

Here was a lamb caught in the thicket by its horn. He took Isaac off the altar and put the ram in his place and the lamb died for Isaac. Christ died for us.

There was the Passover in Egypt. When God would deliver Israel out of Egypt, He told them to slay a lamb and put its blood on the door. He said, *“When I see the blood I will pass over you.”* Christ is our Passover.

When the people needed water in the wilderness and God told Moses to smite the rock and the rock gave forth that thirst-quenching, clear, crystal, water, and they drank thereof, *“that rock followed them.”* In **1 Corinthians 10** it says; *“That rock was Christ.”*

The brazen serpent lifted up, made in the form and likeness of the serpent that had bitten the people, that is a picture of Christ.

My friend; the Old Testament testifies of Jesus Christ the Saviour of sinners; the seed of woman, He destroyed the power of Satan.

In him the day has come that Abraham foresaw, of which Moses wrote. In Him we see the Lion of Judah, the Lamb of God, the branch of Jesse, the seed of David.

He appears as the bread from heaven, the living water, and the high priest *“after the order of Melchisedek.”*

He is the sin-offering, the atonement and the mercy seat. His untold sufferings have secured the full redemption of His people. His righteousness is sufficient and His intercession is eternal. *“He is the Lamb that taketh away the sin of the world.”*

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In him is fulfilled that ancient prophecy; *“behold your God.”* Christ is the Scriptures. *“He died for our sins according to the scriptures: Was buried and rose again according to the Scriptures,”* the Old Testament Scriptures!