

Jesus in Exodus Part 1

Since you have seen the three main ways we see Christ in Genesis, we will proceed to Exodus and cover the revelations in order without separating them by category. Now that we have these fundamentals in place, we'll move along at a faster pace. Exodus is known as the Book of Redemption. The spiritual significance is quite obvious with Israel as the people of God, Moses the Deliverer, and Egypt representing the world.

In this analogy the only One who can deliver us from bondage to sin is of course, Jesus the Christ. **Moses**, the prominent figure of Exodus, is clearly a shadow of Christ. In rabbinical writings one of the most common parallels is that of Moses and the Messiah. The reason for this is the prophetic word of Moses in Deuteronomy 18:15,18,19. Some Rabbis believe this refers to Joshua but many see it predicting the Messiah. The prophecy indicates that He will speak in the name of God and with His authority. An interesting quote from the Targums in reference to this prophecy alludes to the virgin birth. "A prophet I will raise up from amongst your brethren through the Holy Spirit."

The similarities begin with his birth amidst the slaying of many infants, he alone being spared. It continues with him fleeing the death threat of the ruling power. When Moses arrived in Midian, he drove off shepherds that were keeping the people from the water. That sounds like Jesus' interaction with the Pharisees. He heard God's voice at the Burning Bush and begins his role as the Deliverer and Leader of his people. With Christ it was at the baptism by John and also hearing the voice of God. "Thou art my beloved Son ..." Moses returned to Egypt on a donkey...Christ enters Jerusalem on a donkey.

Moses was familiar with two worlds, Egypt and Israelite culture. Jesus is familiar with earth and heaven. Moses led the people to a place that looked like death. Jesus leads us to death to ourselves. The people were in a sense baptized in the Red Sea. 1Corinthians 10:1,2 He led them to bitter water but makes it sweet. Is that not true of Christ in your life, leading you through difficult experiences that are made sweet with His presence? He gave them the words of God from the mountain. That reminds us of the Sermon on the Mount. He interceded over and over for the people. Christ ever lives to make intercession for us. He brought them to the Promised Land. Christ guides us to a Promised Land here in this life in the Spirit and to our eternal Promised Land in heaven. Hebrews 12:22 He married a Cushite which caused a family dispute. Numbers 12:1 The bride of Christ includes Gentiles which caused a dispute with the early Jewish Christians. Moses was the most humble man on the face of the earth. Numbers 12:3 compare to Philippians 2:5-8. I'm sure I'm missing many other comparisons. Why not take the time to look for a few of your own?

The Burning Bush

This is a theophany that is not a bodily form. Exodus 3:1-7 Notice the reference to the Angel of the LORD in verse two. Here we see a visible manifestation of God that communicated the will and calling of God to Moses. It's a common little thorn bush ablaze with the glory of God. What a picture of the incarnation!

1John 1:1 The Word of Life was visibly manifested in the body of Jesus. In Exodus 3:14, when Moses asks His name, He says, "I am that I am". You see this name again in the seven (the number implies perfect, complete) "I am" of the book of John. They include the Bread of Life, Light of the World, the Door, the Good Shepherd, the Resurrection and the Life, the Way the Truth and the Life, and the True Vine. When the women at the well asked about the Messiah Jesus response was "I am He" In the Greek it is simply – "I Am!" Speaking to the religious leaders He said, "Before Abraham was, I AM" John 8:58. The verse that follows says they took up stones to stone Him. They knew perfectly well the claim He was making. When the soldiers came to arrest him and asked for Jesus of Nazareth, He responded the same way, "I AM". The force of that is what knocked them to the ground.

We'll save the items of Passover for the next chapter and go on to the next types.

The Living Bread

Exodus 16:4 "Behold I will rain bread from heaven for you." Jesus clearly taught that He was the true bread from heaven. John 6:48-51 This was the same bread of the Passover feast Jesus celebrated with his disciples. Matthew 26:26-28_Just as Israel had to daily gather the manna for themselves, so we too must daily feed upon Christ. Have you developed a habit of feeding your soul daily?

The Rock

Compare Exodus 17:6 with 1Corinthians 10:4. The LORD is called our ROCK in Scripture. God gave the command for Him to be stricken. See Isaiah 53:4. He was a river of life poured out. Just as the water from the rock gave life to the people, so the water, Jesus, gives spiritual life to those dying in sin. The second time there was need for water Moses was told to speak to the rock. Instead he smote the Rock twice. What a wonderful analogy! Since Christ has been stricken by God for our sins, we now need but ask for His living water. But Moses ruined the picture in disobedience, and because of that, He was not allowed to enter the Promised Land. That water that came from the Rock is also a type of Christ. Jesus does not give us 'things' that meet our need, He gives us Himself.

The Law

The Law is a shadow of the good things to come and all good things are summed up in the Son. Just as the Law was given by Moses, grace and truth came by Jesus Christ. The Law told us what was required by God and Jesus met that requirement. Just as Moses gave us the Laws, Jesus gave us a new command. The hundreds of rules became one great command, Love.

We will go on to look at Jesus in the Passover in the next chapter and after that, Jesus in the Tabernacle. Are you daily gathering the Bread which came down from heaven? Are you standing on the unshakable Rock and asking Him for your daily supply of life giving water? Is the new command on your heart and mind and lips, just as the Law was suppose to be to the Israelites?