



THE BELL

July 2022

Gather, Love, Serve, Impact

Typology of the Bible

When I was younger, my mother would remark occasionally, “You’re just like your dad.”

Thankfully, she nearly always meant it in a positive way. More recently, with the birth of our second son, Nate, both my wife and my mother have commented at various times to me that, “Nate is just like you.” For the most part those comparisons were intended in a positive light, though I wonder sometimes. This practice of seeing the newer in the former, or the father in the son isn’t anything new. In the study of the Bible, this practice is called typology.

Typology is the study of how various things in the Old Testament prefigured, or hinted at, what later came to be in the New Testament. We call these things “types.” A “type” is a person, place, or event in the Old Testament that foreshadows, or hints at something greater in the New Testament. So we see not only in the Old Testament the progress of salvation history, but many divine analogies to greater New Testament realities.

In Romans 5:14, Paul writes, “*Yet death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those whose sinning was not like the transgression of Adam, who was a type of the one who was to come.*” So here Adam serves as a type of Christ. Paul viewed Jesus as a new Adam. Among other similarities, they were both born in a state of original innocence, they both faced off with Satan, and they both impacted the whole of humanity. Adam's impact was through the introduction of sin to the world and the imputation of original sin to all mankind. Christ's impact was to lead the people from bondage to sin and to provide forgiveness and salvation to His people. Paul goes

on in Romans 5:15 to explain the superiority of Jesus Christ, the new Adam, to the first Adam, “*For if many died through one man's trespass, much more have the grace of God and the free gift by the grace of that one man Jesus Christ abounded for many.*”

Not all “types” found in the Old Testament refer to Jesus. The author of the book of Hebrews makes the argument that the Tabernacle of the Old Testament was a shadow of the heavenly sanctuary. (Hebrews 8:5) If you read 1 Peter 3:20-21 we see the Apostle Peter describing the flood of Noah and the safety of the Ark as a type of baptism in which people are delivered from God's judgement. In Hebrews 10:19-20 the curtain in the Temple that separated the Holy from the common serves as a “type” example, that is realized in Christ's flesh that is torn, as was the curtain when He was crucified, as it provides entrance into God's presence for those who are covered by the sacrifice of Jesus Christ.

There can be some confusion at times. In the Old Testament we see in various places a messenger from God described as “the angel of the Lord.” Whenever you see this description, it is identifying a pre-incarnation appearance of Jesus Christ in the Old Testament. These instances are called Christophanies. We see this also in the Exodus account when the Jewish people are in the wilderness and a pillar of cloud and a pillar of fire would lead them. These pillars are a physical representation or appearance of God in the Old Testament. These are called Theophanies. We should not confuse these instances with the “types”

mentioned above. Types serve to distinguish characteristics or actions that are fully realized in the Old Testament.

Melchizedek is another example that seems to offer some confusion. Melchizedek's priesthood in the Old Testament is considered a foreshadowing of the priesthood of Jesus in the New Testament. In Hebrews 7:3, the appearance of Melchizedek in Genesis 14:18-20 is described this way, "*He is without father or mother or genealogy, having neither beginning of days nor end of life, but resembling the Son of God he continues a priest forever.*" In other words, Melchizedek's appearance is like the eternal pre-existence of Jesus Christ, who has no origins but appears to have existed forever and has no end. It's important to realize that Melchizedek is not a Christophany, but his "type" describes a characteristic of Jesus Christ.

We should point out the difference between an illustration and a "type". A "type" is always identified as such in the New Testament. A Bible student finding correlations between an Old Testament story and the life of Christ is simply finding illustrations, not "types." In other words, typology is determined by Scripture. The Holy Spirit inspired the use of "types;" illustrations and analogies are the result of man's study. For example, many people see parallels between Joseph ([Genesis 37-45](#)) and Jesus. The humiliation and subsequent glorification of Joseph seem to correspond to the death and resurrection of Christ. However, the New Testament never uses Joseph as a model of Christ; therefore, Joseph's story is properly called an illustration, but not a type, of Christ.

Typology in the Bible is a very fruitful field of study. Pursuing it can open a greater level of understanding not only of the Bible in general but in the relationship between the Old Testament and the New Testament.

*Welcome Little One!
Congratulations to Paul and Emily Martin as they welcomed Jeb Allen Martin on 7/11/22. Weighing 7lbs 11oz and 20.8 " long. At home to welcome him is big sister Emery.*

Missions

The Mission focus for July is Belize Friends. Oscar Mmbali, Belize Friends Pastoral Minister, will be joining us at Yearly Meeting this year. *To read more about what Oscar and the staff are doing, visit [https://mailchi.mp/fum/anti-human-](https://mailchi.mp/fum/anti-human-traffic)

*INSPIRED BY THE PAST TO
IMPACT THE FUTURE
Philippians 1:3-6
IA Yearly Meeting, Oskaloosa
July 27-30, 2022*

trafficking-campaign-continues

*A big thank you to those who
worked on updating the main
restrooms in the fellowship hall!*

*Thank you to Ray and crew for
hauling the partitions as well!*

Youth

Monumental VBS!

We had a busy week as 43 kids (and 41 staff) came through our doors for at least 1 night to join us in celebrating God's Monumental Love. Support of our mission projects was very generous. School supplies were collected for kids at the trailer court in Eldora. The Little Rock Ministry will bag and pass them along in August. The final total isn't in, but over \$250 was donated by kids and staff to purchase paint for buildings at the Wolfe Ranch near Marshalltown. (If you would like to contribute to these ministries, just designate so on your check) Thanks to all who prayed, gave funds, food or loaned items and all who volunteered their time! Continue to pray that the Bible Points stay with the kids. Ask the kids about their favorite activity, song, game, craft or Bible Adventure. They will be excited to share with you! So many God Sightings!





to those in need in
Eldora
-David's grandmother, health
-Jeff, Marci's brother with
Leukemia



Mystery Friend

Our Mystery Friend for July was born in Ames. He/She has one brother and one sister. This person attends school at BCLUW. Jobs include working and moving hay and taking care of animals. Favorite foods are steak and lobster. Most people would not know that this person actually likes math. He/She has traveled to South Dakota and Florida. This person states that they especially like Bangor Liberty Friends for the friends that go there with them. Letters in our Mystery Friend's name are:

AAAEIEICFGKKMNRRVWY

The Mystery Friend for June was William Thomas Patten.

Prayers

- Shirley Davis's recovery
- Josiah, post heart surgery (mother is friend of Emma (Macy) Michels)
- Izola, Charlene's niece is cancer free! Thank you for the prayers, she is a strong little girl!
- Connie Miner, longtime LeGrand Friends member, in her final days at Oakview Nursing Home
- Matt's mother Joyce
- Ron A. (friend of Scott Davis) cancer treatments
- Jack Lundy, recovering from illness
- Mario, Morgan and family (Reg & Melidy's daughter) as they move to Seattle
- Lydia and Victor (Mike & Charlene's daughter) preparing to move
- Love & Compassion in Action, sharing God's love

Library Ledge-

“Reading is the sole means by which we slip, involuntarily, often helplessly, into another’s skin, another’s voice, another’s soul.”

— Joyce Carol Oates

Liberty USFW

Liberty USFW Ladies Visit Gutekunst Library

The Liberty Ladies held their annual June Surprise event on June 16th. This year the surprise tour was to the Gutekunst Public Library in State Center, Iowa. Mara Edler, head librarian, was the tour guide, sharing the history of the library, explanation of plans and completion of the extensive building addition, and the many, many programs available for all ages. A bonus on the tour was meeting the resident library cat named Rosy. Following the tour the five tour members were joined by another member for a delicious lunch at the Rose Creamery in downtown State Center. The group will meet for the September organizational meeting on the third Thursday of September. Details of time and place will be published in the church bulletin and the August Bell.