

FORESHADOWINGS 1 – Fall & Promise

St Augustine: "The NEW is in the OLD CONCEALED; the NEW is in the OLD REVEALED."

- * In the light of JESUS, the Old Testament MAKE SENSE.
- * The Gospel is also CONCEALED all the way through the Old.
- * CLUES, HINTS, SIGNPOSTS dotted throughout.

→ *What in the Old Testament story is mysterious, confusing, baffling without the New Testament? How should we use the Old Testament? What are your favourite Old Testament stories / characters and why? How do they foreshadow Jesus?*

FORESHADOWING = Little CLUES the author uses to HINT at what is to come LATER in the story

... Helps the reader ANTICIPATE coming events.

→ *Any significant examples of foreshadowing you can think of in literature or film?*

God uses many different TYPES in the OT to foreshadow Jesus

- a) PEOPLE
 - b) EVENTS
 - c) OBJECTS
 - d) RITUALS
 - e) Even NUMBERS & COLOURS if you dig deep enough
- *How many others can you list in each category? People / events / objects / rituals? What about colours and numbers?*

OBJECT OF EXERCISE

1. Look at the OVERVIEW.
2. PREPARE the WAY for the coming of the KING.
3. Show Jesus is the HERO of every story & ANSWER to every question.
4. EXCITE you with how BRILLIANT this whole thing is.

SEVEN 'DISPENSATIONS'

1. INNOCENCE = From Creation to Fall
2. CONSCIENCE = From Fall to Flood
3. HUMAN GOVERNMENT = From Flood to dispersion at Babel
4. PROMISE = From Abraham to Moses
5. LAW = From Moses to the crucifixion of Jesus
6. GRACE = From Cross to Second Coming
7. MILLENNIAL KINGDOM = 1000 year reign of Christ on earth, culminating in God's final judgment in Rev 20.

→ *Do you find this breakdown helpful? Why? How does the way God interacts with mankind change with each transition? What are the main differences between the dispensation of Law and Grace, which we live in?*

A. THE PROBLEM = SIN which SEPARATES man from God

- * God is HOLY, PURE, PERFECT & cannot TOLERATE sin.
- * God is RIGHTEOUS & JUST & must JUDGE sin.
- * God is LOVE, full of MERCY & will FORGIVE sin.

B. THE CONSEQUENCE = Threefold CURSE (Gen 3:14-19)

→ *How have the curses of man and woman played out over the course of history? What do we learn about sexual inequality, its origins, source and solution (See Gal 3:13,28)*

C. THE FORESHADOWING (Gen 3:14-15,21)

v15: The seed of the woman = JESUS

You, Satan, will STRIKE his HEEL = CROSS

But He, Jesus, will CRUSH his HEAD = RESURRECTION

→ *What can we glean prophetically from Genesis 3:15? Who is the woman? The seed? Whose head? Whose heel? What events is this verse talking about? Why is it a clear hint that it would be a virgin birth?*

v21: Immediately, the Lord STEPS IN & COVERS them up.

3 Crucial Facets of ATONEMENT as illustrated by Gen 3:21

1. Innocent BLOOD must be SHED to pay the price for SIN.

- * Notice that in v7, Adam & Eve tried to cover their nakedness & shame with FIG LEAVES, but in v21, God made them GARMENTS OF SKIN (Heb 9:22, 2 Chron 29:24).

→ *Read the story of Cain & Abel. How does it tie into Gen 3:7 and 21?*

2. God HIMSELF will DO it

→ *Can you think of any other Old Testament events or people that foreshadow God stepping in and redeeming it Himself?*

3. Righteousness is IMPUTED, not EARN'T (2 Cor 5:21, Isa 61:10)

- * Not SELF or WORKS righteousness ... Adam & Eve's attempts to COVER THEMSELVES were wholly INADEQUATE.

→ *What does it mean to be righteous? Can you become more righteous?*

What does it mean to say that Jesus has made us righteous (2 Cor 5:21)?

→ *Why are works-righteousness and self-righteous such compelling traps? Do you ever find yourself being drawn into self-righteousness?*