

## Hebrews 1:1

- "God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers" - Adam (Gen 3), then Noah (Gen 6), who was called by God "a preacher of righteousness" (2Pe 2:5) then to the fathers of Israel-to Abraham (Gen 15), when he was called out of Ur of the Chaldees (Iraq) into the Promised Land by God, to Isaac, Abraham's son when he was sacrificed on the same mountain as Jesus (Gen 22), to Jacob, Abraham's grandson, when he wrestled with the pre-incarnate Christ (Gen 32), Joseph, his great-grandson, through dreams he interpreted (Gen 37), on down to the leaders of the twelve tribes and their prophets through the centuries, to Moses in the book named after the Exodus of the Jews from bondage in Egypt, then to the nation of Israel-Isaiah, Daniel, the minor prophets, through to the last prophet, John the Baptist in the NT (Luke 16). God spoke over and over through human history up to the time of Jesus.
- "in many portions and in many ways"- God spoke to them in dreams, with an audible voice, through visions, and in types. Types will be of particular interest in our study of Hebrews, as it is a central instructional motif of the book. Heb 11:19, Rom 5:14
- A type is a person, place, thing, event, number, or statement that pre-figures (prophetically symbolizes) something that will come after it, which is its antitype (fulfillment or realization). Col 2:16-17
- Shortly after His resurrection, Jesus met two of his disciples traveling on the road from Jerusalem to Emmaus. He engaged them in a unique and monumental Bible study, walking them through the prophecies, Christophanies (pre-incarnate manifestations of the second person of the trinity, the Son-Jesus before He took on flesh and the name), and types of Himself throughout the Old Testament. As a practical matter, He gave them an intense lesson in Old Testament Christology, which is that branch of Christian Theology concerned with the connection between the Old and New Testaments. Without these types, New Testament doctrinal declarations are merely statements. But, with their miraculous use, the NT becomes the living fulfillment of the OT. Miraculous because they were a literary device proving that the OT and NT's true Author, the Holy Spirit, transcended time. Remember, miracles validate messages. Luke 24:27
- Jesus regularly referred to the Old Testament Scriptures as having spoken of Himself (Matthew 26:54, Mark 12:10, Luke 24:25, John 5:39). Old Testament Christology is the platform from which Paul argued that Jesus was the Christ (Acts 18:28). At Pentecost, it was Peter who argued the case for Christ from the Old Testament Scriptures (Acts 2). Stephen used the Old Testament Scriptures in similar fashion in his sermon to the Sanhedrin (Acts 7).
- Christological Typology is a subset of Old Testament Christology, and is primarily concerned with identifying and interpreting the parabolic representations of the person and work of Jesus Christ that are found in the people, things, and events of the Old Testament. A "type" is a person, thing, or event that foreshadows something that comes after it. The thing being foreshadowed is the "antitype." Types are forms of parables or similitudes. Throughout the Old Testament, the second person of the trinity can be seen in these parabolic forms. This literary device not only accurately and prophetically presents significant aspects of the person and work of Christ, but it also demonstrates the supernatural character of the Old Testament text and the transcendent nature of its Divine Author.
- A Brief List of Old Testament Christological Types
  - People-The lives of many of the actual human beings portrayed in the Old Testament bear an uncanny resemblance to the person and work of Jesus Christ. God's providence and intervention shaped their lives such that various aspects of Christ were foreshadowed. What follows is a limited set of examples:

- Adam-Miraculous birth (Genesis 2:7), entered the world in a sinless state (Genesis 1:31), was begotten of God (Luke 3:38), was lord of creation (Genesis 1:28), had a Gentile bride (she was not a Jew), condescended to her condition and took her sin upon himself (Genesis 3:6), his death brought about her salvation (had he not joined her in her sin-which brought about his own death-and produced offspring, the Messiah would not have been born).
- Isaac-His father's only begotten son (Hebrews 11:17), dead in His father's eyes and was given his life back "on the third day" (Genesis 22:4), offered as a sacrifice to God on Calvary (2 Chronicles 3:1), carried the wood for his own sacrifice on his back (Genesis 22:6), his father believed his son would be resurrected from the dead (Hebrews 11:19).
- Joseph-His father's favorite son (Genesis 37:3), a prophet (Genesis 37:10), rejected by his brothers who plotted his death (Genesis 37:18), betrayed for pieces of silver by Judah (Genesis 37:26-28), falsely accused and condemned (Genesis 39:17-20), rose to the right hand of power (Genesis 41:39-44), became the savior of the world by providing the bread of life (Genesis 42:57).
- Boaz-name means "in him is strength," lived in Bethlehem, was the kinsman redeemer, restored the land to Naomi (a type of Israel), married Ruth the Moabitess (a Gentile bride and type of the church), was introduced to his bride by an unnamed servant who was the lord of the harvest (a type of the Holy Spirit), was the great-grandfather of King David (upon whose throne Christ would sit).
- Things-Events, ceremonies, and physical objects in the Old Testament are used to typify the person and work of Christ. These include:
  - Noah's Ark (Genesis 6-8)-was provided by God's grace, was preached as the only way of escaping God's judgment, man was invited to enter in, one had to be "in" the ark when the judgment came, it was covered in "pitch," (which is the same Hebrew word-kippur-as in Yom Kippur, or Day of Atonement), which covers sin, was made of something alive (wood) that had to die in order to be able to save, it had only one door, it completed the work of salvation for all those who trusted in it, those carried by it emerged after the flood on the same calendar day as the resurrection of Christ.
  - Passover Lamb (Exodus 12)-the lamb had to be an unblemished male, its innocent blood was presented to God to save the lives of those who trusted in it, those not covered by it received God's judgment.
  - Bronze Serpent (Numbers 21)-the serpent (the embodiment of sin-Genesis 3) had bitten the people and brought about their deaths, a bronze image of the serpent was lifted up on a pole such that those who looked to it were saved (Christ became sin and was lifted up on the cross for those who would trust in Him-John 3:14-15), looking to the serpent was the only way of escaping certain death since no other way was made, looking to the serpent was a voluntary volitional act in response to God's invitation, those who failed to trust in the serpent died.