

Joseph: A Type of Jesus Christ

Int.

1. Aim: To show that Joseph's life was similar to that of Christ's.
2. The O.T. abounds in types of the coming Messiah [One who would deliver his people]
 - a. Christ was typified by offering upon Israel's altars, by the brass serpent - Jn. 3:14
 "And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up:" - Num. 21:9
 - b. He was also typified by several O.T. Characters such as: Aaron, Abel, Abraham, Adam, David, Jonah, Moses, Noah, Melchizedek, Solomon
3. It properly means a "model" or "pattern" or "mould" into which clay or wax was pressed, that it might take the figure or exact shape of the mould. The word "type" is generally used to denote a resemblance between something present and something future, which is called the "antitype." - [Easton's Bible Dictionary]
4. Joseph stands forth as one of the clearer types afforded by the O.T. characters
5. JOSEPH - JESUS

Discussion

I. SINNED AGAINST -- DESPISED

- A. Joseph
 1. He was greatly loved by his father - coat of many colors
 2. This caused him to be despised by his brothers
 3. Because of envy they sinned against him
 4. Gen. 37:18-19

B. Christ

1. Pilate saw this attitude in those who crucified Christ - "For he knew that for envy they had delivered him." - Mt. 27:18
2. Prophet Isaiah saw Jesus as "despised and rejected of men, a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief." I sa. 53:3
3. This is very much like the life of Joseph.

C. Parallels to life of Christ and Joseph

1. John said of Christ "He came unto his own, and his own received him not." Jn. 1:11
2. Joseph's brothers took advantage of him and sinned against him when he was sent by his father to them.
3. Joseph's brothers talked about killing him as the Jews talked of killing the Son of God. - Mt. 27:1

D. Application

1. I Pet. 4:16 "Yet if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf."
2. II Tim. 3:12 "Yea, and all that will live godly in Christ Jesus shall suffer persecution."

II. SOLD FOR A PRICE

- A. Joseph was sold for 20 pieces of silver - Gen. 37:28

- B. Jesus was also sold for a price
 - 1. 30 pieces of silver
 - 2. Mt. 26:15 "And said [unto them], What will ye give me, and I will deliver him unto you? And they covenanted with him for thirty pieces of silver."
 - 3. Joseph's price was below that of a servant - Ex. 21:32

- C. Prophecy & fulfillment of this parallel
 - 1. Zech. 11:12-13 "And I said unto them, If ye think good, give me my price; and if not, forbear. So they weighed for my price thirty pieces of silver. 13. And the Lord said unto me, Cast it unto the potter: a goodly price that I was prised at of them. And I took the thirty pieces of silver, and cast them to the potter in the house of the Lord."
 - 2. Mt. 27:3-8
 - 3. 30 pieces of silver figured in the prophecy

- D. Application
 - 1. Sometimes people will sell friendship for money or fame
 - 2. Pro. 18:24 "A man that hath friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother."

III. HIS GREAT LOVE

A. Joseph

1. Despite the fact his brothers treated him bad, he still had great love for them
2. Shown by that which he did for them
3. Shown by his deep emotions for them as he wept - Gen. 42:24 "And he turned himself about from them, and wept; and returned to them again, and communed with them, and took from them Simeon, and bound him before their eyes."

B. Christ

1. Similar scene is found of Christ as he spoke of Jerusalem which had rejected him.
2. Lk. 13:34 "O Jerusalem, Jerusalem, which killest the prophets, and stonest them that are sent unto thee; how often would I have gathered thy children together, as a hen [doth gather] her brood under [her] wings, and ye would not!"
3. Christ showed compassion as he wept with Martha and Mary when Lazarus was dead
4. Jn. 11:34-36 "And said, Where have ye laid him? They said unto him, Lord, come and see. 35. Jesus wept. 36. Then said the Jews, Behold how he loved him!"
5. Depth of his love is shown by his statement "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Jn. 15:13

C. Loved though hated and mistreated

1. Joseph's love for his brethren was real - even though his brothers shamefully mistreated him
2. Christ's love is the same - Rm. 5:8 "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us."

D. Application

1. Mt. 5:44 "But I say unto you, Love your enemies, bless them that curse you, do good to them that hate you, and pray for them which despitefully use you, and persecute you;"
2. Rom. 12:14 "Bless them which persecute you: bless, and curse not."
3. Rom. 12:19-21 "Dearly beloved, avenge not yourselves, but rather give place unto wrath: for it is written, Vengeance is mine; I will repay, saith the Lord. 20. Therefore if thine enemy hunger, feed him; if he thirst, give him drink: for in so doing thou shalt heap coals of fire on his head. 21. Be not overcome of evil, but overcome evil with good."

IV. SENT TO PRESERVE LIFE

A. Joseph

1. His brothers were worried about what they had done to him earlier in life
2. But Joseph told them: "Now therefore be not grieved, nor angry with yourselves, that ye sold me hither: for God did send me before thee to preserve life." - Gen. 45:5
3. It was in their shameful treatment of him that he was able to make provision for their lives in a period of famine.
4. Gen. 50:19-20 "And Joseph said unto them, Fear not: for am I in the place of God? 20. But as for you, ye thought evil against me; but God meant it unto good, to bring to pass, as it is this day, to save much people alive."

B. Christ - very striking parallel

1. His mission in life was to preserve life
2. Angel foretold "Thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins." - Mt. 1:21
3. Jesus said of himself: "For the son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Lk. 19:10
4. It was by this means that our life could be preserved
5. Jesus died that we might live
6. Through his shameful treatment the Lord paid for our redemption
7. He was sent to preserve life and become our saving hope - Heb. 6:19-20 "Which hope we have as an anchor of the soul, both sure and stedfast, and which entereth into that within the vail; 20. Whither the forerunner is for us entered, even Jesus, made an high priest for ever after the order of Melchisedec."

C. As Joseph went before his brothers to secure their blessings, so Christ has gone before us to secure spiritual blessings.

D. Application

1. Rom. 8:28 "And we know that all things work together for good to them that love God, to them who are the called according to his purpose."
2. Rom. 8:31 "What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?"

V. IS FOUND ALIVE

A. Joseph

1. Been sold into Egypt - brothers deceived Jacob into thinking Joseph had been killed
2. Jacob mourned the death of his son "For I will go down into the grave unto my son mourning. Thus his father wept for him" Gen. 37:35
3. His brothers never expected to see him again
4. Surprised to say the least to find him alive - Gen. 45:3 "And Joseph said unto his brethren, I am Joseph; doth my father yet live? And his brethren could not answer him; for they were troubled at his presence."
 - a. Jacob - because he thought he was dead
 - b. Brothers - incredible - unbelievable -
 - c. Gen. 45:25-28

B. Christ - was also found alive

1. Christ had been dead - but they found him alive
2. The angel spoke unto them and said "Why seek ye the living among the dead? He is not here, but is risen: remember how he spoke unto you when he was yet in Galilee." Lk. 24: 5b-7
3. Those who crucified Christ must have felt something like Joseph's brothers when Peter told them. - Acts 2:23-24
4. Jesus was found alive ! This is one of the fundamental and essential facts of the gospel

5. If in this life only..." I Cor. 15:19-20 "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. 20. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept."

C. Brought blessings

1. After Joseph had been found alive he brought blessings to his brothers and family
2. In Christ's resurrection we have hope - II Tim. 1:10 "But is now made manifest by the appearing of our Saviour Jesus Christ, who hath abolished death, and hath brought life and immortality to light through the gospel:"
3. He was found alive to bless all mankind!

VI. PARDON FOR PENITENTS

A. Joseph

1. His brothers were afraid before him because of their shameful treatment
2. But he offered them full and complete Pardon
3. He promised only blessings - Gen. 45:15 "Moreover he kissed all his brethren, and wept upon them: and after that his brethren talked with him."

B. Christ

1. Jesus was forgiving to all who sinned against him
2. After Peter told the Jews they killed Jesus they asked what to do "Then Peter said unto them, Repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost".

Acts 2:38

3. Saul was told "And now why tarriest thou? arise, and be baptized, and wash away thy sins, calling on the name of the Lord". Acts 22:16
4. Jesus said: "I am come that they may have life, and that they might have it more abundantly". Jn. 10:10
5. Peter agreed by saying "God, having raised up his son Jesus, sent him to bless you, in turning away every one of you from his iniquity." Acts 3:26
6. Jesus came to bless you if you will obey his gospel

CONCLUSION

1. Joseph is a type of Christ
 - a. Sinned against - despised
 - b. Sold for a price
 - c. His great love
 - d. Sent to Preserve life
 - e. Is found alive
 - f. Pardon for Penitents
2. The life of Joseph is important and interesting
3. But the life of Christ is more important and has far greater affects on us.
 - a. Joseph saved the lives of his brothers and family
 - b. Jesus can save your soul!
4. Unless you obey the gospel then Jesus' life - death - burial - Res. were useless as far as your life is concerned.
5. "not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance." 1 Pet. 3:9 b

Sermon by Arthur Pigman - Sunday Evening - Nov. 18, 2007
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