

Abounding Grace Christian Church

Seeing Christ in the Old Testament: A Study of the Types of Christ – Part 19

I. Seeing Christ in the Books of Samuel, Kings and Chronicles – (Also known as “Former Prophets”).

A. David as a Type of Christ.

1. David, the son of Jesse, is one of the most prominent figures in the Bible. He was appointed by God to become the second king over Israel after Saul had sinned and failed. Prior to becoming king, he was the youngest of eight brothers and was a shepherd (**I Samuel 17:10-15**). His life and reign as king are detailed in the books of **I and II Samuel, I Kings, and I Chronicles**. David is often regarded as a type of Christ, prefiguring the Messiah in various aspects of his life and kingship.
2. In Scripture, Jesus and David are connected. The Bible calls Jesus the “**Son of David**” right from the beginning in His genealogy (**Matthew 1:1,17; Luke 3:23-30**). Note: It’s interesting that in **Matthew 1:6**, it specifically refers to David as “**David the king...**”, even though there were other kings mentioned in this passage. In the Old Testament David became the iconic king whereby all other kings were compared (**cf. I Kings 15:9-11; II Kings 14:1-3; 18:1-3; 22:1-2**). Regarding the title “**Son of David**”, Dr. Robert Utley writes:

“This was a title for the promised Messiah that emphasized His Jewish royal line from the tribe of Judah (cf. Gen. 49:8–12). He was of the seed of woman, Gen. 3:15; the seed of Abraham, Gen. 22:18; seed of Judah, Gen. 49:10 and seed of David, 2 Sam. 7:12–16, 16. This was a common Messianic designation in Matthew (cf. 9:27; 12:33; 15:22; 20:30–31; 21:9, 15; 22:42).”¹

3. Selected Parallels between David and Jesus.
 - a. David was born in Bethlehem - **Ruth 2:4; 4:11; I Samuel 16:4; 17:15; II Samuel 23:15**.
Jesus was born in Bethlehem - **Micah 5:2; Matthew 2:1; Luke 2:8-20**.
 - b. Both David and Jesus were born into the tribe of Judah – **I Samuel 17:12; Matthew 1:1-6; Revelation 5:5**.
 - c. David’s name means “**beloved**”. God declared from heaven Jesus was His beloved Son - **Matthew 3:17**.
 - d. David was a shepherd – **I Samuel 16:11; 17:34**.
Jesus is the Good Shepherd Who laid down His life for the sheep - **John 10:11**
Jesus is the Great Shepherd Who Rose from the Dead – **Hebrews 13:20**.
Jesus is the Chief Shepherd Who’s coming again – **I Peter 5:4**.
 - e. David’s oldest brother Eliab mocked him before he killed Goliath - **I Samuel 17:28**.
Jesus’ brothers mocked Him before He rose from the dead - **John 17:3-5**.
 - f. David’s brothers later joined him - **I Samuel 22:1**.
Jesus’ brothers believed after His resurrection and were known in the early church - **Acts 1:14; I Corinthians 9:5; 15:7; Galatians 1:19**.
 - g. David became king when he turned thirty years of age - **II Samuel 5:4**.
Jesus began His ministry when He turned thirty years old - **Luke 3:23**.
 - h. David was betrayed by a close friend – Absalom - **I Chronicles 27:33; II Samuel 15:12**.
Jesus was betrayed by a close friend – Judas – **Psalms 41:9; 109:3-5; John 13:18**.

¹ Robert James Utley, *The First Christian Primer: Matthew*, vol. Volume 9, Study Guide Commentary Series (Marshall, TX: Bible Lessons International, 2000), 6.

i. David conquered Goliath - **I Samuel 17:45-51; 18:6.**

Jesus conquered Satan and his works – **Colossians 2:15; Hebrews 2:14; I John 3:8.**

“David’s defeat of Goliath foreshadowed the victory of Christ over his enemies. Jesus, the seed of the woman, had come to battle the serpent and conquer the powers of darkness (Mark 3:27; John 12:31). Though looking inept and unprepared, Jesus knew that the hour of his death would simultaneously be the fulfillment of his earthly mission (John 17:1). The victory at the cross surpassed the defeat of Goliath. We honor Christ, our mighty warrior, who crushed the head of his enemies.”²

1) Like Jesus, David was sent by his father to his brothers – **I Samuel 17:8-9; John 5:37; I John 4:14.**

2) In this battle, David represented all of Israel and his victory was Israel’s victory – **I Samuel 17:8-9; 37-40; 48-52.** Jesus, as **“One Man”** represented us and defeated death. His victory is our victory! **Romans 5:15-19; 8:31-37; I Corinthians 15:57.**

j. David defeated all his enemies and sat down - **II Samuel 7:1; 22:1.**

Jesus defeated his enemies and sat down at the Father’s right hand - **Acts 2:34-35; Ephesians 1:20; Hebrews 1:3.**

4. Mitchell Chase writes:

“David was a man after God’s own heart (see Acts 13:22). But like the couple in the garden of Eden, David saw something he desired yet should not have taken (2 Sam. 11:1–5). He was tempted and fell into sin. Jesus was a true and greater David. Born in Bethlehem, he was God’s Anointed One, the Messiah, who would be king (Luke 2:1–7). David was his ancestor (Matt. 1:1–17). The Spirit was upon Jesus for his ministry (Matt. 3:16–17). Jesus spoke and did all that the Father gave him to say and do (John 5:19; 17:8). Unlike David, Jesus overcame all temptation and never sinned. Through his life of devotion, Jesus was truly a man after God’s heart.”³

² Mitchell L. Chase, *40 Questions about Typology and Allegory*, ed. Benjamin L. Merkle, 40 Questions Series (Grand Rapids, MI: Kregel Academic, 2020), 161.

³ *Ibid.*, 160–161.