

Session 13: Genesis and Jesus: Pointers and Trajectories

Key text: Luke 24:13-27

Announcements

→ Upcoming EquipMEN† events:

- Exponential2:2 applications due THIS WEDNESDAY!
- Purchase tickets for NHC Baseball Night for Men at Target Field tonight (\$20)

Genesis and Jesus: Pointers and Trajectories

According to Jesus, the Old Testament is the Word of God, the Scripture which cannot be broken. Jesus also claims that he himself is the subject of the Old Testament. His teachings constantly point to the Old Testament as that which he fulfills. Thus the Old Testament does not stand on its own, because it is incomplete without its conclusion and fulfillment in the person and work of Christ. *No part of it can be rightly understood without him.*

—Graeme Goldsworthy, *According to Plan: The Unfolding Revelation of God in the Bible*

And [Jesus] said to them, “O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself. —Luke 24:25-27

The Most Common Mistake In Understanding How the OT and NT Cohere...

...is an excessive focus on _____ and an insufficient focus on he _____ and _____ given to us by the _____ OT canon.

In other words, we must focus less on the question, “Is this a _____ about Jesus?” and more on the question, “How does every OT text point forward to the _____ —the _____ of which is Jesus?”

“The differences between B.C. and A.D. are not to be minimized, even though they are too often magnified. The differences may be expressed in the words *greater, eschatological, and spiritual*. ... The New Testament confirms the prophetic hope by its witness that in Jesus Christ the promises of God are true. Consequently, Jesus is the focus of hope; the reality and fulfillment of all divine promises are guaranteed in him. ... Since fulfillment is in Jesus Christ (2 Cor. 1:20), the complete fulfillment of the promises is the object of hope by both the Old Testament and the New Testament saints. Both Old Testament and New Testament witness to the salvation to come and to the exclusive claims of Jesus that he is the way by which the Father will fully inaugurate all the promises and covenants....”²⁵

“The essential Christian position is one of fulfillment rather than prediction.... The marvel is not that any prophet foretold. The marvel is that Jesus fulfills.... The wonder is in the consummation that has come about because of Christ. To glorify prediction rather than fulfillment is to misunderstand the nature of the forecast, and to miss the significance of the Christian gospel.”²⁶

²⁵ Willem A. VanGemeren, *Interpreting the Prophetic Word: An Introduction to the Prophetic Literature of the Old Testament*, 90-91

²⁶ Gurdon C. Oxtoby, *Prediction and Fulfillment in the Bible*, 119.

In What Ways Does Genesis Point to the Coming Age Inaugurated by Jesus?

Creation (Gen. 1:1) → New Creation (2 Cor. 5:16-17) → New Heaven and New Earth (Isa. 65:17; 2 Pet. 3:13; Rev. 21:1)

Sabbath Rest (Gen. 2:1-3; Exod. 20:8-11) → Greater Sabbath (Heb. 4:1-11)

Death through Adam (Gen 2:17) → Life through the second Adam (Rom. 5:12-21)

Promise of the Serpent's defeat through the offspring of the Woman (Gen. 3:14-15) → Crushing of Satan in Christ (Rom. 16:20; Rev. 20:1-3, 10)

Eden Lost (Gen. 3:22-24) → Eden Regained (Rev. 22:1-6)

Scattering at Babel (Gen. 11:1-9) → Unifying and sending at Pentecost (Acts 2:1-13)

Blessing of the Abraham Covenant (Gen. 12:1-3) → Blessing fulfilled (Acts 3:25-26)

Seed of Abraham (Gen. 17:4-8) → Church as the heirs of Abraham (Gal. 3:29)

Kings from Abraham (Gen. 17:4-8) → Jesus as the ultimate seed of Abraham and King (Gal. 3:15-16; Matt. 1:3)

Abraham justified by faith (Gen. 15:6) → All nations justified by faith (Rom. 4:1-5, 16-18; Rom. 3:21-26)

Sacrifice of Isaac (Gen. 22:7-8) → Sacrifice of the Ultimate Lamb (1 Cor. 5:7)

Jacob's Dream (Gen. 28:10-12) → Angels ascending and descending on the Son of Man (John 1:51)

Joseph, God's son in Egypt (Gen. 37-50) → Jesus, the greater Son of God, called out of Egypt (Matt. 2:13-15)

For More Reading on “Trajectories and Pointers”:

Graeme Goldsworthy, *According to Plan: The Unfolding Revelation of God in the Bible*

D.A. Carson, *The God Who Is There, The: Finding Your Place in God's Story*

D.A. Carson, “How to Wait For Jesus” Parts 1 & 2 (mp3) at www.monergism.com

Suggested reading for THIS SUMMER!

Francis Chan, *Crazy Love: Overwhelmed By a Relentless God*

Francis Chan, *Forgotten God: Reversing Our Tragic Neglect of the Holy Spirit*

Timothy Keller, *Prodigal God: Recovering the Heart of the Christian Faith*

Timothy Keller, *Counterfeit Gods: The Empty Promises of Money, Sex, and Power, and the Only Hope that Matters*

C.J. Mahaney, *Humility: True Greatness*

On PB's Summer Reading List:

James Hunter, *To Change the World: The Irony, Tragedy, and Possibility of Christianity in the Late Modern World*

N.T. Wright, *After You Believe: Why Christian Character Matters*

Larry Osborne, *Sticky Teams: Keeping Your Leadership Team and Staff on the Same Page*

Voddie Baucham, *Family Driven Faith: Doing What It Takes to Raise Sons and Daughters Who Walk With God*

Bruce Ware, *Big Truths for Young Hearts: Teaching and Learning the Greatness of God*

Worship: *The Solid Rock* Edward Mote

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame,
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

*On Christ the solid Rock I stand,
All other ground is sinking sand;
All other ground is sinking sand.*

His oath, His covenant, His blood,
Support me in the whelming flood.
When all around my soul gives way,
He then is all my Hope and Stay.

When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone,
Faultless to stand before the throne.