

## Patriarchal Period (2200-1800 B.C.)

Genesis 12-50

Hope of Redemption, Restoration, and Reconciliation

### The Covenant with Abraham

#### 11 Elements of the Abrahamic Covenant

1. A Great Nation (12:2)
2. I will Bless You (12:2)
3. Make Your Name Great (12:2)
4. Bless/Curse Those Who Bless/Curse You (12:3)
5. Through Your Seed All The Nations of the Earth Will Be Blessed (12:3)
6. Protection and Great Reward (15:1)
7. Innumerable Offspring (15:5)
8. Land (15:18; 17:8)
9. Father of Many Nations (17:4-6)
10. Everlasting Covenant (17:7-8, 13, 19)
11. Circumcision the Sign of the Covenant (17:10-14)



#### Conditional or Unconditional?

Jeremiah 34:17-18

**17** "Therefore this is what the Lord says: You have not obeyed me; you have not proclaimed freedom to your own people. So I now proclaim 'freedom' for you, declares the Lord—'freedom' to fall by the sword, plague and famine. I will make you abhorrent to all the kingdoms of the earth. **18** Those who have violated my covenant and have not fulfilled the terms of the covenant they made before me, **I will treat like the calf they cut in two and then walked between its pieces.**

- Typical Covenant Ceremony where an animal is cut up into pieces, and both parties walk between those pieces signifying that if either of them violate the covenant, they would be torn apart like the animal of the covenant ceremony.
- But Abram does not walk through the animal parts; instead, in a vision a flaming torch and a smoking pot (signifying the presence of God) pass through—**Genesis 15:7-11, 17.**

Genesis 17:14

**But an uncircumcised male who is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant."**

## 4 Major Theological Themes in the Patriarchal Period

### 1. Election

- God is King!
  - He Elects What, When, Where, How, and Who

### 2. Redemption

- The Threads of Hope for Restoration & Reconciliation Continue Through the Promises
  - Genesis 3:15 – Abraham 22:18 – Isaac 26:2-4 -- Jacob 28:12,14 – Joseph 50:24-25

### 3. Covenant

- The promises and the covenant that God established with Abraham (Gen. 12,15, & 17) He also passed on to the other patriarchs -- Isaac (Gen. 26:2-5), Jacob (Gen. 28:13-15), and Joseph (Gen. 48:3-4; 50:24). This covenant with the patriarchs is foundational to all other covenants in the Bible. The relationship between God and Abraham establishes a theological framework for redemptive relationships throughout the Bible and in Christian theology.

### 4. Faith

- Believing what God says and acting on it, God credits as righteousness (**See Romans 4**)
  - a. Not Works of Law
  - b. Not Privilege or Position (Jacob & Esau)

- **Abraham**

**Genesis 15:6** Then he believed in the Lord; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Many of the promises God gives Abraham seem impossible in light of Abraham's life circumstances:

A Great Nation (12:2)	Sarah is Barren (11:30)
Land Belongs to His Descendants (12:7)	Occupied by Canaanites (12:6)
Protection and Great Reward (15:1)	Slavery & Oppression (15:12-13)

- **Jacob**

Life of heartache and hardship (47:9)

**Hebrews 11:21**

By faith Jacob, as he was dying, blessed each of the sons of Joseph, and worshiped, *leaning* on the top of his staff.

(See Genesis 48-49)

- **Joseph**

**Genesis 39:2-3, 5, 21, 23** "The Lord was with Joseph..."

**Genesis 50:24-25** "God will take care of you and bring you up from this land..."

# Typology

“A type is a shadow cast on the pages of Old Testament history by a truth whose full embodiment or antitype is found in the New Testament revelation.”

-- Wick Broomall *Baker Dictionary of Theology* 1960 (see article handout)

## 1. Circumcision – A Type of Baptism (Genesis 17:10-13)

Someone born (physically) under the Old Covenant received the sign of that covenant (circumcision); likewise, someone born (spiritually) under the New Covenant (“born again,” [John 3:3](#)) receives the sign of that covenant (baptism).

### Colossians 2:11-14

...And in Him you were also circumcised with a circumcision made without hands, in the removal of the body of the flesh by the circumcision of Christ; **12** having been buried with Him in baptism, in which you were also raised up with Him through faith in the working of God, who raised Him from the dead. **13** When you were dead in your transgressions and the uncircumcision of your flesh, He made you alive together with Him, having forgiven us all our transgressions, **14** having canceled out the certificate of debt consisting of decrees against us, which was hostile to us; and He has taken it out of the way, having nailed it to the cross.

### Romans 2:28-29

**28** For he is not a Jew who is one outwardly, nor is circumcision that which is outward in the flesh. **29** But he is a Jew who is one inwardly; and circumcision is that which is of the heart, by the Spirit, not by the letter; and his praise is not from men, but from God.

### 1 Peter 3:21

Corresponding to that, baptism now saves you—**not the removal of dirt from the flesh**, but an appeal to God for a good conscience—through the resurrection of Jesus Christ...

## 2. Melchizedek – A Type of the Priest-King Jesus (Genesis 14:17-20)

### Genesis 14:17-20

**17** Then after his return from the defeat of Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him at the valley of Shaveh (that is, the King’s Valley). **18** And Melchizedek king of Salem brought out bread and wine; now he was a priest of God Most High. **19** He blessed him and said, “Blessed be Abram of God Most High, Possessor of heaven and earth; **20** And blessed be God Most High, Who has delivered your enemies into your hand.” He gave him a tenth of all.

Read [Hebrews 10:1-16](#) – See how the New Testament writer acknowledges the typology.

Jesus, at his ascension, began to reign on David’s throne and to simultaneously function as our high priest ([Psalm 110:4](#); [Zechariah 6:12, 13](#); [Hebrews 5:5-10](#); [6:20](#); [7:1-17](#)).

### 3. Isaac – A Type of Christ (Genesis 22:1-19)

#### Hebrews 11:17-19

**17** By faith Abraham, when God tested him, offered Isaac as a sacrifice. He who had embraced the promises was about to sacrifice his one and only son, **18** even though God had said to him, "It is through Isaac that your offspring will be reckoned." **19** Abraham reasoned that God could even raise the dead, and so in a manner of speaking he did receive Isaac back from death.

#### 10 Ways Isaac Was a Shadow of Things to Come in Jesus

1. **Isaac and Jesus were both children of promise** (Genesis 15:4; Isaiah 7:14).
2. **Isaac and Jesus were both of miraculous birth** (Genesis 11:30; Matthew 1:18-20).
3. **Isaac and Jesus were "only, beloved" sons of a righteous father; Ishmael had been sent away in Genesis 21:14** (Genesis 22:2).
4. **Both Isaac and Jesus are identified as the "son of Abraham"** (Genesis 21:3; 22:2; Matthew 1:1).
5. **Both Isaac and Jesus were mocked by their kin** (Genesis 2:9-10; Galatians 4:28-29; John 7:2-5).
6. **Both were offered as an innocent sacrifice** (Genesis 22:2; John 1:29; Matthew 27:24, 35; Mark 15:24; Luke 23:33; John 11:50; 19:17-18).
  - a. **Sacrifice was not a new concept** (Adam 3:21; Cain & Abel 4:2-7, Noah 8:20-21).
  - b. **But a human sacrifice was unprecedented.**
7. **Both sacrifices were offered in the land of Moriah – Jerusalem** (Genesis 22:2; 2 Chronicles 3:1; Matthew 16:21-23).
  - a. **Mount Moriah** (Jerusalem)
    1. **Abraham & Isaac Sacrifice** (Genesis 22:2)
    2. **David's Sacrifice Sparing the People** (2 Samuel 24:18,21)
    3. **Solomon Builds the Temple** (2 Chronicles 3:1)
    4. **Crucifixion of Jesus – Golgotha**
8. **Both sons carried the wood for their own sacrifice** (Genesis 22:6; John 19:17).
9. **Both willingly allow themselves to be offered in sacrifice** (Genesis 22:7-8; Col. 2:6-8).
10. **Both sons were "resurrected" or "given back" to their fathers on the third day.**
  - a. **Isaac was essentially "dead" to his grieving father when God commanded him to sacrifice his son. On the "third day" God provided another sacrifice and his son was restored. God's son died on the Cross and was resurrected on the third day!** (Genesis 22:4; Matthew 16:21; 17:23; 20: 19; Mark 9:31; 10:34; Luke 9:22; 18:22; 24:7, 44-47; Acts 10:40; 1 Corinthians 15:40).

### 4. Jacob's Dream of a Ladder – A Type of Christ (Genesis 28:10-12)

- Jacob's ladder, with the angels ascending and descending upon it (Genesis 28:12), is a shadow of Christ (John 1:51), who provides communication to and from the Father (John 1:18; Hebrews 1:1-2; Romans 8:15; Galatians 4:6) and access to heaven (John 14:6).

#### John 1:51

**51** And He \*said to him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, you will see the heavens opened and the angels of God ascending and descending on the Son of Man."