

Casting Shadows

Study Pages

There's a key concept in biblical theology known as typology, more commonly referred to as Types and Shadows.

- **Colossians 2:17** [NKJV] ...a shadow of things to come, but the substance is of Christ.
- **Hebrews 8:5** [NKJV] who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, "See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain."
- **Hebrews 10:1** [NKJV] For the law, having a shadow of the good things to come, *and* not the very image of the things, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect.
- **Romans 5:14** [NKJV] ...according to the likeness of ... Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.
- **1 Corinthians 10:11** [NKJV] Now all these things happened ... as examples ... written for our admonition...

Jesus very often used parables to illustrate certain spiritual truths

- The Old Testament is filled with stories that are meant to point us in the direction of Christ and the all the work He accomplished in the earth or even things that are still yet to be fulfilled
- They are historical accounts of living parables, many of which center around Holy week and the celebration of His completed redemptive work
- They are SHADOWS that are CAST from the Old Testament, providing a dim view of what was or is yet to come
- Types and Shadows inevitably point toward Christ as the fulfillment

First of all, we need to talk a little bit about feasts and the shadow they cast pointing toward future events

- There are several feasts that the children of Israel were commanded to observe
 - For the sake of illustration and understanding we'll mention a few
 - Some of which are relevant to the season we're in and perhaps what their fulfillment might look like

- Passover and Pentecost occur in the spring of the year whereas the Feast of Trumpets & the Feast of Tabernacles occur in the fall
 - There are more than those 4 but for the sake of illustration, these 4 four come to the top of the list
 - Most theologians can agree that Jesus fulfilled the symbolism of the spring feasts with His first coming with the remaining feasts from the fall of the year will be fulfilled at a later time with the catching away of the saints and the second coming of Christ
- Passover is the most obvious because it's directly tied to the events surrounding Holy Week
 - We'll save those details for a little later in the segment
- Pentecost happens 50 days after the Passover and celebrates the giving of the law on Mount Sinai
 - Its fulfillment came in Acts chapter 2
 - **Acts 2:1-4** [NKJV] When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting. Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.
 - How is this feast fulfilled? It's a marker
 - The exact same day God gave the law in the Old Testament, the day when He established what is commonly known as the Old Covenant, when the Dispensation of the Law was birthed
 - Is the exact same day He gave the Holy Spirit at the beginning of the New Covenant, the day when the Dispensation of Grace or the Church Age was officially launched
 - Jesus foretold it in Luke 24:49
 - **Acts 1:4** [NKJV] And being assembled together with *them*, He commanded them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the Promise of the Father, "which," *He said*, "you have heard from Me"
 - What is the Promise of the Father?
 - The outpouring of the Holy Spirit into the hearts of men
- The Feast of Trumpets, which is yet to be fulfilled
 - **Leviticus 23:24** [NKJV] "Speak to the children of Israel, saying: 'In the seventh month, on the first *day* of the month, you shall have a sabbath-*rest*, a memorial of blowing of trumpets, a holy convocation.

- Key elements
 - A day of complete rest (no regular work)
 - A holy convocation (sacred gathering)
 - Blowing of trumpets (shofars, ram's horns) and shouting as a memorial or proclamation
- Most New Testament theologians believe it is a foreshadow of what is commonly known as the Rapture of the Church, the day when Jesus comes for His bride,
 - catching her away (a sacred assembly of Biblical proportions)
 - to be fully and eternally united with Him (A reprieve from all the labors of this earthly life)
 - Marked with the sound of the trumpet and a shout
 - **1 Thessalonians 4:16-17** [NKJV] For the Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And thus we shall always be with the Lord.
- The appointed day of that celebration is the 1st day of the 7th month on the Hebrew calendar;
 - On our Gregorian calendar, it would fall on a Sabbath, sometime in mid-September or early-October, depending upon the year
- The Feast of Tabernacles
 - This, too, is a feast observed in the fall of the year - two weeks after the Feast of Trumpets, and it, too, is yet to be fulfilled
 - With this feast, the children of Israel are commanded to "dwell in booths" or tents, dwellings outside of their homes for a full week with a special convocation on the 8th day
 - This is the feast that foreshadows the return of Christ to "tabernacle" with men, pointing toward His second coming and the final establishment of His kingdom upon the earth when every enemy, including death, is finally defeated
 - In Bible times, their temporary shelters were very often made of palm branches which brings us to our first event of focus for this Holy week

PALM SUNDAY aka THE TRIUMPHAL ENTRY

- The events of Palm Sunday are not only prophetic fulfillment, they also are a foreshadowing of events yet to come

- **Mark 11:1-10** [NKJV] Now when they drew near Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, He sent two of His disciples; and He said to them, "Go into the village opposite you; and as soon as you have entered it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has sat. Loose it and bring *it*. And if anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it,' and immediately he will send it here." So they went their way, and found the colt tied by the door outside on the street, and they loosed it. But some of those who stood there said to them, "What are you doing, loosing the colt?" And they spoke to them just as Jesus had commanded. So they let them go. Then they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their clothes on it, and He sat on it. And many spread their clothes on the road, and others cut down leafy branches from the trees and spread *them* on the road. Then those who went before and those who followed cried out, saying: "Hosanna! 'Blessed *is* He who comes in the name of the LORD!' Blessed *is* the kingdom of our father David that comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!"
- **Zechariah 9:9-10** [NKJV] "Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion! Shout, O daughter of Jerusalem! Behold, your King is coming to you; He *is* just and having salvation, lowly and riding on a donkey, a colt, the foal of a donkey. I will cut off the chariot from Ephraim And the horse from Jerusalem; The battle bow shall be cut off. He shall speak peace to the nations; His dominion *shall be* 'from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth.'
 - Why is riding on a donkey important?
 - Points toward His humility
 - Points toward peace / not war
 - In Bible days, when a King wanted to approach in peace, He rode a donkey; If he was anticipating war, He rode a horse; a war horse
 - Jesus' actual arrival on a horse does not happen until His second-coming, when He returns to establish His Kingdom on earth with supreme authority and victory
 - Solomon was sat up King David's mule when he was declared king
 - A mule is not the same as a donkey; A mule is a cross between a horse and a donkey
 - Yet it was a donkey that was selected for Jesus' entrance

- Accordingly, this is the prophetic fulfillment of Zechariah chapter 9
- Why spread garments upon the animal and on the road?
 - It was a symbolic gesture, a deliberate act of royal homage, submission and honor, essentially treating Jesus as a king worthy of the highest respect
 - Such a gesture was used at the anointing of Jehu
 - **2 Kings 9:13** [NKJV] Then each man hastened to take his garment and put *it* under him on the top of the steps; and they blew trumpets, saying, "Jehu is king!"
 - This was not a casual or practical gesture
 - In Bible days, spreading garments under someone's feet or path was a well-established sign of submission to authority, particularly to the authority of kings
 - It was like rolling out a red carpet today:
 - creating a path of honor,
 - acknowledging his exalted or elevated position
 - The acts itself fore-shadows Jesus true identity as the eternal King of kings
 - **Revelation 19:16** [NKJV] And He has on *His* robe and on His thigh a name written: KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.
- Why Palm Branches?
 - The Palm Branches point forward the Feast of Tabernacles and the Second Coming of Christ.
 - Even in the New Testament there are select events that are a foreshadow of things yet to come
 - Jesus will return in triumph, only this time, He'll be riding a horse
 - The Jews of Jesus' Day were looking for a King who would deliver them from the tyrannical rule of Rome.
 - They needed a King on a horse; instead, they got a humble king of peace riding on a donkey
 - They were expecting the King to set up His earthly kingdom,
 - Which is celebrated at the Feast of Tabernacles;

- Where palm branches were used to build their temporary dwellings for the week
- They associated palm branches with the conquering king; instead, they got "The Lamb of God" who takes away the sins of the world which is what the Feast of Passover is all about and thus it's fulfillment was about to unfold

THE PASSOVER

- The Passover from Exodus chapter 12 stands out as one of the clearest and most profound types and shadows fulfilled in Jesus Christ, especially during Holy Week.
- We will introduce it today, but we'll likely see it as a thread woven throughout the entire series
- It's dramatic unfolding begins with the Last Supper (Maundy Thursday), but will echo in our upcoming segments about the Crucifixion and the resurrection as well.

THE LAST SUPPER

- What New Testament believers refer to as "the Last Supper" was actually "Jews doing what Jews were supposed to do"
- It was really not an empty ritual - but a living breathing parable, casting a shadow all the way from Exodus chapter 12 forward several thousand years to that night in the upper room with Jesus
- Jesus interprets and fulfills these elements in profound ways:
 - During the meal, Jesus takes the bread
 - **Luke 22:19-20** [NKJV] ..."This is My body which is given for you; do this in remembrance of Me." Likewise He also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup *is* the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you."
 - And here, Jesus transforms the shadows of Passover into a memorial of His impending work on the cross (which we will discuss next week), pointing toward an eternally available Exodus from the slavery of sin.
 - The entire meal is a foreshadow of the events that unfolded the next day.
- Communion
 - **1 Corinthians 11:23-31** [NKJV] For I received from the Lord that which I also delivered to you: that the Lord Jesus on the *same* night in which He was betrayed took bread; and when He had given thanks,

He broke *it* and said, "Take, eat; this is My body which is broken for you; do this in remembrance of Me." In the same manner *He* also *took* the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood. This do, as often as you drink *it*, in remembrance of Me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death till He comes. Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks *this* cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body. For this reason many *are* weak and sick among you, and many sleep. For if we would judge ourselves, we would not be judged.

- His Body
 - **Isaiah 53:5** [NKJV] But He *was* wounded for our transgressions, *He was* bruised for our iniquities; The chastisement for our peace *was* upon Him, And by His stripes we are healed.
 - **1 Peter 2:24** [NKJV] who Himself bore our sins in His own body on the tree, that we, having died to sins, might live for righteousness--by whose stripes you were healed.
 - Not discerning the Lord's Body...
 - For this reason, many are weak and sick among you
 - Two ways to look at it
 - It was for our healing
 - His Body is other believers
 - We are to love them as ourselves
 - For THESE reasons many are weak and sick among us
 - If we don't understand the healing covenant
 - IF we don't love the rest of His Body
- His Blood
 - Let a man examine Himself
 - Judge ourselves lest we be judged

THE BETRAYAL

- **Matthew 26:14-16** [NKJV] Then one of the twelve, called Judas Iscariot, went to the chief priests and said, "What are you willing to give me if I deliver Him to you?" And they counted out to him thirty pieces of silver. So from that time he sought opportunity to betray Him.

- We don't have time today to go into the many ways Joseph, the son of Jacob, is a type of Jesus, but it is worth noting right here that even his own brothers sold him into the slavery of Egypt for 20 pieces of silver
 - **Genesis 37:28** [NKJV] Then Midianite traders passed by; so *the brothers* pulled Joseph up and lifted him out of the pit, and sold him to the Ishmaelites for twenty *shekels* of silver. And they took Joseph to Egypt.
 - **Exodus 21:32** [NKJV] If the ox gores a male or female servant, he shall give to their master thirty shekels of silver, and the ox shall be stoned.
 - In Bible times, 30 pieces of silver was the exact price of a slave
 - Why was Joseph only sold for 20 pieces?
 - It is logical to conclude that 20 pieces would be the wholesale price for a slave
 - with the understanding that the Midianite traders would likely sell him later for a higher price
 - perhaps even 30 pieces of silver
- Not only are there types and shadows on this issue, there is direct prophetic connection in
 - **Zechariah 11:12-13** [NKJV] Then I said to them, "If it is agreeable to you, give *me* my wages; and if not, refrain." So they weighed out for my wages thirty *pieces* of silver. And the LORD said to me, "Throw it to the potter"--that princely price they set on me. So I took the thirty *pieces* of silver and threw them into the house of the LORD for the potter.
 - **Matthew 27:3-10** [NKJV] Then Judas, His betrayer, seeing that He had been condemned, was remorseful and brought back the thirty pieces of silver to the chief priests and elders, saying, "I have sinned by betraying innocent blood." And they said, "What *is that* to us?" ... Then he threw down the pieces of silver in the temple and departed, and went and hanged himself. But the chief priests took the silver pieces and said, "It is not lawful to put them into the treasury, because they are the price of blood." And they consulted together and bought with them the potter's field, to bury strangers in. Therefore that field has been called the Field of Blood to this day. Then was fulfilled what was spoken by ... the prophet, saying, "And they took the thirty pieces of

silver, the value of Him who was priced, whom they of the children of Israel priced, and gave them for the potter's field, as the LORD directed me."

- All of the gospels record the betrayal itself, but John the beloved provides the most detail
 - **John 13:18, 21, 24-27** [NKJV] "I do not speak concerning all of you. I know whom I have chosen; but that the Scripture may be fulfilled, 'He who eats bread with Me has lifted up his heel against Me.'" ... When Jesus had said these things, He was troubled in spirit, and testified and said, "Most assuredly, I say to you, one of you will betray Me." ... Simon Peter therefore motioned to him to ask who it was of whom He spoke. Then, leaning back on Jesus' breast, he said to Him, "Lord, who is it?" Jesus answered, "It is he to whom I shall give a piece of bread when I have dipped *it*." And having dipped the bread, He gave *it* to Judas Iscariot, *the son* of Simon. Now after the piece of bread, Satan entered him. Then Jesus said to him, "What you do, do quickly."
 - **Psalm 41:9** [NKJV] Even my own familiar friend in whom I trusted, who ate my bread, has lifted up *his* heel against me.
 - **Psalm 55:12-14** [NKJV] For *it is* not an enemy *who* reproaches me; Then I could bear *it*. Nor *is it* one *who* hates me who has exalted *himself* against me; Then I could hide from him. But *it was* you, a man my equal, my companion and my acquaintance. We took sweet counsel together, *and* walked to the house of God in the throng.

THE GARDEN OF GETHSEMANE

- It's not rocket science to see the very dark shadow cast into the Garden of Gethsemane came all the way from the Garden of Eden
- When it comes to observances during Holy Week, *Good Friday* is most often used to encapsulate the fullness of Christ's redemptive work on the cross
 - Yet, there is value in understanding that the difficult work of redemption started the night before in the Garden of Gethsemane
 - Adam's sin in the Garden of Eden casts a big shadow in the garden where Jesus is found waging war, even with His own flesh, in prayer
 - Eden represents the shadow of paradise lost with Gethsemane being the turning point where the shadows of sin are forced to lift
 - The sin of Eden was easy enough to commit; the battle in Gethsemane opens our eyes to the agony of redemption

- The shadows of darkness that fell upon mankind in Eden will not ultimately be lifted until three days later at the Garden tomb
 - Perhaps we'll talk a little more about that in a couple of weeks when we discuss the resurrection
 - For now, let's focus our attention on the battle that Jesus won in Gethsemane
- When we introduced this topic at the beginning of this segment, we mentioned Romans chapter 5 and the fact that Adam is a "type" of Jesus
 - How so?
 - **Romans 5:19** [NKJV] For as by one man's disobedience many were made sinners, so also by one Man's obedience many will be made righteous.
 - The struggle of Gethsemane was a battle for obedience
 - **Matthew 26:36-46** [NKJV] Then Jesus came with them to a place called Gethsemane, and said to the disciples, "Sit here while I go and pray over there." And He took with Him Peter and the two sons of Zebedee, and He began to be sorrowful and deeply distressed. Then He said to them, "My soul is exceedingly sorrowful, even to death. Stay here and watch with Me."

He went a little farther and fell on His face, and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if it is possible, let this cup pass from Me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as You *will*."

Then He came to the disciples and found them sleeping, and said to Peter, "What? Could you not watch with Me one hour? Watch and pray, lest you enter into temptation. The spirit indeed *is* willing, but the flesh *is* weak."

Again, a second time, He went away and prayed, saying, "O My Father, if this cup cannot pass away from Me unless I drink it, Your will be done." And He came and found them asleep again, for their eyes were heavy.

So He left them, went away again, and prayed the third time, saying the same words. Then He came to His disciples and said to them, "Are *you* still sleeping and resting? Behold, the hour is at hand, and the Son of Man is being betrayed into the hands of sinners. Rise, let us be going. See, My betrayer is at hand."
- Jesus' time of prayer in the Garden of Gethsemane is the epitome of what most theologians call the Prayer of Consecration
 - He was setting aside His own will,

- Laying aside His own flesh's desire to not have to go through what He knew was coming
 - If, at any point, Jesus would have said, "I can't do it; I won't do it," it would have been over and our redemption would have been forever lost
- Man is created with a free will
 - Adam could have said "No" to the temptation in Eden, but he willfully chose to disobey the will of the Father
 - Jesus came in the form of a man; in the likeness of Adam; He had a choice to say, "No" to the cross
 - But thank God He said, "Nevertheless... if it be Your will."
 - And right here in the Garden of Gethsemane is where He willingly laid down in His will and obediently submitted to the will of the Father
 - Yes, Jesus would eventually make it all the way to the cross and out of the grave; yet, these few minutes in the Garden of Gethsemane were necessary
 - Had He not faced the temptations to say "No," "I can't do it," "I won't go to the cross;" IF He had not willingly laid down His life right there in that moment
 - The work of the cross would have been in vain
 - The will of man yielded to the will of God is the ultimate goal
 - God does not want only our sacrifice; He wants our obedience
 - **1 Samuel** 15:22 [NLT] ...What is more pleasing to the LORD: your burnt offerings and sacrifices or your obedience to his voice? Listen! Obedience is better than sacrifice, and submission is better than offering...
 - This is where Adam missed it entirely. He did not obey; He did not submit and it cost him everything... along with all of humanity
 - Jesus' willful choice is what actually set the stage for the ultimate redemption of mankind
- Eden & Gethsemane - these two Gardens - represent the framework of the Bible's core message:
 - Humanity's willful disobedience met by Christ's perfect obedience
 - Ultimately turning eternal separation from God into the complete restoration of right-standing with the Creator of all things