INTRO: In this lesson we shall examine a number of passages that contain an interesting & important Greek word—TUPOS.

I. THE ORIGINAL MEANING OF THE WORD: “THE MARK OR STROKE OF A BLOW.”

The other disciples therefore said to [Thomas] “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, & put my finger into the print of the nails & put my hand into His side, I will not believe.” (John 20:25).

II. NEXT, THE WORD CAME TO BE USED IN DESCRIBING ANYTHING FORMED BY A BLOW OR AN IMPRESSION, HENCE A STATUE OR IMAGE.

Yes, you took up the tabernacle of Moloch, & the star of your god Remphan, images which you made to worship (Acts 7:43, quoted from Amos 5:26).

III. FINALLY, THE WORD CAME TO BE USED MOST COMMONLY IN THE SENSE OF A PATTERN TO BE FOLLOWED.

A. N.T. baptism is a pattern of the death, burial & resurrection of Christ.

But God be thanked that tho you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered. (Rom. 6:17)

NOTE: Vine says “The metaphor is that of a cast or frame into which molten material is poured so as to take its shape.”

B. Moses was given a pattern by which to make the O.T. tabernacle.

Our fathers had the tabernacle of witness in the wilderness, as He appointed, instructing Moses to make it
according to the pattern that he had seen (Acts 7:44).
See also Heb. 5:8.


He wrote a letter in the following manner (A 23:25)

D. Faithful Christians should conduct themselves so as to be a pattern for others to follow.

1. The apostles did.
   Brethren, join in following my example & note those who so walk, as you have us for a pattern. (Phil. 3:17).
   Nor did we eat anyone’s bread free of charge, but worked with labor & toil night & day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, not because we do not have authority, but to make ourselves an example of how you should follow us. (2 Thess. 3:8-9).

2. Elders are a pattern for other Christians.
   Not as being lords over those entrusted to you, but being examples to the flock. (2 Peter 5:3).

3. Preachers should be patterns for others.
   Let no one despise your youth, but be an example of the believers in word, in conduct, in love, in spirit, in faith, in purity. (1 Tim 4:12)

4. Whole congregations can conduct their affairs so as to be a pattern for other congregations

   1 Thess 1:6-8, And you became followers of us & of the Lord, having received the word in much affliction, with joy of the Holy Spirit, so that you became examples to all in Macedonia & Achaia who believe. For from you the word of the Lord has sounded forth, not only in
Macedonia & Achaia, but also in every place. Your faith toward God has gone out, so that we do not need to say anything.

IV. THE WORD TUPOS ALSO CAME TO BE USED IN THE FIGURES KNOWN IN THE STUDY OF LANGUAGE AS “TYPE AND ANTI-TYPE.”

A. Adam was a type (figure, foreshadow) of Christ.
Rom. 5:14, Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned according to the likeness of the transgression of Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come. (Rom. 5:14). Cp. 1 Cor 15:22

Heb 9:24, For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us.

B. The flood in the days of Noah was a type of N.T. baptism.
I Pet. 3:20-21

C. The word TUPOS seems to be us in both the senses of type & pattern in 1 Cor. 10:1-12.

READ I COR. 10:1-12. (Note esp. vs. 6, 11)

CONCLUSION: It is hoped that this study will prove to be interesting, informative, & of practical value as we s to live so as to be a pattern that others may safely follow.

La Porte, TX, May 28, 1978
Exton, PA, October 4, 1987
Shiloh, Mexia, TX, September 19, 1993
Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, August 24, 2003