

## TYPE AND ANTITYPE

Text: 2 Peter 3:20-21

INTRO: In this lesson we will look at a figure of speech known as type & antitype. Webster defines type as “a person or thing regarded as the symbol of someone or something that is yet to appear.” Antitype is “that which corresponds to the type.”

Our English word “type\_ comes from the Greek TUPOS. The original meaning of that word is “the mark left by striking.” The best example of that meaning in the Bible is John 20:25, “Unless I see in His hands the **print** of the nails...”

From this background the word TUPOS came to be used to speak of a form or mold into which a liquid is poured and allowed to harden. A Jello mold or a concrete form would be a common example. It is used in this sense in Rom. 6:17,

Finally, the word became commonly used to mean a pattern or example.

- I. SOME PERSONS & THINGS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT ARE CLEARLY SAID TO BE TYPES FULFILLED IN NEW TESTAMENT ANTITYPES.
  - A. The tabernacle foreshadowed heaven, Heb. 9:24 The word **copies** is from TUPOS.
  - B. Noah’s flood was a **type** of which New Testament baptism is the **antitype** or fulfillment, 1 Pet. 3:20-21.
  - C. The Israelites crossing the Red Sea was also a figure of New Testament baptism, 1 Cor. 10:1-2.
  - D. Adam is said to be a “type” of Christ. Adam pioneered in sin, Christ in sinlessness. Adam brought death into the human family, Jesus brought resurrection into the human family, etc. See Rom. 5:14.
- II. THERE ARE NUMEROUS OTHER CASES OF TYPE & ANTITYPE WHERE THOSE WORDS ARE NOT USED, BUT THE FIGURE OF SPEECH IS CLEARLY PRESENT.

- A. The Passover & all other Old Testament blood offerings were types, Christ' sacrifice the antitype, 1 Cor. 5:7; Heb. 9:22-23. (Here the word "copies" is from the Greek HUPODEIGMA. This word is best illustrated by a child's writing tablet where the letters of the alphabet are on the top line, and the child is to duplicate that as best he can on the line below..
- B. Moses as a prophet was a type, Christ the antitype. Deut. 18:15-19; Acts 3:22-23.
- C. The brass serpent in the wilderness (Num. 21:9) was a type, Christ the antitype, John 3:14.
- D. King David served as a type, fulfilled in Christ, the antitype, Jer.30:9; Ezek. 34:23; 37:24.
- E. Elijah the prophet was a type, John the Baptist the antitype, Mal. 4:5-6; Luke 1:17.

III. NOT EVERY OLD TESTAMENT REFERENCE THAT SHOWS SIMILARITY TO A NEW TESTAMENT PERSON OR EVENT IS AN EXAMPLE OF TYPE/ANTITYPE.

- A. A type must be **intended** to represent the antitype. Things that are coincidentally similar are NOT types & antitypes.
  - 1. The Passover has many similarities with the Lord's Supper, but it is not a type of that supper. It is a type of Christ Himself, 1 Cor. 5:7.
  - 2. The ark has many points of comparison with the church, but there is no Biblical evidence that Gbod meant it to be a type with the church as antitype. The water of the flood was a type, New Testament baptism the antitype.

NOTE: It is not wrong for preachers or teachers to compare these similar matters & use one to illustrate the other, but we should be careful not to identify them as type/antitype in the absence of Biblical evidence.

B. A type must be a real person, thing or event, etc. Not a vision or a dream.

La Porte, TX, May 29, 1983

Exton, PA, December 14, 1986

Shiloh, Mexia, TX, January 3, 1993

Susquehanna, Marietta, PA, July 10, 2005