

#43 FORUM POST ON OLD TESTAMENT TYPES

Dear All,

John the Baptist came in the spirit of Elijah and served the purpose for making the pathway straight for the "called out" Jewish nation to receive their Messiah. His call was for the Jewish Elect to repent from their works. In this age, a converted Elect believer serves the same purpose for called out believers (the church) who have also been chosen.

James said this:

James 5:17 Elias was a man subject to like passions as we are, and he prayed earnestly that it might not rain: and it rained not on the earth by the space of three years and six months. 18 And he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain, and the earth brought forth her fruit. 19 Brethren, if any of you do err from the truth, and one convert him; 20 Let him know, that he which converteth the sinner from the error of his way shall save a soul from death, and shall hide a multitude of sins.

The life of John the Baptist served more than just making the pathway straight for the Lord. John the Baptist also served as a spiritual "type" with its own message.

But before I get into the "type" which the life of John the Baptist served, I want to give you a little background on spiritual "types":

The Old Testament is full of spiritual "types" that are later fulfilled within the Elect during this age.

Paul said this about the people and events of the Old Testament:

1Cor 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as types, and have been written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages are come.

The actual people and events of the Old Testament teach spiritual messages to those whom "the ends of the ages are come". These messages are called "types". These "types" are for the Elect who have "eyes that can see" and whom the "ends of the ages" have come. The end of the ages occurs within the life of an Elect believer when they spiritually experience the second coming of Christ at the time He gives them the Latter Rain of the Spirit. This is the moment of conversion. For them, the ages comes to an end because the ages were created by God for the birthing of new children - His children. At the time of the conversion event, the Elect believer is gathered to dwell with Christ in heaven.

Note: Related "types" teach that unbelievers dwell in the sea. When a person is called out from the world, they rise a little higher to dwell on the earth. Then when conversion is imminent, the chosen believer will travel to the mountains just before they rise to dwell in heaven at the moment of conversion.

These "types" for mankind's spiritual state of being are not visible/physical events. They are spiritual and they take place within the believer. In God's eyes, the converted believer is now a child of God who dwells with Him in heaven. This represents the believer's new spiritual state

of being and for them, the ages have come to an end. When the literal "end of the ages" come in the final age, the great ingathering will occur. This salvation event is "typed" by the Feast of Tabernacles which celebrates the end of the harvest season.

Christ made this call when He secretly attended the Feast of Tabernacles:

John 7:37 In the last day, that great day of the feast, Jesus stood and cried, saying, If any man thirst, let him come unto me, and drink. 38 He that believeth on me, as scripture hath said, out of his belly shall flow rivers of living water.

This call by Christ is a "type". It will be spiritually fulfilled at the end of the final age when the great ingathering of mankind occurs. This call is repeated in the book of Revelation but an additional detail is given:

Rev 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, Come, and let him that heareth say, Come, and let him that is athirst come, and whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely.

This is the same call which Christ made in John 7:37 but in the above verse, the "bride" is added to the call. The bride is the "bride of Christ" who represents the Elect, the First Fruits of the harvest of mankind. In addition to the blessing of receiving "life in the ages", the Elect also receive the blessing of reigning with Christ in the final age. Joel chapter 2 is a spiritual representation of what the Elect will be doing in the final age:

Joel 2:1 Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for it is nigh at hand; 2 A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, even to the years of many generations. 3 A fire devoureth before them; and behind them a flame burneth: the land is as the garden of Eden before them, and behind them a desolate wilderness; yea, and nothing shall escape them. 4 The appearance of them is as the appearance of horses; and as horsemen, so shall they run. 5 Like the noise of chariots on the tops of mountains shall they leap, like the noise of a flame of fire that devoureth the stubble, as a strong people set in battle array. 6 Before their face the people shall be much pained: all faces shall gather blackness. 7 They shall run like mighty men; they shall climb the wall like men of war; and they shall march everyone on his ways, and they shall not break their ranks: 8 Neither shall one thrust another; they shall walk everyone in his path: and when they fall upon the sword, they shall not be wounded. 9 They shall run to and fro in the city; they shall run upon the wall, they shall climb up upon the houses; they shall enter in at the windows like a thief. 10 The earth shall quake before them; the heavens shall tremble: the sun and the moon shall be dark, and the stars shall withdraw their shining: 11 And the LORD shall utter his voice before his army: for his camp is very great: for he is strong that executeth his word: for the day of the LORD is great and very terrible; and who can abide it?

Though this spiritual representation sounds ominous and terrible for the lost, it is for their benefit. It represents their judgment of their carnal nature which must be destroyed. No one will

“abide it”. It is a necessary part of conversion. Later in verses 18-27, the Lord will have mercy upon them and pour the Latter Rain of the Spirit. With this outpouring of the Spirit, the “lost” of the final age will be saved and converted. The "type" of the Feast of Tabernacles will then fulfilled.

Note: the Feast of First Fruits "types" the Elect who were harvested "early" in this present age.

After Christ has completed His mission to save the world (1John 4:14) and the Kingdom of Heaven is full, Christ will deliver up the Kingdom of Heaven to His Father and then God will be "all in all" (1Cor 15:28).

Now back to John the Baptist and the "type" He represents.

Mark 1:6 And John was clothed with camel's hair, and with a girdle of a skin about his loins; and he did eat locusts and wild honey;

John 11:7 And as they departed, Jesus began to say unto the multitudes concerning John, What went ye out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken with the wind? 8 But what went ye out for to see? A man clothed in soft raiment? behold, they that wear soft clothing are in kings' houses.

Luke 7:33 For John the Baptist came neither eating bread nor drinking wine; and ye say, He hath a devil.

John the Baptist is a “type” of the Old Man/Man of Sin. He lives in the wilderness where all called out believers dwell and where it is dry (lack of the Holy Spirit). The Israelites “typed” this truth as well when they wandered in the wilderness for 40 years shortly after being “called out” of Egypt. Esau is another “type” of the Old Man.

John is also not dressed in the “soft raiment” of the converted Elect who are kings and priests of Christ.

Finally, John did not drink the wine (Christ’s blood) of the New Covenant nor could he eat bread (truth). And as it is said, “he hath a devil” which is a reference to the indwelling of the spirit of anti-Christ.

John said this about himself:

John 3:30 He must increase, but I must decrease.

After a believer is converted, Christ’s chastisement will cause the Old Man to decrease as the New Man (Christ) increases. This is the maturing processing that takes a babe in Christ to a fully mature son of God.

Later, John was cast into prison but was not sure if Jesus was the Messiah.

John 11:2 Now when John had heard in the prison the works of Christ, he sent two of his disciples, 3 And said unto him, Art thou he that should come, or do we look for another?

This “types” the Old Man’s spiritual blindness. Paul also “typed” mankind’s spiritual blindness when Christ appeared to him on the Damascus Road (Acts 9:4-9).

Later, John was beheaded by Herod.

Mat 14:10 And he sent, and beheaded John in the prison.

Christ is the head of the church who is the body. When we are converted, we are beheaded like John and from this death, we receive a new head (Christ). John’s death “typed” this portion of the conversion process.

Joe