

JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lesson 5: SETH – Seed of the Woman

Aim: To demonstrate how Seth pictures Christ in resurrection, a replacement seed that was necessary because of Abel's death. Together, Abel and Seth provide a complete type of Christ, and all for the purpose of fulfilling God's purpose for the 7th Day.

Key Scriptures: Genesis 1:9-13; 3:15; 4:9-12, 25-26; 1Corinthians 15:45-49; Galatians 3:16; Hebrews 11:4, 17; 1Peter 1:3-5.

As we continue in our study of **Jesus in the Old Testament**, we have come to realize that Christ is seen throughout various Types in the OT, particularly in the patriarchs such as Adam and Abel. Today we will look at another – Seth.

To review, we know that on the day of His resurrection Jesus told the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus that He must first **suffer before He could enter into His glory** (Lk.24:26).

In our last lesson, we saw how Christ's death on the Cross – the suffering He spoke about – was foreshadowed in the murder of Abel at the hand of his brother Cain.

Q: What were the 2 brothers' respective occupations?

A:

Q: What was the order of their births?

A:

Q: Where were the brothers when Cain killed Abel, and what does that point to according to Mathew.13:38?

A:

Q: Abel is a Type of Christ crucified; who is Cain a Type of?

A:

This happened after both Cain and Abel brought an offering to God. Abel's was accepted, but God rejected Cain's offering, and so Cain became angry. According to Hebrews 11:4, Abel's offering was accepted because it was made 'By faith...', which contextually would have been faith 'to the saving of his soul' (Heb.10:39).

But God did not respect Cain's offering and therefore we can conclude it was not made 'by faith'. Afterwards God warned Cain that **if** he did well, **then** he would be accepted, and **if not, then** 'Sin' was ready to consume him. However, Cain did not do well because whilst he talked with his brother in the field, he rose up and killed him.

Notes:

Genesis 4:9 Then the LORD said to Cain, "Where is Abel your brother?" He said, "I do not know. Am I my brother's keeper?"

10 And He said, "What have you done? The voice of your brother's blood cries out to Me from the ground.

11 "So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother's blood from your hand.

12 "When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth."

God had warned Cain that *“sin lies at the door. And its desire is for you, but you should rule over it.”* (Gen. 4:7). This description makes it sound as though sin takes on a life of its own. What is this literary style called?

Q: Can anyone find further examples of personification in the passage above?

A:

Q: According to the verses 9 to 12 of Genesis 4, what were the consequences for Cain’s actions?

A:

(Teachers: The focus of the lesson is not what happens to Cain from that point forward. However if questions or comments come up, then feel free to explain how Cain continues to be a Type of the nation of Israel, who throughout her history has been persecuted and hunted like a fugitive by her enemies. The result is that like Cain, she has become something of a vagabond on the earth, consigned to wander by dwelling in the Gentile nations more so than in her own land. However, as we discovered in the last lesson there is the promise of a future time when Israel, who Cain typifies, will rule over her sin.)

As for Abel, his acceptable offering of ‘the firstborn of his flock and of their fat’ (Gen.4:4), followed by his death, proved that he was righteous:

***Hebrews 11:4** By faith Abel offered to God a more excellent sacrifice than Cain, through which he obtained witness that he was righteous, God testifying of his gifts; and through it he being dead still speaks.*

We learnt that righteous Abel is a Type of Christ, who was also killed by His Brother, Israel. And we know that on the 3rd Day following His crucifixion, Christ rose from the dead.

When Christ spoke to the 2 disciples on the road to Emmaus, He corrected their understanding of the events that had transpired that day.

*Luke 24:25 Then He said to them, "O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe in all that the prophets have spoken!
26 "Ought not the Christ to have **suffered** these things and to enter into His glory?"
27 And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.*

Following His death, if Christ was to '**enter into His glory**', then He would have to be **resurrected** before He could ascend to the Father and receive that glory. We know that the passage we just read took place on the 3rd Day, and Jesus had risen from the dead that very morning as He walked and talked with the two men on the road.

Now unlike Christ, Abel was not resurrected from the dead. **But** we do see a picture of the resurrected Christ later in Genesis chapter 4, and that is the starting point of our lesson today:

Notes:

*Genesis 4:25 And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him **Seth**, "For God has appointed another seed for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed."*

26 And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD.

Q: What does Eve refer to Seth as?

A:

The 3rd son born to Adam and his wife was a replacement 'seed' for Abel, and because of that, Seth is a Type of the resurrected Christ. So, on a very foundational level we can see that

- Abel is a picture of Christ in death.
- Seth is a picture of Christ in resurrection.
- Together they provide a complete picture.

However it is the picture of 'The Seed of the woman' Who will fulfill the purpose for the 7th Day, which is only possible through resurrection, that the account of Seth leads us to.

When Eve gave birth to Seth, she must have been thinking of the promise God made after she was deceived by Satan in the garden:

Let's review what God said to the Serpent after he deceived the woman:

Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you [the Serpent] and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel."

We see here that there will be 2 seeds with two outcomes - one seed from the Serpent, and one from the Woman (Eve). The seeds referenced here are the offspring of the Serpent and the offspring of the woman, hence the reason that, after Abel's death, Eve would have referred to Seth as '**another seed**'. Between these two seeds there will be enmity, meaning hatred of each other. They will be enemies! This ongoing enmity began with Cain killing Abel, and it continues to this day!

Q: According to [Genesis 3:15](#), what will the Seed of the Woman do to the Serpent?

A:

Q: What will the seed of the Serpent do to the Seed of the Woman?

A:

Q: Who is the Seed of the Woman that is being referenced, and when was his heel bruised?

A:

Q: Who is the seed of the Serpent that is being referenced, and when will his head be bruised?

A:

It is here in Genesis chapter 3 verse 15, after the Fall, that we have the promise of the future Redeemer (the Seed of the Woman, Jesus Christ), who will crush the head of the Serpent, who is Satan. (*c.f. Romans 16:20*)

In the picture of Seth is the Seed who will fulfill God's purpose for the 7th Day. And because it is only possible in resurrection power, that is why the Christ must first suffer and be raised the 3rd Day. Which takes us nicely to Genesis chapter 1 and the 3rd Day restoration of the ruined creation:

Genesis 1:9 *Then God said, "Let the waters under the heavens be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear"; and it was so.*

Notes:

10 And God called the dry land Earth, and the gathering together of the waters He called Seas. And God saw that it was good.

11 Then God said, "Let the earth bring forth grass, the herb that yields seed, and the fruit tree that yields fruit according to its kind, whose seed is in itself, on the earth"; and it was so.

12 And the earth brought forth grass, the herb that yields seed according to its kind, and the tree that yields fruit, whose seed is in itself according to its kind. And God saw that it was good.

13 So the evening and the morning were the third day.

Q: How is resurrection seen in these verses and what does it make possible?

A:

Ge 3:20 And Adam called his wife's name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. [lit. all those who would have life]

In our study of Adam, the first Man, and of Christ, who is the second Man and last Adam, we saw that Adam became sin with his wife awaiting a future redemption. After which God clothed them with animal skins revealing the foundational picture of death and shed blood for the forgiveness and cleansing from sin. At that point Adam changed his wife's name from Woman to Eve, meaning 'life-giver'. Adam, as a Type of Christ, was only the shadow and not the reality. He was not able to fulfill God's purpose for the 7th Day, but the One Who has replaced him will. Adam 'died' because of sin, but the One who replaced him – Christ, is a life-giving spirit.

Notes:

1Corinthians 15:45 And so it is written, "The first man Adam became a living being." The last Adam became a life-giving spirit.

46 However, the spiritual is not first, but the natural, and afterward the spiritual.

47 The first man was of the earth, made of dust; the second Man is the Lord from heaven.

48 As was the man of dust, so also are those who are made of dust; and as is the heavenly Man, so also are those who are heavenly.

49 And as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the heavenly Man.

Q: What must we do to bear the image of the heavenly man? (*Hint – Genesis Day 3*)

A:

Christ's resurrection makes possible our future out-resurrection from the dead when those who are heavenly will 'bear the image of the heavenly Man'. All of which is only possible as a result of the fruit produced in resurrection power as seen in Genesis chapter 1 Day 3, and through Christ's resurrection.

Seth picturing Christ in resurrection also foreshadows Isaac in resurrection, who is providing another facet to the picture of Christ.

Q: Can we see the sacrifice of Isaac in Abel?

A:

Q: Where do we see that pictured through Seth in the account of the sacrifice of Isaac? Scripture?

A:

Cain killing Abel is one aspect of the 'suffering of Christ'. Isaac's sacrifice by his father is the other part. Seth as 'another seed', and Isaac raised figuratively from the dead, provide a progressive picture that is fulfilled in Christ. Both then are types of Christ who provide complimentary parts of the overall picture.

In the picture of Cain, Abel and Seth, Seth also points to the certainty of resurrection for those pictured through Cain, the nation of Israel. Resurrection with respect to fulfilling God's purpose for them in the 7th Day. And that is only

possible because of **death** (Abel/Jesus) and **resurrection** (Seth/Jesus). The seed given to replace Abel is all about the 7th Day!

Galatians 3:16 Now to Abraham and his Seed were the promises made. He does not say, "And to seeds," as of many, but as of one, "And to your Seed," who is Christ.

It is not surprising that **Jesus began with Moses** (with Genesis) as He expounded to the 2 Disciples on the road to Emmaus why He had to **suffer** and **be resurrected** before He could enter into glory and rule in the 7th Day. Abel pictures Christ in death and Seth pictures Christ in resurrection. Seth is therefore a picture of the promised **Seed of the Woman** who will crush Satan's head, something that can only be done because of Christ's death and resurrection, and all for the purpose of the 7th Day!

1Peter 1:3 Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who according to His abundant mercy has begotten us again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead.

4 to an inheritance incorruptible and undefiled and that does not fade away, reserved in heaven for you,

5 who are kept by the power of God through faith for salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In our next lesson we will look at another OT individual who foreshadows Christ in the 7th Day, as a King-Priest. His name is Melchizedek, and he is quite mysterious because he is said to be without a father, mother, or a genealogy!

Let's pray.