

Biblical Theology Lesson 11

First Coming of Christ, Part 2: Promises Fulfilled

Pray

Throughout the course of this series on Biblical Theology, I've said many times that the whole Bible tells one, cohesive story - the story of God redeeming sinful humanity, redeeming us from our sin to come back into right relationship with God as His people, in His perfect presence forever. We can summarize the story as Creation, Fall, Redemption, and New Creation. And I argued that at the very center of the entire story is *Jesus Christ* - the wholly story is about Jesus. The person, life, and work of Christ are the point and climax of the Bible's storyline. And this is because the entire *Old Testament* points forward to Jesus, so that He fulfills all of God's covenants and promises that God gave to His people in the Old Testament. The New Testament tells us this repeatedly; for example:

2 Cor. 1:20 - For all the promises of God find their Yes in him [Jesus]. That is why it is through him that we utter our Amen to God for his glory."

Last week, we walked through the main highlights of the life of Christ. Today, we're going to connect some dots together, seeing how Jesus Christ fulfills all of God's covenant promises and prophecies in the Old Testament. Over the last several weeks, we looked at the covenants God made with His people throughout the Old Testament - today, we're going to see how Jesus fulfills them all:

- 1. Christ Fulfills the Covenant of Adam**
- 2. Christ Fulfills the Covenant of Abraham**
- 3. Christ Fulfills the Covenant of Moses**
- 4. Christ Fulfills the Covenant of David**
- 5. Christ Fulfills the Promise of a New Covenant**

We won't get through all of these today; we'll look at how Christ fulfills the covenants of Adam and Abraham, and we will see how much time we have to start on the fulfillment of the covenant of Moses, then we'll finish up next week.

I. Christ Fulfills the Covenant of Adam

A. Jesus is the New Adam

- **Rom. 5:12-14** - Adam was a type of Christ; Jesus is the New, True, and Better Adam

- **1 Cor. 15:20-22; 45-49**

B. Jesus is the True Image of God

The “image of God” humanity was created to be in the Garden: representatives and reflections of God, as His people. To be “image bearers” meant to be 1. A son of GOD; 2. Divinely representative Kings, representing God on earth, exercising dominion under God’s authority; 3. Priests, representing creation to God, worshipping and obeying Him, as God’s people in God’s place.

1. The God-Man: the visible image of the invisible God

- Col. 1:15 - “He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation.”

2. Jesus is God’s Son

3. True priest-king

4. Jesus shows us what it truly means to be *human*, to live in the image of God - to live in perfect relationship with God, representing GOD and worshipping God on earth, in all things.

C. Jesus fulfills Gen. 3:15 - crushes Sin, Satan, and Death

- Gen. 3:15 - “I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your offspring and her offspring; he shall bruise your head, and you shall bruise his heel.”

- Jesus fulfills this promise in his death on the cross and resurrection from the grave

- *Heb. 2:14* - “Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil”

II. Christ Fulfills the Covenant of Abraham

God promised to Abraham (in Gen. 12, 15, 17): 1. To be made into a nation - God’s people - through the promised offspring; 2. To receive God’s promised land that his offspring

would inherit; 3. To be *blessed* by God so that God would bring blessing *to the nations of the earth* through Abraham's offspring.

A. *Jesus is the promised offspring of Abraham*

- Gal. 3:16

B. *Jesus brings about the true, promised family of Abraham*

- Gal. 3:7-9 - Son of Abraham are those who trust in the gospel of Christ, like Abraham

C. *Jesus fulfills the promised blessing: righteousness, eternal life, and the inheritance of the world*

- Righteousness and eternal life: Rom. 4:1-9
- Rom. 4:13 - "For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith"

III. Christ Fulfills the Covenant of Moses

God's covenant with Israel through Moses promised life and blessing as God's righteous, holy people, in God's place, *if* they obeyed God's covenant Law, or else they would receive the promised curses

A. *Jesus fulfilled the Law of Moses*

- *Matt. 5:17-18* - "Do not think that I have come to abolish the Law or the Prophets; I have not come to abolish them, but to fulfill them. For truly, I say to you, until heaven and earth pass away, not an iota, not a dot, will pass away from the Law until all is accomplished."
- Sinless and righteous; perfectly fulfilled God's righteous demands

B. *Jesus bore the covenant curse of the law*

- Gal. 3:10-13

C. *Jesus is a Prophet Greater than Moses*

- Deut. 18:15-22 promises a prophet greater than Moses would come
- As we saw last week - Jesus is the true and great prophet
- Heb. 3:1-6 - Jesus Greater than Moses

- Jesus brings a *new law* - Law of Christ; Sermon on mount, Matt. 5-7 (we'll talk about this more in a later class)

D. Jesus is the True, Greater High Priest

- Heb. 4:14 - "Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession."
- **Heb. 8:1-7**

E. Jesus is the True Sacrifice

- **Heb. 9:11-14**
- **Heb. 10:1-4, 10**

F. Jesus is the True Temple

- The tabernacle/temple always symbolized GOD's presence among his people
- In the incarnation, God truly dwells with humanity, His people, *as a human being*, in the person of Jesus Christ
- Jesus's body is the true temple
- **John 2:19-22** - "Jesus answered them, 'Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up.' The Jews then said, 'It has taken forty-six years to build this temple, and you will raise it up in three days?' But he was speaking about the temple of his body. When, therefore, he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this, and they believed the Scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken."

IV. Christ Fulfills the Covenant of David

V. Christ Fulfills the Promise of a New Covenant