

JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

Lesson 2: ADAM – A Type of Him Who Was to Come (Part 1)

The Great Mystery

Aim: To understand how Christ and His Bride are to be seen in the foundational type of the marriage relationship between Adam and the Woman in Genesis Chapter 2.

Key Scriptures: Luke 24:27; Romans 5:14b; Genesis 2:18 - 24; Ephesians 5:25-32

In our first lesson we discovered that on the day of Jesus's resurrection He walked with two of His disciples on the road to Emmaus from Jerusalem, a journey of 7 miles (Lk.24:13). The disciples were downhearted because of the crucifixion and Christ's body was now missing, but unbeknownst to them, they were walking with the risen Christ! They were also sad because they thought Jesus was going to redeem Israel at that time (Lk.24:21). On that point Jesus chastised them for being foolish and slow of heart for not believing what the prophets had written concerning how the Christ must first suffer before entering into His glory, from which He would then be able to redeem Israel.

Q: What did Jesus do to correct their understanding?

A:

Let's read **the key verse** which is the basis for our whole study of Jesus in the Old Testament (OT):

Has anyone managed to memorize the verse, **Luke 24:27**? (*Teachers give the students an opportunity to recite the verse.*)

***Luke 24:27** And beginning at Moses and all the Prophets, He expounded to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.*

Q: Where did Moses begin?

A:

In the last lesson we also discovered that by comparing **Genesis 1:1** with **John 1:1** that Jesus is the Word of God in a bodily form. He was right there in the beginning with God the Father, and God the Holy Spirit, in both the creation and restoration of the heavens and the earth. Nothing was created or made without Him.

Today we are returning to Moses' writings and we are going to consider how Christ could have taken the 2 disciples to the account of Adam and the Woman in the garden to reveal things concerning Himself. However we will begin with a New Testament verse that will help to focus our attention on one particular aspect of Adam.

Romans 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.

We will look in detail at '*the transgression of Adam*' in the next lesson. However, what do you understand it to mean that '*death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over those who had not sinned*'? Why did there exist a reign of death from Adam to Moses? (*Hint: Glory is associated with God's divine presence.*)

Let's now focus our attention on the last part of the verse in emboldened text:

... Adam, who is a type of Him who was to come.

Q: How is Adam described?

A:

Q: Who is he a type of?

A:

The context for this verse in Romans is a comparison showing how through one man's offense (Adam's), judgment and condemnation came to all, however through One Man's obedience (Christ's), grace abounded much more resulting in many being made righteous. The 'Him' who was to come is speaking of Christ, so we can clearly see from this verse that Adam is a Type of Christ. Any thoughts as to in what way Adam is a Type of Christ?

There are 2 aspects of the life of Adam that we will be studying in this and the following lesson. Today we will see how Christ and His Bride-to-be are to be seen in the foundational type of the marriage relationship between Adam and the Woman in Genesis Chapter 2.

Let's look at how that came about:

Notes:

***Genesis 2:18** And the LORD God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him."*

19 Out of the ground the LORD God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name.

20 So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him.

21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

23 And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

Q: What was the reason for the LORD God making the Woman and bringing her to the Man?

A:

The word translated '*comparable*' has the idea of: being likened to; being in front of as a counterpart or mate for the very purpose which is in view.

Q: What was the purpose in view for which God created Adam according to **Genesis 1:26-27**?

A: Genesis 1:26 *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them.*

When God created Adam for dominion (rulership), it says that **‘He created them’**, therefore we can know that it was always God’s plan to make the Woman from a part of Adam’s body for the purpose of them ruling together. And that is why it was not good for the Man to be alone. He would need a helper to rule together with him.

Re-read [Genesis 2:21-23](#) and then complete the following sentences that describe the process for the formation of the Woman from Adam:

1. God put Adam into...
2. God took one of Adam’s...
3. God closed up...
4. God used the ... to make...
5. God brought her...

Q: Why did Adam name her ‘Woman’?

A:

As a result of the formation of the Woman from a part of Adam’s body we then have the first mention in Scripture of what a marriage relationship should look like in **v.24**:

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

And of course the context for the marriage relationship we have already established is: RULERSHIP. So how does what we are reading in Genesis chapters 1 & 2 relate to Christ and His Bride? The Apostle Paul quoted **Genesis 2:24** and followed it with a very pertinent statement in Ephesians chapter 5. Underline the quote from Genesis when we come to it.

Notes:

***Eph 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, just as Christ also loved the church and gave Himself for her,*

(Instructions to wives are given in vv.21-24)

26 that He might sanctify and cleanse her with the washing of water by the word,

27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

28 So husbands ought to love their own wives as their own bodies; he who loves his wife loves himself.

29 For no one ever hated his own flesh, but nourishes and cherishes it, just as the Lord does the church.

30 For we are members of His body, of His flesh and of His bones.

31 "For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh."

32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

Q: What was Paul commanding husbands to do in **vv.25 & 28**?

A:

Q: Whose love was he comparing it to?

A:

Q: How does **v.27** compare with **Genesis 2:22**? *22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.*

A:

Q: How is the church described in **v.30**?

A:

Just as Adam's wife was made from Adam's body so the church is made from Christ's body. Christians are the Body of Christ! And because we are, Paul then quotes from Genesis chapter 2 concerning 'leaving, cleaving, and becoming one flesh'. Now not all Christians are married, or of marriage age, so clearly it cannot be talking only of physical marriage. Let's read **Ephesians 5:32** again:

32 This is a great mystery, but I speak concerning Christ and the church.

So Paul is not just talking about a physical marriage between a husband and wife, but rather a marriage relationship between Christ and His Church.

Q: Does anyone know why he would refer to this as 'a great mystery'? What is a mystery in Scripture? (*Hint: Mat.13:10-11*)

A:

A 'mystery' in Scripture is a truth that has been laid down in the OT but is not fully revealed and understood until the NT. So prior to the writing of the NT the mysteries of the Kingdom remained largely hidden. Jesus and Paul appear to be the only 2 individuals that used the word 'mystery' or 'mysteries' in Scripture.

So what was the 'great mystery' 'concerning Christ and the church' that Paul was alluding to? For that we need to return to where it was first hidden, and where we have already been today.

Notes:

Genesis 2:21 And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place.

22 Then the rib which the LORD God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man.

23 And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones And flesh of my flesh; She shall be called Woman, Because she was taken out of Man."

24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh.

If Adam and the Woman picture Christ and His Wife, then the process of building her must be identical. Don't forget '**Adam is a Type of Him who was to come**'.

Q: When was Christ put into a deep sleep?

A:

Q: After Christ died when and how was His side opened?

A:

Q: What flowed from Christ's side?

A:

When Christ's side was opened His rib was not removed but the blood and the water are exactly what are necessary for His Bride to be built before being presented back to Him. Christ's **blood** was shed for us, for the forgiveness of our sins, which even now is available to us as we confess to Him, who is our High Priest in the heavenly tabernacle. He is faithful and just to forgive us and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness as we confess (1st John 1:9). The **water** from Christ's side makes possible our cleansing following confession just as it promises in a verse we read earlier:

***Eph 5:26** that He [Christ] might sanctify and cleanse her [His future wife] with the **washing of water by the word**,*

Once God formed the Woman from Adam's rib so she was brought to him. When will Christ's Bride be presented back to Him? The short answer is the Judgment Seat of Christ. This can be gleaned once again from our Ephesians passage in **v.27**:

27 that He might present her to Himself a glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing, but that she should be holy and without blemish.

As yet there is no 'glorious church' without spot, wrinkle, blemish because we all still have an unredeemed soul and body. But as we avail ourselves of Christ's **blood**, and **water** from the Word, so we are working towards that day when we stand before Christ and will receive the salvation of our souls and the redemption of our body, which will be a glorious body without blemish.

Could the two disciples on the road to Emmaus have seen this mystery? Perhaps, perhaps not. We do know they were slow of heart to believe all that the prophets spoke. In our next lesson we shall return to Adam as a Type of Christ, and we shall see how Christ's statement concerning how 'He must first suffer before entering into His glory' is revealed in Adam in Genesis chapter 3.

As we finish here is something for you to ponder. The Woman was made only from Adam's rib and not his whole body. What does that show us concerning the 'great mystery'?

Let's pray...