

The HEARING OF Faith

LIVING STREAM MINISTRY RADIO NEWSLETTER

NUMBER 31, NOVEMBER 2000

"He therefore who bountifully supplies to you the Spirit . . . does He do it out of the works of the law or out of the hearing of faith?" Galatians 3:5

In

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Dear Life-study Listener,

We hope you have been able to continue with us on our life-study journey. We recently went from the inspiration of pursuing Christ in Philippians to a two-week review of how the Lord meets every man's need in the Gospel of John. Then we moved on to our current place, the spiritual revelation of Christ in the Old Testament book of Leviticus. Our hope and prayer for you are that the Lord would speak to you from His Word in new ways and reveal Himself to you as never before.

Life-study of Leviticus touches many subjects that most readers of the Bible usually skip over. The details of the offerings are a rich explanation of the type of Christ as our unique offering (John 1:29). Leviticus 1:6, for example, talks of the offering being "skinned" and "cut into pieces." What does this mean? You will find the answer in the book *Life-study of Leviticus*, Message Seven.

If you have followed us since we began *Life-study of the Bible with Witness Lee* on radio four years ago, we are sure you will agree that this ministry is not one that skates on the surface but rather attempts to reach the depths of meaning in all the Scriptures to point us to Christ. Please stay with us and pray to be one who has an ear to hear what the Spirit is speaking.

Living Stream Ministry

WHAT IS A TYPE IN THE BIBLE?

The Bible is full of types to help us understand the mysteries it contains. We can see these types, or we may say pictures, in the Old Testament along with their explanation and reality in the New Testament. Webster's dictionary defines a type as "a person or thing [in the Old Testament] believed to foreshadow another [in the New Testament]." For example, comparing Adam in the Old Testament to Christ, Romans 5:14 says Adam "is a type of Him who was to come."

There is an old saying: "A picture is worth a thousand words." God surely used many pictures that are rich in meaning in the Bible, especially in the

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Life-Study of the Bible

W E L C O M E S

KANSAS CITY, MO

KCKN 1340 AM

11:30 A.M.

& 9:00 P.M. MON-FRI

TYPE IN THE BIBLE

(continued from page 1)

Old Testament. One may compare the Old Testament to a picture book, full of vivid pictures. However, if a reader did not have the words to go along with the colorful pictures, the story would still be difficult to follow. The New Testament gives us the “words to the pictures,” explaining the reality of the Old Testament pictures or types. Moreover, the words of revelation in the New Testament become even more clear to us when we see and understand the types in the Old Testament.

If we read the entire New Testament, we can see that interpreting the pictures from the Old Testament

and Christ as our Passover (Exo. 12; 1 Cor. 5:7). The types in the Old Testament and the clear words in the New Testament together unveil to us how wonderful our Christ is.

The Lord Jesus said in John 5:39, “The Scriptures...testify concerning Me.” Since the Scriptures testify concerning Christ, we should not take any Scripture for granted. This is why types are so important to us as New Testament believers. We live by faith, and what we believe in depends on what we hear of the spiritual things (Rom. 10:17). In Ephesians 3:8, the apostle Paul said that his commission from the Lord

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is not only legitimate but necessary. The Lord Jesus Himself used this principle with His sad disciples as they walked on the road to Emmaus: “And beginning from Moses and from all the prophets, He explained to them clearly in all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself” (Luke 24:27). By this we see that all the Scriptures lead us to know Christ in a more detailed and intimate way. How could we clearly understand and appreciate the things concerning Christ as the Lamb of God in John 1:29, for example, without seeing all the aspects of the lamb in the Old Testament type? A few other examples of types portrayed in the Old Testament and explained in the New Testament include Christ as the brass serpent (Num. 21:4-9; John 3:14), Christ and the church typified by Adam and Eve (Gen. 2:21-24; Eph. 5:25-32),

was “to announce to the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ as the gospel.” Since the riches of Christ which Paul announced are “unsearchable,” we need to learn from him to see the spiritual reality behind the physical examples used by the Holy Spirit in the Old Testament. Otherwise, the Old Testament would remain merely a story book to us, unapplicable today, and we would miss seeing and enjoying so many rich aspects of Christ as revealed in His Word. “To you therefore who believe is the preciousness” (1 Pet. 2:7a).

For further reading on this subject, please see *Life-study of Ephesians*, message 30 and *The Fulfillment of the Tabernacle and the Offerings in the Writings of John*, both by Witness Lee; and *Affirmation and Critique*, Volume 4, no. 3 (July 1999), all published by Living Stream Ministry.

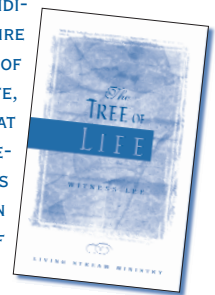
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The TREE OF LIFE

WHEN GOD CREATED MAN, HE PLACED HIM BEFORE TWO TREES: THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL AND THE TREE OF LIFE. IN WARNING MAN TO AVOID THE TREE OF THE KNOWLEDGE OF GOOD AND EVIL, GOD INDICATED HIS DESIRE FOR MAN TO EAT OF THE TREE OF LIFE, SIGNIFYING THAT MAN SHOULD RECEIVE GOD AS HIS LIFE SUPPLY. IN *THE TREE OF LIFE*, WITNESS LEE PRESENTS A VIEW OF GOD'S HEART THAT IS LITTLE UNDERSTOOD AND SELDOM EXPERIENCED BY BELIEVERS TODAY. GOD IS NOT LOOKING FOR WELL-BEHAVED CHRISTIANS; HE IS LOOKING FOR THOSE WHO WILL EXPERIENCE AND ENJOY CHRIST AS THE REALITY OF THE TREE OF LIFE, FULFILLING HIS ETERNAL INTENTION FOR MAN.



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