Four Bible Pictures of Substitution

(Selected Scriptures)
3/21/08

- ***Appreciate the prophetic wonder of the Bible's prediction of Christ's Substitutionary death!***

Four Scripture illustrations of Christ's Death:

I. The Unique Son – Isaac

Isaac is a type of Christ in these ways:

A. **A Miracle Birth** (Gen.21:1-3, 5)
B. **A Unique Son** (Gen. 22:2)
C. **An Obedient Son** (Gen. 22:9-10)
D. **A Special Place of Sacrifice** (Gen. 22:2, 9)
E. **Assurance of a Resurrection** (Gen. 22:5; Heb. 11:12-19)
F. **Carrying Wood on the Back** (Gen. 22:6)
G. **Fire and Knife** (Gen. 22:6)
H. **Promise of the Lamb** (Gen. 22:8)
I. **Binding of Hands and Legs** (Gen. 22:9)
J. **The Ram's Thorned Crowned Brow** (Gen. 22:13)
K. **Jehovah-Jireh** (Gen. 22:14)
L. **The Promised Seed** (Gen. 22:18)

II. The Passover Lamb

III. The Scape Goat

IV. The Criminal Barabbas

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The <u>Substitutionary Death</u> of Christ

Christ's death for sinners was a <u>predicted</u> event

1. Isaiah, who lived over 700 years B.C., foretold of Christ's substitutionary death with these words:

"But He was wounded for our transgressions, he was bruised for our iniquities: the chastisement of our peace was upon him; and with his stripes we are healed." (53:6)

"The LORD hath laid on him the iniquity of us all" (v. 6)

"For the transgression of my people was he stricken" (v. 8)

"Thou shalt make his soul an offering for sin" (v. 10)

"He shall bear their iniquities" (v. 11)

"He bare the sin of many" (v. 12)

2. Daniel, speaking of the Messiah's death, said: "Messiah [shall] be cut off, but not for himself" (Dan. 9:26).

Christ's death for sinners was a <u>fulfilled</u> event

SEE: Matthew 27:27-54

By "substitute" we mean that Christ "took the place of us." The death we deserved, He died; the penalty we should have paid, He paid.

Two New Testament Greek words emphasize the substitutionary death of Christ:

1. anti - meaning:

   To take the place of someone else

   Mk. 10:45 - "For even the Son of man came not to be ministered unto, but to minister, and to give his life a ransom for many." (cp. Mt. 20:28)

2. huper - meaning:

   To do something on behalf of someone else

   Scriptures emphasizing the fact of Christ's substitutionary death (using the word huper):
   "This is my body which is given for you" (Lk. 22:19)
   "This cup is the new testament in my blood which is shed for you" (Lk. 22:20)
   "The bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world" (Jn. 6:51)
   "I am the good shepherd: the good shepherd giveth his life for the sheep" (Jn.10:11)
   "I lay down my life for the sheep" (Jn. 10:15)
   ". . . He (Caiaphas) prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation. . . and not for that nation only . . ." (Jn. 11:51-52, cp. 18:14)
   "Christ died for the ungodly" (Rom. 5:6)
   "Christ died for us" (Rom. 5:8)
   "He . . . delivered him up for us all" (Rom. 8:32)
   "Christ died for our sins" (I Cor. 15:3)
   "For he hath made him to be sin for us" (II Cor. 5:21)
   "Christ . . . gave himself for our sins" (Gal. 1:4)
   "Christ . . . loved me, and gave himself for me" (Gal. 2:20)
   "Christ [was] . . . made a curse for us" (Gal. 3:13)
   "Christ also hath loved us, and hath given himself for us an offering and a sacrifice to God for a sweet-smelling savour" (Eph. 5:2)
   "Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it" (Eph. 5:25)
   "Our Lord Jesus Christ. . . died for us" (I Th. 5:10)
   "Who gave himself a ransom for all" (I Tim. 2:6)
   "He by the grace of God should taste death for every man" (Heb. 2:9)
   "But this man, after he had offered one sacrifice for sins for ever, sat down on the right hand of God" (Heb. 10:12).
   "Christ also suffered for us" (I Pet. 2:21)
   "Christ also hath once suffered for sins" (I Pet. 3:18)
   "Christ hath suffered for us in the flesh" (I Pet. 4:1)
   "He laid down his life for us" (I Jn. 3:16)

God's plan of redemption is precisely pictured by the Old Testament sacrificial system.

Animal sacrifice, which began with the fall of Adam (Gen. 3:21, 4:4, 8:20-21, 15:9-18), was legislated by the Law of Moses (Lev. 1-6, 16).

All Old Testament sacrifices are a picture or symbol of the great sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross of Calvary.

In this way the slain innocent animals foreshadowed or pre-figured the innocent Lamb of God whose blood was shed as a substitute sacrifice for the sins of the world (John 1:29).

The substitutionary sacrifice of Christ is the predominant theme of the Bible.

Note the following truths which correlate O.T. sacrifices with Christ's sacrifice:

The Sacrifice had to be:

1. A **voluntary** sacrifice (Lev.1:3; Jn.10:15,18)
2. A **unblemished** sacrifice (Exod.12:5; I Pet.1:19)
3. A **innocent** sacrifice (Heb.7:26-27; II Cor.5:21)
4. A **bloody** sacrifice (Lev.17:11; Heb.9:22)
5. A **vicarious** sacrifice (Lev.16:15-22; Is.53:4,5)
6. A **satisfying** sacrifice (Heb.2:17; Is.53:11)

Important note:

The O.T. sacrifices could not take away sins (Heb.10:4)

While Old Testament animal sacrifices could never remove sin and spiritual guilt from the offerer (Heb. 10:4, 11), those sacrifices did provide an "atonement" (Lev. 4:35, Num. 15:25, 26).

"The Scriptures tell us that something really did happen to the Israelite offerer when he came to the right alter with the appropriate sacrifice. What happened was temporal, finite, external, and legal -- not eternal, infinite, internal, and soteriological" (Dr. John C. Whitcomb, Israel My Glory, April 1987, p. 13).

- ***Appreciate the prophetic wonder of the Bible's prediction of Christ's Substitutionary death!***

Four Scripture illustrations of Christ's Death:

I. The Unique Son – Isaac

Genesis 22: 1
"God did tempt Abraham" - Not a solicitation to sin in the sense of gratifying an inward lust (for God does not tempt in that way – James 1:13). But a <u>test</u> of Abraham's faith. The ultimate test!

We have the vantage point of seeing that this was <u>only</u> a <u>test</u>. As far as Abraham knew, this was not just a test, but a real sacrifice of his son.

Note: Abraham's offering of Isaac on Mount Moriah was not only a test of faith (Heb. 11:17-19), it was a <u>foreshadowing</u> of God offering up His "only begotten Son" (Heb. 11:17; Jn. 3:16).

"Behold, here I am" - "At your service, Lord." "I'm all ears." Does God get our full attention as He speaks via His written word?

God's commanding Abraham to offer up Isaac seemed inconsistent with God's <u>promise</u> to raise up a numerous nation (Gen. 15:5, 17:2) through Isaac (Gen. 17:19) – yet Abraham believed and obeyed, and by his sacrificial obedience proved that his faith of the last 30 years was real.

Abraham's attempted sacrifice of Isaac was the one event James pointed to when he proved in James 2 that faith—real, living faith—produces <u>works</u>.

Abraham was "justified" or proven to be righteous by his works, particularly his work of offering up Isaac (James 2:21-24 - Was not Abraham our father justified by works, when he had offered Isaac his son upon the altar? Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect? And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the Friend of God. Ye see then how that by works a man is justified, and not by faith only.)

Isaac is a type of Christ in these ways:

A. A Miracle Birth (Gen.21:1-3, 5)

B. A Unique Son (Gen. 22:2)

"Thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest" – With every phrase, God intensifies the close relationship Abraham had with his son.

"Only begotten" - (cp. Jn. 3:16) - here is a proof that the term *"monogenes"* refers to uniqueness not origin, because Isaac, in fact, was not Abraham's only son; he also had Ishmael before Isaac was born, and he had other children by Keturah, who Abraham married after Sarah's death (Gen. 25:1-6).

C. An Obedient Son (Gen. 22:9-10)

Abraham had such a trust in God and such a consistent testimony lived out in front of Isaac his son, that he had his son's complete trust (real faith is respected).

Isaac's confidence in Abraham is amazing. Without giving a fight or argument, Isaac submits to his authority and allows his dad to bind him and place him on the altar.

Isaac could have beaten his father or easily outrun his father, but he submissively obeyed. Christ obeyed the will of the Father perfectly.

D. A Special Place of Sacrifice (Gen. 22:2, 9)

The mountain of Moriah (Gen. 22:2) was the same location (in Jerusalem) where Solomon's temple was built (II Chron. 3:1) and sacrifices were made, and where the Messiah (Jesus Christ) would eventually be sacrificed.

"Offer him there for a burnt offering" - There was not yet a law on the books forbidding child sacrifice; this would later, in the days of Moses, be prohibited in the Law (Deut. 12:31, 18:10; Lev. 18:21) and only pagans would practice it (2 Kings 3:26; Jer. 7:31; Micah 6:7). However, at this time, God was not asking Abraham to violate a specific law.

v. 9
"The place which God had told him of" - Mt. Moriah.

Abraham would have climbed to the highest peak for this sacrifice. Presently, this peak is the area known as Gordon's Calvary, where General Gordon discovered a skull-shaped quarried mountain, where it is believed Jesus was crucified.

Mount Moriah – God's place of Sacrifice

1. Moriah was the mountain God told Abraham to offer His son, Isaac. (Genesis 22)

2. Moriah was the mountain God told David to Build an Altar to stop the Death Angel from destroying the Israelites
(II Samuel 24:18-f)

3. Moriah was the mountain God chose to put His name there and to build the Temple for sacrifices (Deut.12:5,11,14,18; 16:6; II Chron 3:1; II Sam.24:16-24)

4. Moriah was the Mountain God chose to sacrifice His Son upon for the sin of the world
(John 19:17)

E. Assurance of a Resurrection (Gen. 22:5; Heb. 11:12-19)

v. 5
"I and the lad . . . will come again to you" – Abraham was so confident that God would fulfill the promises He made concerning Isaac, that he knew Isaac would return, even if it meant returning back to life after death.

"In the final analysis Isaac would be brought twice from the dead, once from Sarah's dead womb and once again from the high altar. The book of Hebrews suggests that Abraham concluded that God was able to raise Isaac from the dead (11:19). Whether Abraham had actually worked out the details of a bodily resurrection would be hard to say. People in the ancient world believed that life would continue beyond the grave, but a clear understanding of resurrection to this life began to unfold only later." (Ross, p. 298).

Note: "Worship" here is not defined as receiving from God or even praying to God, but the essence of worship is giving to God. We worship God by giving God adoration, obedience, and sacrifice.

v. 6
It would only be father and son at the sacrifice. No one else would have any involvement. Why? Because Isaac was typifying Christ's future sacrifice which would be an ordeal just between God the Father and God the Son. God the Father would lay on Him (Jesus the son) the iniquity of us all (Is. 53:6, 10).

Although Isaac did not die on the altar, his rising up off of it serves as a "figure" or type of Christ's rising from the dead.

Hebrews 11:17-19 -
By faith Abraham, when he was tried, offered up Isaac: and he that had received the promises offered up his only begotten son, Of whom it was said, That in Isaac shall thy seed be called: Accounting that God was able to raise him up, even from the dead; from whence also he received him in a figure.

F. Carrying Wood on the Back (Gen. 22:6)

Christ would carry his Cross to Golgotha.

G. Fire and Knife (Gen. 22:6)

Fire symbolizing the hot wrath of God against sin; And the knife representing the wages of sin – death.

H. Promise of the Lamb (Gen. 22:8)

v. 8

"God <u>will provide</u> himself a lamb" – In the immediate sense, Abraham could see God providing the sacrifice for Himself; in the ultimate sense (although he had no way of comprehending all of the details that would be involved), Abraham could see God providing the ultimate Lamb for Himself ("the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world – Jn. 1:29).

Abraham here speaks mysteriously and prophetically of God's future provision of an atoning sacrifice for sin.

"God will provide <u>himself</u>" – With no help from anyone, God (*Jehovah Jirah* – v. 14) would provide His own sacrifice. Nothing we offer is efficacious. God's own lamb is all He needs, and all He wants! We dare not add to His work! No other sacrifice will do!

It wasn't the Jews, nor the Romans who crucified Jesus. It was God the Father, who did so to make an atoning sacrifice for our sins!

God gave us His son (Rom. 8:32 - He that spared not his own Son, but delivered him up for us all, how shall he not with him also freely give us all things?)

I. Binding of Hands and Legs (Gen. 22:9)

Christ would be held at four points on the cross.

J. The Ram's Thorned Crowned Brow (Gen. 22:13)

v. 11

This **"angel (messenger) of the LORD"** is a theophany (an appearance of God's Son) because He <u>speaks</u> as God (note v. 12 – "from Me"); He <u>identifies</u> Himself as God (note v. 15-16) and He claims the <u>prerogatives</u> of God (v. 17)

v. 12

It was never God's intention to have Abraham slay his son; He simply wanted to <u>prove</u> his faith and to provide a <u>foreshadowing</u> of God offering up "His only begotten Son" (Jn. 3:16).

"I know that thou fearest God" – Abraham's deep reverence for God was anchored in his real faith in God. Faith respects God enough to give Him anything He asks for.

When we hold back on God, it is due to the fact that we don't fear (respect) God, which is due to the fact that our faith is either non-existent or weak.

v. 13
Perhaps the ram was there al the time, but Abraham never saw it until God opened his eyes (cp. Gen. 21:19).

Thicket = Thorn bush; Christ would be crowned with thorns (a symbol of the curse)

"In the stead of his son" – The idea of substitutionary sacrifice goes all the way back to the beginning of time (after the fall in the garden).

Just as God provided a sacrifice instead of Abraham's son, He has provided a sacrifice instead of you. Jesus took your place and paid your penalty on the cross.

K. Jehovah-Jireh (Gen. 22:14)

v. 14
"Jehovah-Jireh" – "The Lord will see to it" or "The Lord will provide." And He did so, when Christ died on this very Mount Moriah.

As Christ, the ultimate seed, which would flow from Isaac, would bless the world.

Gal. 3:8, 16 – And the Scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed. Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to seeds, as of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

L. The Promised Seed (Gen. 22:18)
Galatians 3:16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made. He saith not, And to <u>seeds</u>, <u>as</u> of many; but as of one, And to thy seed, which is Christ.

II. The Passover Lamb

Passover (Lev. 23:4-5; Exod.12:1-13)

Celebrated on the 14th day of first month.

1) The lamb was w/out blemish (Exod.12:5; I Pet.1:19)

   The lamb had to be scrutinized for 5 days to make sure there is no blemish.
   After Christ's Triumphal entry in Jerusalem he would be examined and interrogated.

   No Leaven could be eaten during Passover week. (Lev. 23:6)

2) The lamb had to be a male (Exod. 12:5)

3) The lamb was killed
   (Exod.12:6; John 12:24,27)

4) The lamb had to be killed at "evening" (lit. at twilight (between the 2 evenings; Between 3 & 5 p.m. Cp Josephus)

5) The lamb's blood applied
   (Exod.12:7; Heb.9:22) - Sacrifice was roasted in fire and totally eaten by offerers and families. The blood was sprinkled on the door posts. The deliverance of Christ's sacrifice Christ is our Passover Lamb
   (Jn. 1:29; Mt. 26:17-29; I Cor. 5:7)

6) The lamb had to be eaten (v.8) Christ must be internalized by faith.

   John 6:53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, and drink his blood, ye have no life in you.

   Bethlehem was the place of breeding lambs for the Passover (ex. The Shepherds keeping watch over their flock by night). Christ was born in Bethlehem.

III. The Scape Goat

Yom Kippur

(Day of Atonement) (Lev. 16:1-34)

The word "atonement" found 16 times in Lev. 16 means to cover (cp. Gen. 6:14; Lev. 17:11). The Old Testament saints were saved "on credit" in anticipation of the cross (Heb. 10:4, 11). Old Testament sacrifices covered sin; Christ's blood cleanses from (removes, takes away) sin (Jn. 1:29; I Jn. 1:7)

Yom Kippur was celebrated on the 10th day of the 7th month.

1) The priest did all the work (cp. Heb. 1:3)

2) The priest offered for himself (v. 11)
(Christ didn't need to -Heb. 7:26, 27)

3) Two goats for sin offering:
   a) 1st goat – slain (v.15-19)

   b) 2nd goat - sin-bearer (v. 21-22)
   Christ became our Sin-bearer (Is.53:4,12; I Pet.2:24; Jn.1:29)

4) The blood sprinkled in Holy of Holies (v. 27)
(Heb. 9:7, 11-14) One goat was sacrificed (bearing the penalty of sin).

The other goat was led into the wilderness never to be seen again (picturing the removal of sin). The forgiveness of Christ's sacrifice Christ is our scape goat who removed our sin. (II Cor.5:21)

IV. The Criminal Barabbas

Matthew 27:16-26

V. 16
Barabbas actually was a rebel and a murderer. He *"committed murder in the insurrection"* (rebellion) (Mk. 15:7).

Barabbas means "the son of a Father" (ie. The Devil)

V. 17

"Barabbas or Christ" - Which do you want? It's like asking:

A sinner or a righteous man - whom will you pick?
A law breaker or a law-abiding man?
A murderer or a life-giver?

Christ died at just the right **TIME** (at Passover)
Daniel 9:26 - "And after threescore and two weeks shall Messiah be cut off, but not for himself…"

Christ died at just the right **PLACE** (at Mt. Moriah)
Mount Moriah – God's place of Sacrifice

Christ died in just the right **WAY** (by Crucifixion)

- Pierced

Zechariah 12:10 "…they shall look upon me whom they have pierced"

- Bloodshed

Hebrews 9:22 And almost all things are by the law purged with blood; and without shedding of blood is no remission.

- No Broken Bone

John 19:36 For these things were done, that the scripture should be fulfilled, A bone of him shall not be broken.

The details of Christ's death are too coincidental to be accidental!

OLD TESTAMENT ANNUAL SACRIFICES

(One Time Per Year)

Two Key Days which illustrate the perfect Sacrifice - Jesus Christ, who cleansed us once and for all time

NAME	RITUAL	SACRIFICE	MEANING	SYMBOL
Passover (Lev. 23:4-5; Exod.12:1-13)	Celebrated on the 14th day of first month. 1) The lamb was w/out blemish (Exod.12:5; I Pet.1:19) 2) The lamb was killed (Exod.12:6; John 12:24,27) 3) The lamb's blood applied (Exod.12:7; Heb.9:22)	Sacrifice was roasted in fire and totally eaten by offerers and families. The blood was sprinkled on the door posts.	The deliverance of Christ's sacrifice	Christ is our **Passover Lamb** (Jn. 1:29; Mt. 26:17-29; I Cor. 5:7)
Yom Kippur (Day of Atonement) (Lev. 16:1-34)	Celebrated on the 10th day of the 7th month. 1) The priest did all the work (cp. Heb. 1:3) 2) The priest offered for himself (v. 11) (Christ didn't need to - Heb. 7:26, 27) 3) Two goats for sin offering: a) 1st goat - slain (v.15-19) b) 2nd goat - sin-bearer (v. 21-22) Christ became our Sin-bearer (Is.53:4,12; I Pet.2:24; Jn.1:29) 4) The blood sprinkled in Holy of Holies (v. 27) (Heb. 9:7, 11-14)	One goat was sacrificed (bearing the penalty of sin). The other goat was led into the wilderness never to be seen again (picturing the removal of sin).	The forgiveness of Christ's sacrifice	Christ is our **scape goat** who removed our sin II Cor.5:21

NOTE: The word "atonement" found 16 times in Lev. 16 means to cover (cp. Gen. 6:14; Lev. 17:11). The Old Testament saints were saved "on credit" in anticipation of the cross (Heb. 10:4, 11). Old Testament sacrifices covered sin; Christ's blood cleanses from (removes, takes away) sin (Jn. 1:29; I Jn. 1:7)

OLD TESTAMENT SACRIFICES

A 5-Dimensional View of the Perfect Sacrifice
Jesus Christ, Who Cleanses Us Daily

NAME	RITUAL	SACRIFICE	MEANING	SYMBOL
Burnt Offering (Lev. 1:1-17)	--Voluntary offer --Laying on of hands --Slain by offerer --Blood poured --Animal totally burned up	Totally burned "Wholly consumed" (Cp. Rom. 12:12)	The fullness of Christ's sacrifice	Christ was the **complete** sacrifice (Heb. 10:5-7)
Meal Offering (Lev. 2:1-16)	--Fine flour mixed with frankincense, oil, salt (no leaven)	A pure gift to God (cp. Heb. 10:14)	The flawlessness of Christ's sacrifice	Christ was the **perfect** sacrifice (Heb. 7:26-27)
Peace Offering (Lev. 3:1-17)	--Spotless lamb or goat --Laying on of hands --Slain by offender --Part sacrificed/part eaten	A peaceful fellowship between God and man (cp. Rev. 3:20)	The fruitfulness of Christ's sacrifice	Christ is our **peace** with God (Col. 2:20; Eph. 2:17)
Sin Offering (Lev. 4:1-5:13; cp. 6:25-30)	Offering was burnt outside the camp (v. 11, 12, 16:27)	For sins committed against God's commands (general atonement) (cp. I Pet. 2:24)	Covers the principle of sin	Christ is the atonement for sin's **guilt** (Heb. 13:11-12; Jn. 19:17-20)
Trespass Offering (Lev. 5:14;6:7)	An offering plus restitution is given (5:16, 6:5)	For sins committed against God's "holy things" and against His commands (specific atonement) (cp. I Jn. 1:9)	Covers the practice of sin	Christ is the atonement for sin's **damage** (Is. 53:10)

NOTE:

1. The first three offerings (burnt, meal, and peace) are called a "sweet smelling savour" (cp. Eph. 5:2 - Christ became a "sweet smelling savour" to the Father).

2. The last two offerings (sin, trespass) are called a "non-sweet savour" (cp. II Cor. 5:21; Gal. 3:13 - Christ became a sin offering and a curse for us).

Redemption PROVIDED

Christ provided our redemption (and fulfilled the Old Testament prophetic symbols and types of animal sacrifice) by giving His life as the purchase price necessary to release man from the penalty, power, and--one day--from the presence of sin.

Jesus Christ's substitutionary death/shedding of blood was the redemption price.