

Key – 8, Christophanies & Offices of Christ, 3 pgs

1 Cor.15:20-28 *But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead ... in Christ shall all be made alive ... then comes the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power ... For God has put all things in subjection under His feet ... then the Son himself will also be subjected to Him who put all things in subjection under Him, that God may be all in all.*

1 Pt.3:18 *For Christ suffered once for sins ... that He might bring us to God [means to an end]*

Ps.42:1 *As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for You, O God. My soul thirsts ... for the living God*

This study represents the crux of the Scriptures. It is like laying the keel of a ship or boat. In earlier times, laying down the keel referred to setting the central or main timber making up the backbone of a vessel. The keel was the principal structural member running lengthwise along the center line from bow to stern. The ribs and rest of the ship's framework were tied to the keel to support the hull and represent the story of the Bible. This story is the subject of many of the recommended materials.

THE BIBLE STORY

Telling the story of the Bible means relating the historical account to the Gospel. This is most effectively accomplished by chronologically going through the historical narrative pointing out the significance of what is revealed by the story. It is not just a matter of reviewing the historical facts and describing the events as they occur. The lessons involving the unseen realities of God and His ways, as well as Man and his condition, are key to preparing hearts to receive the Gospel. Answer questions - What is the underlying truth? Why are things the way they are? Why does it have to be this way? and What is the remedy? See God's Big Picture – Tracing the storyline of the Bible

[Firm Foundations by Trevor McIlwain, New Tribes]

Further study

The God Who Is There, finding your place in God's story, 2010 by D.A.Carson

The Big Picture Story Bible by David Helm, the story of the Bible told and illustrated for children

Read **APDX G, MESSIAH - SON OF MAN/SON OF GOD** <http://pop.eradman.com/>

See Books of Historical Movement Chart and Bookmarks

CHRISTOPHANIES

A **Theophany** is the manifestation of God to people in some visible form such as a pillar of fire or cloud (**Ex.13**). A **Christophany** is a pre-incarnate appearance of Christ in a human form. Christophanies reveal significant truths about God and his purpose for his people. **The most common appearances are identified as the Angel of the Lord.** The word translated angel literally means messenger. This angel possesses divine attributes, performs divine works, and is even referred to as God, while at the same time is distinct from God. Christophanies helped prepare

the way for the incarnation by creating a mindset that anticipated the visible manifestation of God in the messianic work of prophet, priest, and king.

Read **Gen.16:7-13; Gen.18; Gen.21:14-20**. What things do you see that only God can be and do (characterize divine perfections and works)?

Multiply Hagar's descendants; called Him God, LORD; heard Sarah's thoughts; Abraham appeals to His righteousness; called from heaven; used the first person

List some other designations or titles of Christ in the OT

Zech.3:8-10 My servant the branch; **Ps.2:6-7** My son, king; **Isa.52:13-15** My servant; **Isa.53:11** the righteous one, My servant; **Ezek.34:23-24** David

List some of the NT designations of Christ pointing back to the OT

Rev.22:16 I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star

THE OFFICES OF CHRIST

Since the fall of Man and his consequent separation from God, mankind has needed a **mediator** between itself and God. A **mediator** stands between 2 parties who are at odds as an intermediary to resolve the conflict, bring reconciliation, and peace. In Old Testament times there were three classes of public service that filled this need - prophets, priests, and kings. They were consecrated [set apart to serve God] to their offices by an anointing with oil (**1Ki.19:16b; Ex.28:41; 1 Ki.1:34**). Since all human instruments come short and fail, God planned from the beginning to provide the perfect Prophet, Priest, and King. This expectation among the Jews was the basis for the idea of a coming Messiah. The words Messiah (Hebrew) and Christ (Greek) mean *anointed one*.

A. Prophet - The Old Testament prophets were called to be channels of revelation. They spoke to men in behalf of God. The preeminent prophet was Moses, who mediated the covenant between God and His people, the Israelites.

Dt.18:15-19 the Lord your God will raise up a prophet like me [Moses] from your midst and brethren, and you shall hear Him. I will put My words in his mouth, he shall speak all I command {**Acts 3:22-23** ... You shall listen to Him in whatever He tells you. And it shall be that every soul who does not listen shall be destroyed ...} [God says to hear His beloved Son, Jesus, at His baptism and transfiguration] **Jn.8:28** I speak just as the Father taught me, **Jn.17:8** I have given them [people the Father gave Jesus] the words You gave me.

Heb.1:1-2 at various times and in different ways, God spoke to the fathers through the prophets. In these last days He has spoken to us by His Son.

B. Priest - Priests were the mediators between God and men. After the construction of the tabernacle they spoke to God on behalf of men through sacrifices, offerings, and intercessory prayer.

1 Tim.2:4-5, God our savior desires all people to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus

Heb.4:14-16 Jesus is our great high priest

Heb.6:20-7:3 [Jesus] has become a high priest forever

Heb.7:24-25 He is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them.

Heb.8:6 [Christ] is mediator of a better covenant, (9:15) a new covenant so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance [6:17, inherit the promises], since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

C. King - The role of the king was to act in the name of God, ruling righteously for the welfare of the people. He was both protector and judge. In many ways King David's life typified that of his greater Son, Jesus Christ. [see Chap.6 RPCD <http://pop.eradman.com/>]

Lk.1:32-33 He [Jesus] will be great and will be called the son of the highest, and the Lord God will give Him the throne of His father David, and He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever, and His kingdom shall not end. {see David in Jer.30:9 & Hos.3:5} **Eph.1:20-22** He [the Father] put all things under His [Christ's] feet and gave Him as head over all things to the church

{Rev.19:16 King of kings and Lord of lords}