

FROM FAITH TO FAITH

GRANBURY STREET CHURCH OF CHRIST

Jesus in Genesis

D.J. Stucky

Foreshadowing is a common literary device where an author will use certain thematic elements to hint at things to come. An observant person can notice these things and may even know what will occur before it happens. Others may not recognize the foreshadowing until after the fact. However, once the whole story is known, it is interesting to go back and read or watch the story again. The foreshadowing seems to fly off the page or the screen! The same is true with the Bible. In 2018, we know the whole story of Jesus. Looking back into the Old Testament, we can see Him being foretold, even in the book of Genesis.

In Genesis 49, Jacob by inspiration tells his sons what the future holds for them (Gen. 49:1). The most interesting of these concerns Judah (49:8-12). Jacob tells Judah that he would rule his brethren with the strength of a lion. Most significantly, Jacob also said, “The scepter shall not depart from Judah, nor a lawgiver from between his feet, until Shiloh comes; and to Him shall be the obedience of the people. Binding his donkey to the vine, and his donkey’s colt to the choice vine, he washed his garments in wine, and his clothes in the blood of grapes” (49:10-11).

The scepter is representative of rule and authority, while the word “Shiloh” likely means “to whom it belongs”. Ultimately, authority belongs to Jesus. So, while this prophecy does refer to the reign of the Judean kings, it also points to Jesus and His everlasting reign over all men. This prophecy began to be fulfilled in David, who was promised that his son would rule an everlasting kingdom (2 Sam. 7:12-16), but it was ultimately fulfilled in Jesus who established a kingdom that is not of this world (Matt. 1:1; 16:18-19; Jn. 18:36). The Father gave Jesus all authority (Matt. 28:18), so men must now be obedient to the words of Jesus (Jn. 12:48; Acts 17:30-31). The reference to the colt of the donkey is most certainly an allusion to the triumphal entry, where Jesus entered Jerusalem on the colt of a donkey to fulfill prophecy (Matt. 21:1-11 cf. Zech. 9:9). The references to wine simply show the richness of Christ’s kingdom. For a person to wash their garments in wine rather than water indicates extravagant wealth, such as could only be possible in the spiritual kingdom of Christ (Eph. 1:3).

Even in Genesis, God was preparing His people for the coming Messiah. Jesus is not an elaborate ruse created by men in the first century, but He is the savior that was in the mind of God from eternity (Eph. 3:8-11). That we can see Jesus in Genesis should strengthen our faith in that fact.

Shepherds

Sid Carruth
Jeff Day
Kenneth Helm
Clark Lehtinen
Tim Norman

Deacons

Gary Barger
Ryan Cowan
Vince Grinnell
Justin Hewlett
Bill Hughes
Russ Jones

Minister

Kevin Rhodes

Associate

D.J. Stucky

Sunday

Bible Study
9:00 am
AM Worship
10:00 am
PM Worship
5:00 pm

Wednesday

Ladies Class
10:00 am
Bible Study
7:00 pm

Cleburne,
Texas

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Identifying with Adversity

Kevin W. Rhodes

The Jews who returned from Babylonian captivity faced numerous challenges in their attempts to rebuild the temple and the walls of Jerusalem. The rubble that was Jerusalem must have seemed an insurmountable and depressing challenge, and the rising opposition of non-Jews in the land created additional struggles. The stress created by such a situation took its toll on these Jews, but amidst this crisis of confidence, they turned to the LORD to see them through as Psalm 102 describes. Feeling overwhelmed by circumstances, the psalmist cried out to God (Psa. 102:1-2). The adversity, the sense of loneliness, and the persecution served as ready reminders of how much mankind needs God (Psa. 102:3-9), especially since we will all eventually face death (Psa. 102:10-11). And that is why it is so comforting to remember that the LORD is eternal (Psa. 102:12) and determined to see His purpose through to the end (Psa. 102:13-16). His will ensured the restoration of His people even if the Psalm's author did not live to see it (Psa. 102:17-23). Whatever might happen upon the earth, the LORD Himself guarantees victory in eternity (Psa. 102:24-28). This message surely resonated with post-exilic Israel and gave them hope for their future. And yet, the message of this psalm looked forward to greater adversity and an even greater victory.

The meaning of Psalm 102:23-24 has two possible interpretations, both allowed by the consonants of the text and dependent upon the vowel pointing supplied. While the Hebrew of the Masoretic text provided the translation followed by English translations, the Septuagint, the Greek translation of the Old Testament, saw the vowel pointing differently, and the Holy Spirit followed this latter interpretation when inspiring Hebrews 1:10-12 in making verses twenty-four through twenty-eight the answer of God the Father to God the Son, thus making the psalm Messianic. And when we return to the beginning and consider the life of Jesus, the psalm has a flow that brings a powerful message.

Consider Jesus as He prayed in the Garden of Gethsemane, imploring His Father for deliverance (Psa. 102:1-2). There He pled, feeling overwhelmed and alone (Psa. 102:3-7) while His enemies plotted against Him (Psa. 102:8), in agony because He knew full well the cost of sin and His own mission from God to accept its penalty on man's behalf (Psa. 102:9-10). Therefore, fully aware of the torture that awaited Him, He realized the time for His death drew near (Psa. 102:11). However, even in this He had hope because of what His death would accomplish because God, the Father, lives on (Psa. 102:12). He knew that, by His death, God would show His grace to Israel (Psa. 102:13-14) and that even the Gentiles, those of other nations, would also benefit (Psa. 102:15-16). Indeed, this would be the answer to many prayers throughout the centuries (Psa. 102:17). Therefore, from both Jew and Gentile God would create a new people (Psa. 102:18), having defeated death on their behalf (Psa. 102:19-20) and bringing reason for great praise (Psa. 102:21-22). But at that moment, as the Septuagint reading indicates, the Father replied to the pleading and praise of the Son (Psa. 102:23) with a message that anticipated the gospel. Indeed, despite His death, the Messiah is indeed God and will live for all generations (Psa. 102:24). Through Him the heavens and the earth came into existence (Psa. 102:25; Gen. 1:1; Col. 1:16; Heb. 1:3), and while they will be destroyed in the end (Psa. 102:26), the Messiah will endure (Psa. 102:27), as will the people He established and for which He died (Psa. 102:28).

Surely we can identify with the adversity of the Jews coming back from captivity. But how much greater is the thought that the Messiah, Jesus, chose to identify fully and completely with us? This indeed proved to be a foundational point in the opening of the book of Hebrews, but centuries beforehand, the Holy Spirit declared it through the inspired hand of the post-exilic psalmist.



News and Notes

Prayer request...

- Carla Baze had surgery on her hand on Tuesday.
- A friend of Jeff Day has a 5 year old niece, Layla, at MD Anderson with an inoperable brain tumor. The doctors have given them very little hope. Please pray for her and for the family.
- Carol Elder has asked for prayers for her health.
- Ollie Grinnell has a cyst on his head that is growing. The doctor put him on antibiotics. If it isn't better in a couple of weeks they will have it checked at Cooke Children's Hospital.
- Helen Henslee fell Tuesday morning breaking her left leg. She had surgery Tuesday at Walls.
- Tracie Jones will have surgery on Thursday, April 5th. She has been having problems with kidney stones since January.
- Sandy Pennay will have cataract surgery on Tuesday.
- Mary Reynolds has been having problems with her hip. She will see the surgeon on March 26th.
- Laura Stephens is in Room 205 at Huguley Rehab Center, 301 Huguley Blvd., Burleson, 76028.

Please remember in prayers

Dot Blitch, Debbie Boroughs, Carol Elder, Rylee Hatch (Ruth Collins' 17 year old great-niece) Darla Baze Mullen (Steve Baze's sister), Pam Jones, Anthony Harkins (Beverly Carter's good friend), Terrie Knight (Royce and Jean Gorman's daughter), Susanna Torres, Don Toth, Joe Warlick,

Sympathy

We extend our sympathy to Charlotte Moulder and family in the passing of her mother-in-law, Carrie Janette Moulder.

Please note...

Saturday, March 31st, we will meet at the building at 10:00 AM to knock doors.
The youth devotional will be Saturday, March 31st, at Wendy Cammack's home.

Centurion of Scripture Challenge 2018 (NKJV)

1 Corinthians 1:18, 25

¹⁸ For the message of the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

²⁵ Because the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Those who Serve

Lords' Supper: 3/25

Front South

Jeff Day
Larry McWilliams
Bill Hughes

Front North

DeWayne Henegar
Doug Jones
Tim Norman

Back South

Dennis Lane
Caleb Norman
Weldon York

Back North

James Hunt
Michael Hunt
Doug Kilcrease

Leading prayers:

Sunday AM

J. D. Allen

Sunday PM

Doug Jones

Mike Hight

Wednesday PM

Cody Grinnell

Daniel Hughes

Announcements:

Sunday AM-PM:

Will Cammack

Wednesday

Jeff Day

Song leaders:

Sunday AM

Dale Ash

Sunday PM

Dale Ash

Wednesday PM

Rob Stidolph

Foyer Personnel:

Sunday & Wednesday

Gavin McGilvray

Jim Hudgins

Collection Counting

Andrew Collins / Joshua Haynes

Beacon of Truth, Pat McIntosh's internet radio program will be on Monday thru Friday at 7:00 AM.

Expositions, Kevin's television program, airs on GBN every Monday night at 7:30 pm, every Thursday night at 6:00 pm, and every Saturday at 2:30 pm.



Sermons for Sunday

AM

Putting Sin in Its Place
Zechariah 5:1-11

PM

Challenges of Gospel Preaching
Matthew 11:7-15

Calendar of Events



6/6-8/29 Granbury Street Summer Series

7/5-8/9 Family Summer Series

9/7-8 Marriage and Parenting Seminar
with Neal and Kathy Pollard

10/21-24 Gospel Meeting
with Todd Clippard



Our Records

Bible Class.....138

AM Worship.....197

PM Worship.....146

Wednesday Bible Class.....99

Contribution.....\$6,791

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