



The Messiah—The Mediator

The Greatest Sign

The life of the Messiah was filled with many signs, wonders and miracles. However, none of the mighty works and great preaching that He did fulfilled His true purpose for coming to this earth.

It was His death on the cross and resurrection that made salvation possible—and to make salvation possible is why He came.

Introduction: The cross represents many things. One of the most important images of the cross is a 'bridge' that fills/spans the gap between man's sinfulness and God's holiness.

A. Standing in the Gap: The Messianic Mediator

1. **Aaron:** *Num 16:41-15* Aaron is a 'type' of Christ in this passage. Aaron stops a plague that was the result of the sins of the complaining Israelites by walking between the 'dead and the living' with a censer in his hand. Aaron was a 'mediator' between God and the people.
2. **The Messiah:** *1 Tim 2:5-6* Now Christ stands in the gap between us (sinful man) and a holy God. See also *Heb 2:14-17*.

B. Standing in the Gap: God's Plan for the Messiah

"Christ died for our sins," says Paul in *1 Cor 15:3-4* The death of Christ is foreseen throughout the Old Testament in many types and prophecies.

1. **Types**
 - a. The coats of skins *Gen 3:21*
 - b. Abel's offering *Gen 4:4*
 - c. The offering of Isaac *Gen 22*
 - d. The Passover lamb *Ex 12*
 - e. Levitical sacrificial system *Lev 1-7*
 - f. Brazen serpent *Num 21; Jn 3:14*
 - g. The slain lamb *Isa 53:6-7*
2. **Prophecies**
 - a. Seed of the woman *Gen 3:15*
 - b. Crucifixion scene *Psa 22*
 - c. Vicarious suffering *Isa 53*
 - d. The cut-off Messiah *Dan 9:26*
 - e. The smitten Shepherd *Zech 13:6-7*

Types: Biblical comparisons and links made between persons, events, things and institutions of one biblical period and those of another, particularly between those of the OT and the NT. The type is the initial person, event, thing or institution; the corresponding and later person, event, thing or institution is called the antitype. For example, Paul portrays Christ as the antitype of Adam in *Romans 5:12-21*

C. Standing in the Gap: Messianic Mercy

1. **The road to Emmaus** *Luk 24* In His conversation with the two disciples on the way to Emmaus on the evening of His resurrection, Jesus stated that Moses, all the prophets, and all the scriptures (Old Testament), spoke of His death.

Luk 24:25-27 Then Jesus said to them, "You foolish people! You find it so hard to believe all that the prophets wrote in the Scriptures. :26 Wasn't it clearly predicted that the Messiah would have to suffer all these things before entering His glory?" :27 Then Jesus took them through the writings of Moses and all the prophets, explaining from all the Scriptures the things concerning Himself.

1 Corinthians 15:3-4 (NKJV)

:3 For I delivered to you first of all that which I also received: that Christ died for our sins according to the Scriptures,

:4 and that He was buried, and that He rose again the third day according to the Scriptures,

Hebrews 2:14-17 (NKJV)

:14 Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,

:15 and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.

:16 For indeed He does not give aid to angels, but He does give aid to the seed of Abraham.

:17 Therefore, in all things He had to be made like His brethren, that He might be a merciful and faithful High Priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

1 Timothy 2:5-6 (NKJV)

:5 For there is one God and one Mediator between God and men, the Man Christ Jesus,

:6 who gave Himself a ransom for all, to be testified in due time,

John 1:14 (NKJV)

:14 And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

Yesterday I hung on the cross with Christ; today I am glorified with him; yesterday I was dying with him; today I am brought to life with him; yesterday I was buried with him; today I rise with him.