

Joseph: A Type of Jesus Christ

- I. The lessons and pictures in the OT should be used as our examples by which we should be instructed, admonished, and reproved (**1Co 10:11; Rom 15:4**).
- II. Many things in the Old Testament were types of spiritual realities in the New Testament.
 1. **Type** *n.* - 1. a. That by which something is symbolized or figured; anything having a symbolical signification; a symbol, emblem; *spec. in Theol.* a person, object, or event of Old Testament history, prefiguring some person or thing revealed in the new dispensation; correl. to *antitype. in (the) type*, in symbolic representation.
 2. The tabernacle service and sacrifices, dietary law, and sabbath law were shadows and figures of Christ and His work of redemption (**Heb 10:1; Heb 8:1-5; Heb 9:8-9,23-24; Col 2:14-17**).
 - A. **Shadow** *n.* - 6. *fig. c.* An obscure indication; a symbol, type; a prefiguration, foreshadowing.
 - B. **Signify** *v.* - 1. a. *trans.* To be a sign or symbol of; to represent, betoken, mean.
 - C. **Figure** *n.* - II. Represented form; image, likeness. 9. a. The image, likeness, or representation of something material or immaterial.
 3. Adam was a *figure* of Christ (**Rom 5:14; 1Co 15:45-47**).
 4. Noah's ark was a *figure* of Christ (**1Pe 3:20-21**).
 5. Isaac was also a *figure* of Christ.
 - A. Abraham offered up his only begotten son, accounting that God was able to raise him from the dead, from whence he received him in a *figure* (**Heb 11:17-19**).
 - B. Abraham's offering up of Isaac was a picture of God offering His only begotten Son (**Gen 22:8 c/w Joh 3:16 c/w 1Pe 1:19 c/w 1Jo 3:16 c/w Heb 1:3**).
 6. Though above all, Joseph was probably the most clear type of Jesus Christ in the OT.
- III. The life of Joseph bears many similarities with the life of Jesus Christ -- at least 64 of them.
 1. Joseph was Jacob's favorite son (**Gen 37:3**), born to his favorite wife, Rachel (**Gen 30:22-24**).
 - A. Jesus was God's only begotten Son (**Joh 1:18; Joh 3:16**).
 - B. Jesus was born from God's favorite nation (**Rom 9:4-5; Deu 7:6-8**), which was His wife (**Jer 3:8**).
 2. Joseph was the son of his father's old age (**Gen 37:3**).
 - A. Jesus was the Ancient of Days' Son (**Dan 7:13**) whom came after a long wait (**Gal 4:4**).
 3. Joseph's father made him a coat of many colors (**Gen 37:3**).
 - A. Jesus was given a special garment from His Father (**Isa 63:1-3 c/w Rev 19:13**).
 4. Joseph's brethren were jealous and envious of him (**Gen 37:4,11**).
 - A. Jesus' brethren, the Jews, envied him (**Mar 15:10**).
 5. Joseph told his brethren a dream (a prophetic revelation) that he had in which it was revealed that he would rule over them, and they hated him more for it (**Gen 37:5-7**).
 - A. Jesus came with a revelation from God for His people (**Heb 1:1-2**).
 - B. He told them that He would rule over them (**Joh 5:22-23; Mat 25:31-32**).
 - C. They hated Him for it (**Joh 15:22-25**).
 6. Joseph's brethren would not have him to reign over him (**Gen 37:8**).

- A. Jesus' brethren, the Jews, would not have Him to reign over them (**Joh 19:13-15; Luk 19:12-14**).
- B. A prophet is not without honour, save among his own kin (**Mar 6:2-5**).
- 7. Joseph's father sent him to check on his brethren (**Gen 37:12-14**).
 - A. Jesus was sent by God to His brethren, the Jews, (**Joh 1:11**) to check on them (**Mat 21:33-37**).
- 8. Joseph sought his brethren among the sheep (**Gen 37:15-17**).
 - A. Jesus sought His brethren among the lost sheep of the house of Israel (**Mat 15:24; Luk 15:4-6**).
- 9. Joseph's brethren conspired to kill him (**Gen 37:18-19**).
 - A. Jesus' brethren, the Jews, conspired to kill Him (**Joh 11:53-54; Mat 26:3-4; Mar 14:10-11; Mar 15:1; Act 4:25-27**).
- 10. Joseph's brethren planned to pin the blame for their murder on something else (**Gen 37:20**).
 - A. Jesus' brethren, the Jews, had the Romans murder Him instead of doing it themselves (**Joh 18:31-32; Joh 19:14-16**).
- 11. Joseph had an advocate that tried to spare his life (**Gen 37:21-22**).
 - A. Jesus had an advocate, Pontius Pilate, who tried to spare His life (**Joh 19:4; Joh 19:12**).
- 12. Joseph was stripped of his clothing (**Gen 37:23**).
 - A. Jesus was stripped of His clothing prior to His crucifixion (**Mat 27:28,31,35; Joh 19:23-24**).
- 13. Joseph was cast into a pit (**Gen 37:24**).
 - A. Jesus was put into a grave hewn out of a rock (**Mat 27:59-60**).
- 14. Joseph was made to suffer thirst (**Gen 37:24**).
 - A. Jesus thirsted when He was suffering on the cross (**Joh 19:28**).
- 15. Joseph's persecutors sat down to rest after unjustly harming him (**Gen 37:25**).
 - A. Jesus' persecutors sat down and watched him suffer (**Mat 27:36**).
- 16. Joseph's brethren sold him for 20 pieces of silver (**Gen 37:26-28**).
 - A. Jesus was sold for 30 pieces of silver (**Mat 26:14-15**).
- 17. Joseph was not found in the pit that he was left in (**Gen 37:29-30**).
 - A. Jesus was not found in the grave that He was left in (**Mar 16:1-6**).
- 18. Joseph's coat was dipped in blood (**Gen 37:31**).
 - A. Jesus' garment is dipped in blood (**Isa 63:1-3 c/w Rev 19:13**).
- 19. Joseph's brethren made up a false story to explain his death (**Gen 37:31-32**).
 - A. The Jews made up a false story to explain Jesus' resurrection (**Mat 28:11-15**).
 - B. Unbelievers make up false stories to this day denying that Jesus actually died on the cross.
 - C. Others make up false stories explaining how the Romans were solely to blame for the crucifixion of Christ instead of laying the bulk of the blame on the Jews as the apostles did (**Act 3:13-15; 1Th 2:14-15**).
- 20. The LORD was with Joseph in his affliction (**Gen 39:1-2**).
 - A. The LORD was with Jesus during part of His affliction (**Luk 22:43**).
 - B. But when He hung on the cross, the LORD forsook Jesus because He was made sin for us and had to be punished with the wrath of God for it (**Mat 27:46**).
- 21. The LORD made Joseph prosper during his hardship (**Gen 39:3**).

- A. Jesus prospered during His suffering, saving a great multitude of sinners (**Isa 53:10-12**).
22. Joseph was made overseer over his master's house and all was put into his hand (**Gen 39:4**).
- A. Jesus was made overseer over God's house (**Heb 3:6; Heb 10:21; 1Ti 3:15; 1Pe 2:25**).
- B. All power was given unto Jesus (**Mat 28:18**) and He was made head of all things (**Eph 1:20-23**).
- C. God put all things into Christ's hand (**Joh 3:35**).
23. The blessing of the LORD was upon the house that Joseph oversaw (**Gen 39:5**).
- A. The blessing of the LORD is upon the church that Jesus' oversees (**Act 3:26; Eph 1:1-3**).
24. After his exaltation, it was said that Joseph was a *goodly* (of good appearance; good-looking, well-favoured or proportioned; comely, fair, handsome) person (**Gen 39:6**).
- A. The glorified Jesus is fairer than the children of men (**Psa 45:2-7**).
- B. Fair - 1. Beautiful to the eye; of pleasing form or appearance; good-looking.
25. Joseph was enticed to sin, but he resisted (**Gen 39:7-12**).
- A. Jesus was tempted to sin in all point as we are, but He resisted it (**Heb 2:17-18; Heb 4:15; Mat 4:1-10**).
26. Joseph was falsely accused (**Gen 39:13-18**).
- A. Jesus was falsely accused (**Mar 14:55-59**).
27. Joseph suffered at the hands of a ruler because of the false accusation (**Gen 39:19-20**).
- A. Jesus was crucified by the governor of Judea because of false accusations (**Joh 18:29-30**).
28. Joseph was condemned alongside malefactors (**Gen 39:20**).
- A. Jesus was condemned alongside malefactors (**Luk 23:32-33**).
29. Joseph accomplished much work while condemned (**Gen 39:21-23**).
- A. Jesus accomplished a huge task while condemned, reconciling unto God a multitude which no man can number (**2Co 5:18-21; Rev 5:9**).
30. Joseph was punished with two condemned men (**Gen 40:1-4**).
- A. Jesus was punished with two condemned men (**Mar 15:27**).
31. One of the condemned men next to him was forgiven and restored (**Gen 40:5-15, 20-21**).
- A. One of the sinners that was crucified with Jesus was forgiven and went to paradise with Jesus (**Luk 23:39-43**).
32. The other condemned man next to him was not forgiven and damned, being hanged on a tree (**Gen 40:16-21**).
- A. The other sinner that was crucified with Jesus was unrepentant and damned (**Mat 27:44; Mar 15:32; Luk 23:39**).
33. The man that Joseph helped forgot him (**Gen 40:14-15, 23**).
- A. Men that Jesus healed forgot Him (**Luk 17:11-18**).
34. Joseph was wise and able to interpret the dreams of the Pharaoh (**Gen 41:1-37**).
- A. Jesus is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart (**Heb 4:12**).
- B. Jesus knows men's thoughts (**Luk 6:8; Luk 9:47; Luk 11:17**).
35. Joseph was filled with the Spirit of God (**Gen 41:38**).
- A. Jesus was filled with the Spirit of God (**Joh 3:34; Rev 3:1; Isa 11:2**).
36. Joseph was the wisest man in the kingdom (**Gen 41:39**).

- A. Jesus is the wisdom of God (**1Co 1:24**) and is the wisest man to ever live (**Mat 12:42 c/w 1Ki 4:29-31**).
- 37. Joseph was made ruler over the king's house and kingdom (**Gen 41:40-41, 43**).
 - A. Jesus was made ruler over God's house (**Eph 5:23**) and His universe (**1Ti 6:15-16**).
- 38. Joseph was second only to the king who had appointed him (**Gen 41:40**).
 - A. Jesus is second only to God the Father (**1Co 15:27-28**).
- 39. Joseph was arrayed in fine apparel after his exaltation (**Gen 41:42**).
 - A. Jesus was arrayed in fine apparel after His exaltation (**Rev 1:13**).
- 40. Joseph was given absolute authority over the kingdom (**Gen 41:43-44**).
 - A. Jesus was given all power in the universe (**Mat 28:18**).
- 41. Joseph was given a wife by the king (**Gen 41:45**).
 - A. Jesus was given a wife by God (**Eph 5:25-32; Rev 21:9-10**).
- 42. Joseph was 30 years old when he began to rule (**Gen 41:46**).
 - A. Jesus was 30 years old when He was anointed as the Messiah (**Luk 3:21-23**).
- 43. Joseph provided bread for his people (**Gen 41:47-49, 53-57**).
 - A. Jesus fed His followers with natural bread when they were hungry (**Joh 6:5-11**).
 - B. Jesus also provided the bread of life for His people for eternal sustenance (**Joh 6:32-35, 48-51**).
- 44. Joseph was given children after enduring suffering (**Gen 41:50-52**).
 - A. Jesus was given children after He suffered for them (**Heb 2:13; Joh 6:39**).
- 45. Joseph's brethren worshiped him after rejecting him (**Gen 42:6**).
 - A. Jesus' natural brothers worshiped Him after rejecting Him (**Mat 13:55 c/w Joh 7:3-5; Jam 1:1; Jud 1:1**).
 - B. Jesus' brethren, the Jews, worshiped Him after rejecting Him (**Act 2:36-42**).
- 46. Joseph knew his brethren after his exaltation, but they didn't recognize him (**Gen 42:7-8**).
 - A. Jesus' disciples didn't recognize Him after His resurrection (**Luk 24:15-16; 36-43**).
- 47. Joseph pretended to not know his brethren or their history when he met them (**Gen 42:9-16**).
 - A. Jesus pretended to not know some of His disciples, nor the events they spoke of when He met them (**Luk 24:17-20**).
- 48. Joseph spoke roughly to his brethren after his exaltation (**Gen 42:30**).
 - A. Jesus upbraided His disciples after His resurrection (**Mar 16:14**).
- 49. Joseph dined with his brethren after his exaltation (**Gen 43:16, 31-34**).
 - A. Jesus ate with His disciples after His resurrection (**Joh 21:12-13**).
- 50. Joseph's brethren were afraid when they saw him (**Gen 43:17-18**).
 - A. Jesus' disciples were afraid when they saw Him (**Luk 24:36-37**).
- 51. Joseph greeted his brethren with "Peace be to you" (**Gen 43:23**).
 - A. Jesus greeted His disciples with "Peace be unto you" (**Joh 20:19**).
- 52. Joseph's brethren worshiped him (**Gen 43:26-28**).
 - A. Jesus' disciples worshiped Him (**Mat 28:9**).
- 53. Joseph loved one of his brethren more than the rest (**Gen 43:29-30, 34**).
 - A. Jesus loved one of His disciples more than the rest (John) (**Joh 13:23; Joh 19:26; Joh 20:2; Joh 21:20-24**).
- 54. Joseph made himself known unto his brethren after his exaltation (**Gen 45:1**).
 - A. Jesus made Himself known unto His disciples after His resurrection (**1Co 15:5-8**).
- 55. Joseph's brethren were troubled at his presence (**Gen 45:3**).

- A. Jesus' disciples were troubled at His presence after His resurrection (**Luk 24:36-38**).
- 56. Joseph was betrayed by his brethren, yet forgave them (**Gen 45:4**).
 - A. Jesus was betrayed by His brethren, the Jews, and yet He forgave them (**Act 7:52 c/w Luk 23:34**).
 - B. Jesus was forsaken by His disciples and yet He forgave them (**Mar 14:50**).
- 57. Joseph suffered under the hand of God in order to preserve life (**Gen 45:5-7; Gen 50:20**).
 - A. Jesus suffered the wrath of God in order to preserve the lives of His elect (**Joh 10:10-11, 28; Isa 53:5; Jude 1:1**).
- 58. Joseph was made lord of the kingdom by God (**Gen 45:8**).
 - A. Jesus was made King of kings and Lord of lords (**Act 2:36; 1Ti 6:15**).
- 59. Joseph sent his brethren to tell the good news of his lordship to others (**Gen 45:9,13**).
 - A. Jesus sent His disciples to tell the good news of His Lordship to others (**Mat 28:18-20**).
- 60. Joseph prepared a place and an inheritance for his brethren where he would nourish them (**Gen 45:10-11; Gen 50:21**).
 - A. Jesus prepared a place (**Joh 14:2-3**) and an inheritance (**Eph 1:11**) for His people where He would nourish them (**Eph 5:29**).
- 61. Joseph told his brethren to look at his body to know it was him (**Gen 45:12**).
 - A. Jesus told His disciples to look at His body and touch Him to know that it was Him (**Luk 24:36-40; Joh 20:27**).
- 62. Joseph gave his brethren all that was necessary for them to make it to the land that he had given them (**Gen 45:21-24**).
 - A. Jesus supplies for all of the needs of His people (**Php 4:19**).
 - B. Jesus made provision that His people would make it to heaven to be with Him (**Joh 6:37; Joh 14:3**).
- 63. Joseph's father believed not for joy when he heard that Joseph was alive (**Gen 45:25-26**).
 - A. Jesus' disciples believed not for joy when they saw Him risen from the dead (**Luk 24:41**).
- 64. God used Joseph to save all those whom He had determined to save (**Gen 46:1-7**).
 - A. God used Jesus to save all those whom He had determined to save (**Joh 6:37-39; Joh 17:2-4**).
- 65. Joseph nourished his brethren with bread (**Gen 47:11-12**).
 - A. Jesus nourishes His people with the bread of life (**Joh 6:35**).
- 66. Joseph was made head over all of the kingdom while he made provision for his people (**Gen 47:13-27**).
 - A. Jesus was made head over all things with a special eye to His church (**Eph 1:20-23**).