

BIBLE TYPES, SHADOWS AND THEIR FULFILLMENT

Lesson 9 – TYPES IN JOSHUA

by Beverly McKey

I. Joshua, a Type of Christ – Joshua 1-11

A. The name "Joshua" means the same as the name "Jesus."

1. The Hebrew word for Joshua is "Yeshua", which means "Yahweh (the Lord) is Salvation".
 - a. The translation from Hebrew to English is Joshua.
 - b. The New Testament was written in Greek and the Hebrew word *Yeshua* is translated as *Iesous in the Greek*, which is then translated into English as "Jesus".
 - c. In fact, they are the same name, simply translated from two different languages.
2. Some have raised an objection that we are calling Jesus by the wrong name and insist that we call Him Yeshua, however, this argument is simply a "tempest in a tea pot" since the difference in the translations of the names does not change the character of the person referred to.
3. Similar examples may be made today:
 - a. Miguel may be a Spanish name that is translated into English as Michael
 - b. Juan may be translated John, etc.
 - c. Even in the New Testament, the Apostle Paul's name was translated from the Hebrew "Saul" into the Greek "Paul".
4. Moses was the one who actually translated Joshua's name as "Joshua".
Numbers 13:16b – *"And Moses called Hoshea the son of Nun, Joshua."*
 - a. The original name, Hoshea means "savior or salvation"
 - b. The name Joshua intensifies that definition meaning, as we mentioned before, "Yawehe (the Lord) is salvation".
5. The name Jesus also is defined as a "savior".
Matthew 1:21 – *"And she shall bring forth a son, and thou shalt call his name Jesus: for he shall save his people from their sins."*
6. Joshua saved his people from their enemies, whereas Jesus saved His people from their sins.

B. Apparently, Joshua spoke to Jesus face to face. Joshua 5

1. Joshua had given the people the instructions from God about crossing the Jordan into Canaan.
 - 1) God had dried up the water of the Jordan River until everyone crossed over the river. **Verse 1**
 - 2) The Israelites camped at Gilgal (which is located just north of the Dead Sea) near where the Jordan River empties into the Dead Sea.
 - 3) They celebrated the Passover on the proper date and then they ate the produce of the land of Canaan afterward.
 - 4) The manna ceased to appear the day after they had eaten the produce of the land.

2. While Joshua and the people were camped by the Jordan River, they were a short distance from Jericho, Joshua looked up and saw a Man standing opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand.
 - a. Notice in the New King James Version the pronouns used for the Man facing Joshua were all capitalized, indicating a holy being.
 - 1) **Joshua 5:13-15** – *“¹³ And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?"¹⁴ So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant? ¹⁵ Then the Commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so."*
 - b. Remember, God said these very words to Moses when He spoke to Moses from the burning bush in **Exodus 3:5**
 - c. Since the ground on which this man stood was Holy, we know that He is a holy being and a part of the God-Head.
 - 1) Because the only one of the God-Head to ever appear on earth as a man was Jesus Christ, the Son of God, we can safely assume that it is God-the-Son (in the New Testament identified as Jesus, the Christ) speaking to Joshua.
 - 2) A few weeks ago, we covered some rules for studying the Bible in a way that reveals the truth to us.
 - 3) There are three ways to identify truth:
 - a) A direct command from God
 - b) An approved example of someone taking an action that we can apply to our lives
 - c) And necessary inference or logical necessary conclusion – meaning we consider the context of the passage and other passages on this topic and make an educated conclusion as to the truth found in that passage.
 - d) We have just used necessary inference to conclude that the person speaking to Joshua was Jesus Christ.
 - d. In **Joshua 6**, the Lord gave Joshua all of the instructions regarding how Jericho would be defeated.
 - 1) The men of war were to march around the city one time each day for six days with no one making a sound.
 - 2) Seven priests with seven trumpets would follow them march before the Ark of the Covenant, carried on poles by the Levites, followed by a read guard.
 - 3) On the seventh day they were to march around the city seven times, the priests would blow the trumpets and all of the people were to shout, then the walls of the city would fall down flat.
 - 4) At that time Israel would simply march into the city and take it over.
 - 5) The city was burned entirely and only the gold, silver, brass and iron things were saved to add to the treasure of the Lord. No one was to take any plunder from the city.

- 6) Rahab and her family inside her house were the only citizens of Jericho that survived because she had helped the spies who went ahead into the land to check out the conditions there.
- 7) Because of her act of faith, Rahab was later to become the great-grandmother of King David and her name is mentioned in the lineage of Jesus. **Matthew 1:5**
- e. The ultimate victory of Israel in Canaan was won by "the army of Lord".
 - 1) The holy one who spoke to Joshua claimed to be the "commander of the Army of the Lord", which I do not believe is a reference to the army of Israel. Joshua was their commander.
 - 2) Let's look at the passage where Jesus was being arrested in the Garden of Gethsemane.
 - a) **Matthew 26:50-53** – *"Then they came and laid hands on Jesus and took Him. ⁵¹ And suddenly, one of those who were with Jesus stretched out his hand and drew his sword, struck the servant of the high priest, and cut off his ear. ⁵² But Jesus said to him, 'Put your sword in its place, for all who take the sword will perish by the sword. ⁵³ Or do you think that I cannot now pray to My Father, and He will provide Me with more than twelve legions of angels?"*
 - 3) Jesus is still today the commander of the spiritual army of God, which we are as Christians. It is our job to conquer the world for Christ.
 - 4) Paul was definitely a leader in the army of Christ:

II Timothy 4:7 – *"I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith."*
 - 5) The armor of God is described in **Ephesians 6**.
- C. Both Joshua and Jesus performed miracles over the forces of Nature.
 1. Joshua called on God for a special miracle to help him win a battle against the Amorites.
 - a. **Joshua 10:12-13** – *"¹² Then Joshua spoke to the LORD in the day when the LORD delivered up the Amorites before the children of Israel, and he said in the sight of Israel: "Sun, stand still over Gibeon; and Moon, in the Valley of Aijalon." ¹³ So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the people had revenge upon their enemies. Is this not written in the Book of Jasher? So, the sun stood still in the midst of heaven, and did not hasten to go down for about a whole day. ¹⁴ And there has been no day like that, before it or after it, that the LORD heeded the voice of a man; for the LORD fought for Israel."*
 - b. The day was lengthened in response to Joshua's command of faith.
 2. Jesus calmed the wind for his frightened disciples.
 - a. **Mark 4:35-39** – *"³⁵ On the same day, when evening had come, He said to them, "Let us cross over to the other side." ³⁶ Now when they had left the multitude, they took Him along in the boat as He was. And other little boats were also with Him. ³⁷ And a great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that it was already filling. ³⁸ But He was in the stern, asleep on a pillow. And they awoke Him and said to Him, 'Teacher, do You not care that we are perishing?' ³⁹ Then He arose and rebuked the wind,*

and said to the sea, "Peace, be still!" And the wind ceased and there was a great calm."

- b. As Joshua commanded the sun and the moon, even so did Christ command the wind and the sea, and they obeyed Him.
3. Both Joshua and Jesus are said to have finished the work God gave them to do.
 - a. God's tribute to Joshua's finished life-work is found in **Joshua 11:15**: *"As the LORD had commanded Moses his servant, so Moses commanded Joshua, and so Joshua did. He left nothing undone of all that the LORD had commanded Moses."*
 - b. Jesus also finished the work God gave Him to accomplish on earth:
 - c. **John 17:4** – *"I have glorified You on the earth. I have finished the work which You have given Me to do."*

II. Rahab's Deliverance, A Type of Salvation by Grace – Joshua 2

- A. Rahab was a harlot who lived in the wicked city of Jericho that was under the condemnation of God.
 1. **Joshua 2:1** – *"Now Joshua the son of Nun sent out two men from Acacia Grove to spy secretly, saying, 'Go, view the land, especially Jericho.' So, they went, and came to the house of a harlot named Rahab and lodged there."*
 - a. The king was told that men from Israel had entered the city to search out the country. **Verse 2**
 - b. The king sent messengers to Rahab saying: *"Bring out the men who have come to you, who have entered your house, for they have come to search out all the country."* **Verse 3**
 - c. Rahab told the authorities that the men had come to her house, but she did not know where they were from.
 - 1) She also said that the men had left the city just as the gates were being closed for the evening.
 - 2) She encouraged them to pursue these men quickly since they might be able to overtake them. **Verse 5**
 - 3) So, the king's men left the city to pursue the two spies, and the gate was shut for the night.
 2. Rahab had heard the mighty things that God had done in Israel:
 - a. **Joshua 2:10-11** – *"¹⁰ For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red Sea for you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to the two kings of the Amorites who were on the other side of the Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom you utterly destroyed. ¹¹ And as soon as we heard these things, our hearts melted; neither did there remain any more courage in anyone because of you, for the LORD your God, He is God in heaven above and on earth beneath."*
 - b. The Gentiles in Canaan had heard of all the mighty works that were done among the Israelites during their escape from Egypt and their forty years of wandering in the wilderness and they were terrified.
 3. Rahab's belief in the power of God gave her courage to ask the spies for something in return for helping them.
 - a. **Joshua 2:10-12** – *"¹² Now therefore, I beg you, swear to me by the Lord, since I have shown you kindness, that you also will show kindness to my father's house and give me a true token, ¹³ and spare my father,*

my mother, my brothers, my sisters, and all that they have, AND deliver our lives from death."

- b. Her request was honored when the spies said: **Verse 14** – *"Our lives for yours, if none of you tell this business of ours. And it shall be, when the LORD has given us the land, that we will deal kindly and truly with you."*
 - c. Then she let them down by a rope through the window, since her house was on the city wall and warned them to hide in the mountains for three days, until the king's men have returned to Jericho.
 - d. The two spies then instructed Rahab how to save her family:
 - 1) have a scarlet cord in the window on the wall, so the Israelites would know that it was her house
 - 2) gather all of her family inside her house or they would not be protected
 - 3) The spies also warned Rahab that if she told anyone the plans of Israel to conquer the city, their promise to save her family would be voided.
 - 4) So, Rahab tied the scarlet cord in her window and sent the spies on their way.
4. What about the fact that Rahab lied to protect the spies? Was that a sin? If so, why was she rewarded?
- a. Rahab was not one of the children of God who had been taught the morals of Godly people.
 - b. The Gentiles in Canaan were grossly wicked, immoral and idolatrous people who even sacrificed their own children.
 - c. Despite this background, Rahab had developed a growing faith in the God of Israel because of all of the reports of the mighty works He did among the Israelites since they left Egypt.
 - d. Lying, to Rahab, was just part of her daily life, since she was never taught that it was wrong.
 - e. Rahab was not rewarded for lying:
 - 1) she was rewarded for acting on her faith in the power of God
 - 2) for hiding the spies
 - 3) And for keeping the secret of Israel's plans to conquer Jericho.
5. After being rescued from Jericho, she was taken in by the Israelites as a proselyte and there she received the moral teaching from the Law of Moses she lacked before
- a. Rahab was then a part of the Nation of Israel.
 - 1) Isaiah described this process: **Isaiah 56:6-8** – *"Also the sons of the foreigner who join themselves to the LORD, to serve Him, and to love the name of the LORD, to be His servants—everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath, and holds fast My covenant—⁷ even them I will bring to My holy mountain, and make them joyful in My house of prayer. Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices will be accepted on My altar; for My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations."*
 - 2) The Jews were still making converts (proselytes) in the first century. **Matthew 23:15** – *"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you travel land and sea to win one proselyte, and when he is won, you make him twice as much a son of hell as yourselves."*

- b. We know Rahab became a proselyte because later Rahab is married to Salmon, from the tribe of Judah.
 - 1) Since the Israelites were forbidden to marry outside the nation of Israel, Rahab had to have been accepted as a convert (proselyte) of Judaism.
 - 2) Her contribution to the conquering of Jericho results in her inclusion in the lineage of Jesus, Christ.
 - 3) Rahab was the great-great grandmother of King David. **Matt.1:5-6**
- B. The salvation of Rahab is a shadow of the salvation of those today who are lost in the corruption of the world who may still come to God in faith to escape the destruction of those who reject the gospel of Christ.
1. **Romans 3:21-26** – *“²¹ But now the righteousness of God apart from the law is revealed, being witnessed by the Law and the Prophets, ²² even the righteousness of God, through faith in Jesus Christ, to all and on all who believe. For there is no difference; ²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, ²⁴ being justified freely by His grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus, ²⁵ whom God set forth as a propitiation by His blood, through faith, to demonstrate His righteousness, because in His forbearance God had passed over the sins that were previously committed, ²⁶ to demonstrate at the present time His righteousness, that He might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”*
 2. Rahab would have been condemned to destruction except for her faith in God that spurred her to actively help the two spies.
 - a. **Hebrews 11:30** – *“By faith the harlot Rahab did not perish with those who did not believe, when she had received the spies with peace.”*
 - b. Rahab’s faith placed her in the list of faithful heroes whose faith was proven by their action.
 - c. Sarah and Rahab were the only two women included in this list of renown servants of God.
 3. We must not confuse “faith in action” with “earning salvation”.
 - a. It was not the work of saving the spies that saved Rahab, it was the faith that compelled her to do it that was her salvation.
 - b. While it will not be good works that save us, we are still required to do good works.
 - c. **I Titus 3:4-7** – *“⁴ But when the kindness and the love of God our Savior toward man appeared, ⁵ **not by works of righteousness which we have done, but according to His mercy He saved us, through the washing of regeneration and renewing of the Holy Spirit, ⁶ whom He poured out on us abundantly through Jesus Christ our Savior, ⁷ that having been justified by His grace we should become heirs according to the hope of eternal life.”***
 - d. **Ephesians 2:8** – *“For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, ⁹ not of works, lest anyone should boast.”*
 4. While salvation is absolutely by grace, we are still required to put our faith into action in good works.

- a. **Ephesians 2:10** – “*For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”* NOTICE: We are created in Christ Jesus to do good works.
 - b. **Matthew 5:16** – “*Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.*” NOTICE: The purpose of your good works is so when others see them, they will glorify God.
 - c. **I Timothy 6:18-19** – “¹⁸ *Let them do good, that they be rich in good works, ready to give, willing to share, ¹⁹ storing up for themselves a good foundation for the time to come, that they may lay hold on eternal life.”*
 - d. **Titus 2:7** – “*...in all things showing yourself to be a pattern of good works; in doctrine showing integrity, reverence, incorruptibility, sound speech that cannot be condemned...”*
 - e. **Titus 2:13-14** – “¹³ *...looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, ¹⁴ who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works.”*
 - f. **Titus 3:8** – “*This is a faithful saying, and these things I want you to affirm constantly, that those who have believed in God should be careful to maintain good works.”*
 - g. **Hebrews 10:24** – “*And let us consider one another in order to stir up love and good works.”*
5. These passages have all been stated to help us realize that good works must be a critical part of our lives as Christians.

III. Israel Crossing Jordan, A Type of the Christian Entering into the Eternal Life – Joshua 3-4

- A. When Israel crossed through the River Jordan, they were turning their backs upon their wilderness days, and they were entering the land which God had promised to them, through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel) centuries before.
 1. **Joshua 1:2** “*Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them—the children of Israel.*”
 2. Crossing Jordan meant for Israel entering into the Promised Land and a fulfilled promise from God.
 - a. **Deuteronomy 27:3** – “*...when you have crossed over, that you may enter the land which the LORD your God is giving you, 'a land flowing with milk and honey, just as the LORD God of your fathers promised you.”*
 - b. The Promised Land was a wealthy land with everything Israel needed. It was God’s gift to Israel. They entered at harvest time.
 - c. When Israel crossed Jordan, they began to possess that land. God had promised victory. Therefore, there is no need for defeat. He has promised everything that is needed.
- B. Crossing the Jordan is a type/shadow of the spiritually lost person accepting the gospel message and being converted to Christianity.
 1. At that point the old lost person has died in the waters of baptism, like the disobedient generation of Israel died in the wilderness.

2. The new Christian has entered a new life that, when faithfully lived, ends in crossing the "spiritual Jordan" into Heaven (our promised land).
 - a. Eternal life is the promise that Jesus Christ left for all of those who obey the gospel.
 - b. **John 14:1-3** – *"Let not your heart be troubled; you believe in God, believe also in Me. ² In My Father's house are many mansions; if it were not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you. ³ And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also."*
 - c. **John 3:16** – *"For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life."*
 - d. **Romans 6:23** – *"For the wages of sin is death, but the gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus, our Lord."*
 3. Crossing Jordan was a triumphant event for Israel because God promised victory, so it is for the Christian entering a new victorious life in Jesus Christ.
 - a. **II Corinthians 2:14** – *"Now thanks be to God who always leads us in triumph in Christ, and through us diffuses the fragrance of His knowledge in every place."*
 - b. **I Corinthians 15:57** – *"But thanks be to God, who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."*
 - c. **I John 5:4** – *"For whatever is born of God overcomes the world. And this is the victory that has overcome the world – our faith."*
- C. Crossing the Jordan River meant leaving the heathen influence of Egypt and the wicked nations they passed in the wilderness.
- a. The Red Sea crossing is typical of our salvation from the world. The crossing of Jordan is a type of our salvation to a life of victory in Christ.
 - b. **Romans 6:4** *"Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."*
 - c. Baptism pictures the experience of victorious living.
 - 1) God made the crossing of the Jordan a divine event by heaping the waters of the Jordan River (at flood stage) and leaving dry ground for the Israelites to walk on.
 - a) **Joshua 3:15-16** ¹⁵ *...and as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), ¹⁶ that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So, the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho."*
 - b) The divine element was the miracle of the heaped up waters that made possible the walking over on dry ground. This was God's supernatural power.
 - c) The human element was the Israelites' walking over on the pathway made for them by what God had done.

- 2) God provided cities of refuge in the Promised Land so the Israelites could be safe from an avenging family.
 - a) In their new life in the land of Canaan, the Israelites set up cities of refuge.
 - i. **Numbers 35:12** – *“They shall be cities of refuge for you from the avenger, that the manslayer may not die until he stands before the congregation in judgment.”*
 - ii. **Numbers 35:15** – *“These six cities shall be for refuge for the children of Israel, for the stranger, and for the sojourner among them, that anyone who kills a person accidentally may flee there.”*
 - b) The two things a manslayer had to do were:
 - i. Flee to the city of refuge:

Joshua 20:9 – *“These were the cities appointed for all the children of Israel and for the stranger who dwelt among them, that whoever killed a person accidentally might flee there, and not die by the hand of the avenger of blood until he stood before the congregation.*
 - ii. Stay there according to instructions:
 - iii. **Joshua 20:6** – *“And he shall dwell in that city, until he stand before the congregation for judgment, and until the death of the high priest that shall be in those days.”*
- 2) God has also made provisions with conditions for sinners who want to be saved from the judgment awaiting those who *“who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.”* **II Thess. 1:8b**
 - a) And there are two things a sinner must do today:
 - i. Flee to Christ to be saved

Hebrews 6:18 – *“...that by two immutable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we might have strong consolation, who have fled for refuge to lay hold of the hope set before us.”*
 - ii. Abide in Christ to remain in that saved state
 - **II Corinthians 13:5** – *“Examine yourselves as to whether you are in the faith. Test yourselves. Do you not know yourselves, that Jesus Christ is in you? — unless indeed you are disqualified.*
 - **I Thessalonians 1:9b-10** – *“how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God,¹⁰ and to wait for His Son from heaven, whom He raised from the dead, even Jesus who delivers us from the wrath to come.”*
 - **Revelation 2:10b** – *“Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.”*

IV. Some important lessons are found in the book of Joshua

- A. Joshua had very many things in common with Jesus Christ as he endeavored to lead his people into the Promised Land.
 1. Both names, Joshua and Jesus, mean “the Lord is Salvation”
 2. Joshua apparently spoke to God, the Son (Christ), in human form.
 - a. The person Joshua spoke to admitted that the ground He stood on was holy, just as God had said to Moses in the burning bush.

- b. He also claimed to be the commander of the Army of God, just as Joshua was commander of the army of Israel.
 - c. He gave Joshua instructions on how to defeat Jericho.
 3. They both performed miracles over the forces of nature.
 - a. Joshua called upon God to make the sun and moon stand still to lengthen daylight until he could defeat the Amorites. The day was lengthened about a day.
 - b. Jesus stilled a raging storm because his disciples were afraid it would capsize their boat.
- B. Rahab's faith in God was very helpful in the defeat of Jericho and was included in the lineage of Jesus.
 1. Rahab was a sinful Gentile who heard of the miracles God wrought among the Israelites in the wilderness and she had faith in God because of it.
 2. Her faith gave her courage to help the two Israelite spies.
 3. Her faith gave her courage to ask the spies to show kindness to her and her family when they conquered Jericho.
 4. Rahab's faithfulness resulted in her becoming a proselyte (convert) in Israel who eventually married an Israelite and became great-grandmother of King David and was listed in the lineage of Jesus.
 5. Rahab is an example of how the lost may still come to God by putting their faith in action – hearing the gospel, repenting, confessing Jesus is the Son of God, being baptized for the forgiveness of sin and living as a faithful servant of God for the rest of their lives.
- C. Israel crossing the Jordan River is a shadow of Christians entering into eternal life in heaven.
 1. Israel left the heathen nations behind them to form a new godly nation and they promised to observe God's law.
 2. Lost souls must also leave behind their worldly lifestyle to be raised into a new life of faithful obedience to God.
 3. Israel formed cities of refuge where people who had unintentionally killed a person could go to escape an avenging family.
 4. Jesus Christ is a refuge for lost sinners to escape the vengeance of God on Judgment Day. (**II Thessalonians 1:7-9**)
 5. How wonderful that God has provided us with such a rich history to help us understand His eternal plan for mankind.