

Old Testament Archetypes

The second important Archetype is found in Peter 3:18-21. Peter states that as Noah and his family were saved by water, so are we saved by Baptism. It is very interesting to note that Noah and his family were not saved by the Ark! How were they saved by water? God used water to wash away all the sins of the world. This is what happens when we are baptized in Jesus precious name. All our past sins, as well as the curse on us from Adam on down, are all washed away. Once we are baptized into Christ we become the children of God. As children of God we can then lay claim to all of the promises of the New Testament. The letters of Paul, Peter, James, Jude, and John were not written to the world, they were written to the children of God, the saints, the Church. For example many people think that just by calling on the name of the Lord they are saved, or that by confessing their sins to God they are forgiven. But this is not true. One must first be Water Baptized into Christ and filled with the Holy Spirit before one can come boldly before the throne of grace.

1John 1:9 states, "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." This promise is to the church, the body of baptized believers, not the world.

Some more Old Testament examples of God using water for purification and salvation include Leviticus 14:1-32, Numbers 19:1-22, 2Kings 5:1-14, Joshua chapters 4 and 5, and Judges chapter 7.

In Leviticus it is interesting to note that a person healed of Leprosy was not clean before the Lord. So it is today. Just because God heals someone according to their faith does not mean they are saved. God uses healing to get the sinner's attention and increase his faith to the point where he will obey the plan of salvation. The leper was not clean before God until he went before the priest and showed that God had indeed healed him. Then the priest killed a dove over fresh water, mixed the blood with the water, dipped cedar wood, scarlet,

and hyssop into the mixture and sprinkled it on the one that had already been healed, and caused the individual to be completely bathed in water, and eventually the healed leper was considered cleansed before God and able to return into the camp. Obviously leprosy is a type of sin and the cleansing process was a type of New Testament baptism for cleansing, necessary for salvation. In the Gospel of John 20:23 Jesus said to his apostles, "Whose soever sins ye remit they are remitted unto them; and whose soever sins ye retain, they are retained." He also said, "whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven." It is apparent that Jesus gave his apostles the power to forgive or not forgive people their sins. This was accomplished with the baptism in Jesus name which was for the remission of sins which began being preached on the day of Pentecost. This is the birthday of the Church and the **first time the New Testament plan of Salvation was preached.** The New Testament plan of salvation did not begin with some "Sinner's Prayer" or "Roman's Road" that began being taught hundreds of years later. **Acts 2:38-39**, is the original and only plan of salvation ever taught in the New Testament. The book of Acts is where saved people told unsaved people how to get saved. The letters of Paul, Peter, John, James, and Jude, tell the church how to stay saved.

In Numbers chapter 19, it speaks of a heifer being killed and burned outside the camp, which was a type of Christ being crucified, and that the ashes were to be mixed with water and sprinkled on one who had come in contact with a dead body. We are all responsible for the death of Christ, in that he died for all, he had to die for me and you, so we put him to death and need to pass through the "water of separation," which is a purification for sin, Numbers 19:9. What is our water of separation for sin? It is water baptism in the name of Jesus. The "ashes of the heifer" are the name of Jesus being mixed with our faith. The priest is a pastor. In Second Kings chapter five, we have the archetype of the Gentiles being saved by water

baptism in Jesus' Name. At first Naaman rejected the baptism in the river Jordan just as many people today reject the baptism in Jesus Name. But as acts 19:1-6, shows us that it does make a difference in whose name we are baptized, so did Naaman's example show us beforehand, that how we are baptized today makes all the difference in the world. It must be in the Name of Jesus, just as Naaman's had to be in the Jordan River, not the rivers Abana and Pharpar of Damascus.

In Joshua chapters 4 and 5, we have Israel being baptized unto Joshua through the river Jordan in a similar fashion as the older generation of Israel was baptized unto Moses through the Red Sea. The older generation did not have the faith necessary to cross over Jordan into the promised land and they all, except for Joshua and Caleb, died in the wilderness. But the younger generation, led by Joshua, whose name in the Greek is Jesus, crossed over into the promised land which is a type of New Testament salvation. It is noteworthy that the first thing Israel had to do after crossing Jordan was to be circumcised, thus demonstrating that New Testament baptism in Jesus Name is the circumcision of the New Testament. Col 2:11-14, and that it is absolutely necessary for salvation.

Hopefully the reader of this pamphlet is beginning to understand the importance of water in the plan of salvation and how God has used water to separate his people from the world ever since the flood. One more example is Judges chapter 7.

Gideon is an unlikely character to be called by an angel of God, a mighty man of valour. But God can transform anyone who is willing to trust in Him. God used Gideon to deliver a great victory in Israel but not before trimming his army down considerably. God used water to separate 300 men out of 10,000, to fight the battle of faith. So it is that God uses water baptism in the name of Jesus to weed out those today who are not willing to suffer for the name of Jesus. Matt 10:22, "And ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake: but he that endureth to the end shall be saved." by Charles G. Marlowe, Apostolic Fellowship.