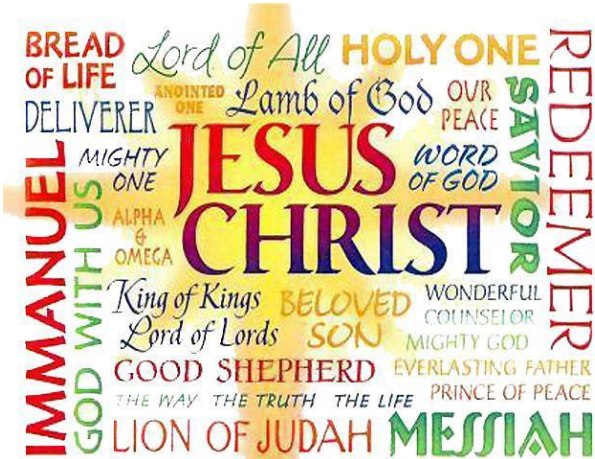


The Place of the Old Testament in the Christmas Message

by
William D. Barrick, Th.D.
The Master's Seminary



Introduction

According to the apostles, Old Testament revelation was their source for the Gospel message and its application to all peoples.

I. The Unity of the Christmas Message (Acts 26)

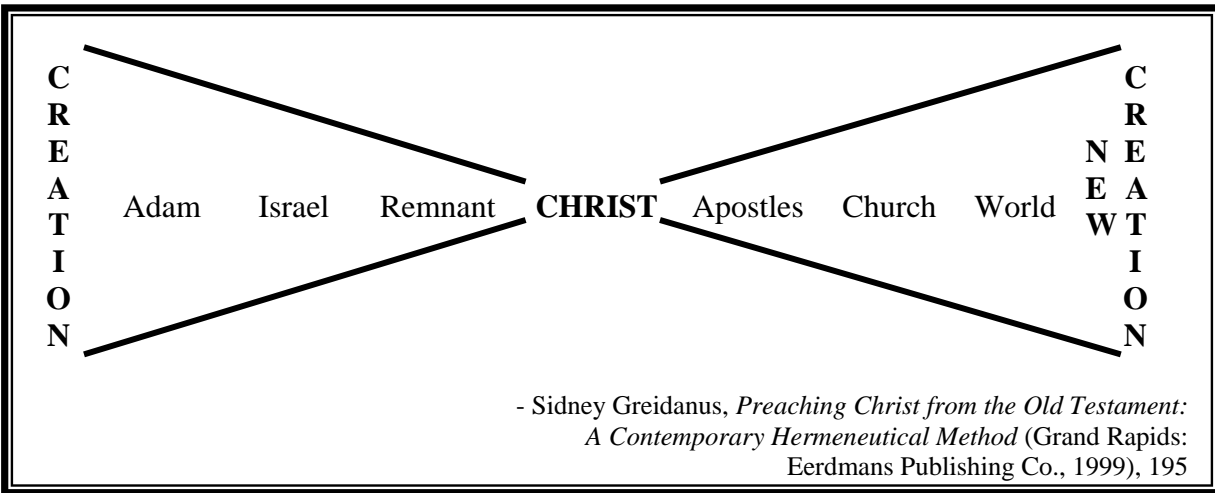
A. Hope from the Promise (26:6-7)

- What was the “promise made by God to” the Jews’ ancestors?
- Why were the Jews attacking “this hope”?
- Where was the revelation of this hope?
- Why was this revelation given?

B. Help for the Proclamation (26:22-23)

- Why was Paul seized by the Jews?
- Who provided Paul with help?
- What did Paul proclaim? Compare 1 Peter 1:10-12.

December 2009



Christ is the focal point of revelation.

II. The Universality of the Christmas Message (Acts 15)

- A. Conversion of Gentiles (15:1-4)
- B. Conflict with Pharisees (15:5)
- C. Conference of the Church (15:6-29)
 - Peter's testimony (verses 6-7).
 - God's gift (verse 8).
 - Divine cleansing (verses 9-11). Compare Acts 10:9-28.
 - Divine confirmation (verses 12-14).
 - Prophetic confirmation (verses 15-18). Compare Luke 11:49-51.

Conclusion

The Gospel in the Old Testament requires the advent of the Messiah.

See Luke 24:25-26.

Old Testament saints believed the same Gospel, except in prospect.

See John 1:43-45.