

G. Exemplary Use of the Old Testament in the New Testament

1. Defining terms and concepts

- a. "Exemplary"...the use of the Old Testament in providing examples in conduct, worship, etc.
- b. There are a number of usages in view, some of which show on our charts, and some of which are theological in definition. This is one of the more common usages and, unfortunately, one that is more popular and thus one that may obscure more theological importance.
- c. The dangers that come in using the Old Testament in an exemplary mode are in these areas:
 - (1) O.T. accounts may be treated as simple stories
 - (2) genre limits may be placed on passages and events
 - (3) adaptations may be oversimplified on the basis of external similarities.
 - (4) matters of theological significance may be overlooked
 - (5) examples may not be used in terms of good hermeneutical procedures.

2. Aspects of exemplary usage and illustrative passages:

- a. Warning concepts:
 - Hebrews 3:7-8
 - 12:16
- b. Behaviour modification:
 - 1 Corinthians 10:1-11
- c. Encouragement:
 - James 5:10-11
- d. Explanation
 - 2 Peter 2
 - Jude

There may be some overlap in these and there may not be much that is mutually exclusive and jointly exhaustive..but...

3. Concepts for adaptation of examples..

- a. The basic principle is that the example fits its application without damaging the context or theological basis...
- b. The point of comparison is biblically defensible...
- c. The application is to a major point..not a quantity of details.