

December 31, 2016

## Genesis 22 Messiah-The Branch Elevated

### The Application of Types Today

Isaac represented the condition of humanity, that none were fit as the ransom for sin, not even obedient Isaac. So why did YHVH ask Abraham to sacrifice his son? The answer is two-fold, not only as a TEST to Abraham, and to demonstrate to Abraham what the supreme sacrifice was to be to the Most High Father, Divine Mother, and to the Son. Secondly, to demonstrate to Abraham and his seed that only a perfect sacrifice, a Divine sacrifice, would be permitted and acceptable for the plan of redemption. This question is dealt with overwhelmingly in great simplicity and harmonious beauty in Ellen White's many comments, found in Patriarchs and Prophets, Desire of Ages, and other statements. Human sacrifice is condemned in the Word, including of course, child sacrifice which the followers of Molech did. This became doubly difficult for Abraham to understand, why Elohim would ask him to sacrifice his own son, under very special circumstances and for a very special reason. Abraham knew that child sacrifice was a prevailing sin of the nations in his day in his region of the middle east. Nevertheless, the Law is clear on this typology, requiring a (Divine) "Substitute" for the sacrifice.

The aspect of the Isaac type that demonstrates the Plan of Salvation, is that the Father and Mother Most High gave up Their Son for humanity as the price for redemption, and Abraham, Isaac's father, was keenly aware of the price in regards to his own promised son as for a very painful passing of time as Abraham did Heaven's bidding, he and his son traveled to the land of Moriah to give a sacrificial offering on the mountain there. It was the ram sacrificed that represented Christ our Everlasting Father, indeed as our Father and Deity, "not a man". **"A DIVINE LIFE IS GIVEN AS MAN'S RANSOM; ONE EQUAL WITH THE FATHER HAS BECOME MAN'S SUBSTITUTE."** {UL 49.5}. Christ the Son and Christ the Daughter are both the Father and Mother of the re-creation, for all who are "born again".

The church, or assembly of Messiah today, is ere long past the shadowy types of the Old Testament sanctuary and temple system, yet some want to reinstitute a human priesthood, even an (unscriptural) intermediary intercessor for today, claiming some personal spiritual and kingly authority over the assembly of Messiah today, but that teaching does not match the inspired record of the Root, Rod and BRANCH Messages.

E. G. White:

"Abraham had greatly desired to see the promised Saviour. He offered up the most earnest prayer that before his death he might behold the Messiah. **AND HE SAW CHRIST.** A supernatural light was given him, and he acknowledged Christ's divine character. He saw His day, and was glad. **HE WAS GIVEN A VIEW OF THE DIVINE SACRIFICE FOR SIN. OF THIS SACRIFICE HE HAD AN ILLUSTRATION IN HIS OWN EXPERIENCE.** The command came to him, "Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, . . . and offer him . . . for a burnt offering." Genesis 22:2. (469)

**"UPON THE ALTAR OF SACRIFICE HE LAID THE SON OF PROMISE, THE SON IN WHOM HIS HOPES WERE CENTERED.** Then as he waited beside the altar with knife upraised to obey God, he heard a voice from heaven saying, "Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou anything unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from Me." Genesis 22:12. This terrible ordeal was imposed upon Abraham that he might see the day of Christ, and realize the great love of God for the world, so great that to raise it

from its degradation, He gave His only-begotten Son to a most shameful death. {DA 468.4}

**“ABRAHAM LEARNED OF GOD THE GREATEST LESSON EVER GIVEN TO MORTAL. HIS PRAYER THAT HE MIGHT SEE CHRIST BEFORE HE SHOULD DIE WAS ANSWERED.** He saw Christ; he saw all that mortal can see, and live. **By making an entire surrender,** he was able to understand the vision of Christ, which had been given him. He was shown that in giving His only-begotten Son to save sinners from eternal ruin, **GOD WAS MAKING A GREATER AND MORE WONDERFUL SACRIFICE THAN EVER MAN COULD MAKE.** {DA 469.1}

Abraham's experience answered the question: "Wherewith shall I come before the Lord, and bow myself before the high God? Shall I come before Him with burnt offerings, with calves of a year old? Will the Lord be pleased with thousands of rams, or with ten thousands of rivers of oil? shall I give my first-born for my transgression, the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?" Micah 6:6, 7. In the words of Abraham, **"My son, God will provide Himself a lamb for a burnt offering," (Genesis 22:8), and in God's provision of a sacrifice instead of Isaac, it was declared that NO MAN COULD MAKE EXPIATION FOR HIMSELF.** The pagan system of sacrifice was wholly unacceptable to God. **No father was to offer up his son or his daughter for a sin offering. The Son of God alone can bear the guilt of the world.** {DA 469.2}

**“Ceremonies End at the Cross.--The ceremonies connected with the services of the temple, prefiguring CHRIST IN TYPES AND SHADOWS, WERE TAKEN AWAY AT THE TIME OF THE CRUCIFIXION,** because on the cross type met antitype in the death of the true and perfect offering, the Lamb of God (MS 72, 1901). {6BC 115.21}

**“(Romans 3:31.) Christ, Not the Law, Crucified.--The law of the ten commandments lives and will live through the eternal ages. The need for the service of sacrifices and offerings ceased when type met antitype in the death of Christ. IN HIM THE SHADOW REACHED THE SUBSTANCE. THE LAMB OF GOD WAS THE COMPLETE AND PERFECT OFFERING.** {6BC 116.1}

**“The law of God will maintain its exalted character as long as the throne of Jehovah endures. This law is the expression of God's character. . . . Types and shadows, offerings and sacrifices had no virtue after Christ's death on the cross; but God's law was not crucified with Christ. Had it been, Satan would have gained all that he attempted to gain in heaven. For this attempt he was expelled from the heavenly courts. He fell, taking with him the angels he had deceived. And today he is deceiving human beings in regard to the law of God (MS 167, 1898).** {6BC 116.2}

**“Christ was the foundation of the whole Jewish economy, and in all his specific directions regarding the ceremonial observances, these were distinguished from the Decalog. They were to pass away. TYPE WAS TO MEET ANTITYPE IN THE ONE GREAT OFFERING OF CHRIST FOR THE SINS OF THE WORLD.** {ST, July 29, 1897 par. 10}

**“Through type and promise God "preached before the gospel unto Abraham." Galatians 3:8. And THE PATRIARCH'S FAITH WAS FIXED UPON THE REDEEMER TO COME. Said Christ to the Jews. "YOUR FATHER ABRAHAM REJOICED THAT HE SHOULD SEE MY DAY; AND HE SAW IT, AND WAS GLAD." JOHN 8:56, R.V., margin. THE RAM OFFERED IN THE PLACE OF ISAAC REPRESENTED THE SON OF GOD, WHO WAS TO BE SACRIFICED IN OUR STEAD. WHEN MAN WAS DOOMED TO DEATH BY TRANSGRESSION OF THE LAW OF GOD, THE FATHER, LOOKING UPON HIS SON, SAID TO THE SINNER, "LIVE: I HAVE FOUND A RANSOM." {PP 154.1} End quotes**

The whole Divine drama of Abraham willing to sacrifice his only-begotten son was in verity a revelation of the Messiah to come, from the Divine perspective. It was not about Isaac or even Isaac's willingness to be sacrificed, even though it proved to be an act of faith on Isaac's part, righteousness by faith. Both father

and son had an act of faith to perform in that great first story of faith in Genesis, faith in the Messiah to come.

The substitutionary offering of the ram, was just that, showing that the offering of Isaac was a personal test to Abraham, but never intended to be the “substitutionary” offering in the offering of Isaac. Now, however, apparently, Trent is attempting to make of none effect the substitutionary reality of that sacrifice into a divided type and antitype, or an extension of the type of Isaac that was never intended in the fulfillment in the historical fulfillment pointing to some latter-day application. Such an application would be in effect making a sinful man today equal to Christ (using the same type). Christ the son was indeed represented in the ram offering. What possible efficacious good would a man today, supposedly in antitype to Isaac, be, in the “closing-up of the Atonement”? We are told by Sister White and Brother Houteff that “glory closes the work” the Shekinah Glory, that is. (WHR, pages 39,40) Such a postulation of an antitype, AFTER THE REAL FULFILLMENT, makes the substitutionary offering of Messiah Himself, by those who do this, of none effect, because they do not recognized the full and complete perfect Lamb of God, Who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29), TAKING OUR ATTENTION OFF THE REALITY, to a latter-day offering, a purported antitype of Isaac who would not actually die, but was to be an example of obedience??? Obedience to what? The obedience of Christ, after the Cross!? What would be the purpose? IT IS MORE FITTING TO SEE ISAAC AS THE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF THE SINNER SAVED BY THE TRUE SACRIFICE, RATHER THAN A MESSIANIC TYPE IN HIMSELF, SOMEHOW POINTING TO ANOTHER TO COME. This is the great issue that has been foisted upon The Branch Movement, actually several times now, this is not new, the great deception that there was to be “another messiah”, of a sinful man, to come as the antitype of Christ. Sadly, it has gained some traction with unsuspecting and undiscerning minds in the message. How could it be? Elohim forbid!

Christ the Son proved His obedience to His Father FULLY and COMPLETELY, at the Cross of Calvary, even His entire life 2000 years ago, thus proving (fulfilling) one key aspect of the Abrahamic typology. Isaac was only a partial type of Christ, in the larger picture of the Divine Family Sacrifice, since the Plan of Salvation was for a Divine lamb (symbolically), or ram, the father of a lamb. The Isaac type was a critical TEST for Abraham. The RAM, caught by the horns (two) was to be the TYPE of Christ He and She. There is another line of prophecy that came out in The Branch in the early or mid 1980s, by a student of Lois Roden’s, and an elder brother in the message, that taught that Christ the Son and Christ the Daughter would bring forth Their OWN “righteous harvest” that we, the redeemed of the Kingdom, would be “joint-heirs” with. I accepted that principle or idea, to this day, that there will be someday, after the Marriage in Heaven, a fulfillment of a literal harvest of the Son and the Daughter. I am not wanting to interject that idea here, but I have extensive written/published studies by the author of that Divine principle of the “righteous harvest”. I believe I was given a confirmation of this truth in a dream I was given in March of 1990, the second half of the dream. There is a separate website that presents this concept of the “Righteous Harvest” of Messiah. I won’t go into it here. I believe it was a seed truth for that time, to spring up fully one day soon. But this would be the only final and complete fulfillment of the Abraham-Isaac type.

You see, any final application of the Abraham-Isaac type would have to prove “inherent” righteousness, not righteousness by a change of garment as Zechariah 3 depicts, parabolically. Christ the Son proved His Father in Heaven righteous, because Christ the Son never sinned. Yahshua kept the law, perfectly and did ONLY what was pleasing in His Father’s sight. This is a whole other topic, and much more needs to be revealed on this principle. The real paradox of the Sacrifice of Messiah was that He never sinned, YET..... His own priestly garments (figuratively) were made “filthy” by the raw nature of being a sin bearer. After all, Yahshua went through the death experience, needing His own garments, in that sense, changed, through the resurrection. The same is true of the Divine Daughter, needing Her own priestly garments changed, because of the sin and rejection of Her Person, Her Priesthood, Her Righteousness, through the ages, and even today, in the very movement that has been taught Her position and priesthood. This is what the Zechariah 3 parabolic depiction is all about. But some still want a sinful man to represent them

before the Throne of Heaven. What have we been lacking, in truth, and in a Righteous Priest to represent us, both in Heaven and in the earth? This is the question set before every Branch believer today.

Certainly, the type of Abraham, Sarah and Isaac, had a dual meaning, showing both of the sacrifice of the Divine Father Most High (and Divine Mother), and the sacrifice of the Divine Son (and of the Divine Daughter). Ellen White describes the sacrifice as the "sundering" of the Family in Heaven. Each member of the Godhead made the unthinkable, even unbearable, sacrifice for humanity. This being true, how does a sinful man become a kind of final application, and for what purpose? Is it to lead the rest of us sinners to the garment change he has? Well, I thought Christ the Son (of Heaven), Yahshua, already did that for us, as our perfect offering, our complete offering, and our perfect example. This very teaching is what put Vernon Howell into the self-exalted place that he sought for in the The Branch Movement. He succeeded beyond even his own expectations certainly, in world-wide notoriety, yet there was a terrible price he had to pay for his sin, and the people that followed him into that terrible apostasy (1993). And today, Charles Pace teaches the same teaching of being "Christ" in antitype, or, the antitype of the "son of promise" (Isaac). Certainly, this kind of teaching/thinking, takes our focus off Christ the Son, the REAL Son of Promise (!), WHO IS THE "GREAT CENTER" of the plan of Salvation, He and She, both "Christ".

This is the last-ditch effort by the enemy of Christ to insert a fallen man into the plan of Salvation, making the Atonement at Calvary 2000 years ago, cheapened, or of none effect, by focusing on a sinful man today.

There is no shortage of some today who want to be "Christ" in antitype, but that office or title (personal/singular) was forbidden by Victor Houteff and Ben Roden. It is sad that some do not understand that that office and position is fulfilled. The "help" of a man today is not needed, not required, for the plan of salvation to come to completion, both in Justification and in Sanctification. There is no place for an antitype of Christ (except in a Message, and the corporate body called by that New Name), other than the Divine Daughter, who is Christ Herself, inherent! May we begin to understand this in its beauty, fullness, and finality, "IT IS FINISHED!" once and for all. This Movement has no excuse to follow any other. The Son of Heaven is ALL in ALL, COMPLETE.

The Broad and Far Reaching Prophecy of The Branch Explained:

2SR260-

*"HE SHALL BEAR THE GLORY." TO CHRIST BELONGS THE GLORY OF REDEMPTION FOR THE FALLEN RACE. "UNTO HIM THAT LOVED US, AND WASHED US FROM OUR SINS IN HIS OWN BLOOD.... TO HIM BE GLORY AND DOMINION FOR EVER AND EVER." (REV. 1:5, 6.) HE "SHALL SIT AND RULE UPON HIS THRONE, AND HE SHALL BE A PRIEST UPON HIS THRONE." (ZECH. 6:13.) "Christ, who is the faithful witness, and the first begotten of the dead and the Prince of the kings of the earth." (Rev. 1:5.) "He shall be a Priest upon His throne." It is obvious that the time predicted is some time after the crucifixion and before probation has closed; for He is "a priest." Christ, "the branch," "shall grow up out of His place"; that is, He was to spring up from the Jewish nation, "and He shall build the temple of the Lord." Therefore, the temple that "He shall build" could not have been the literal temple in ancient Jerusalem, for it was a temple that He is to build after His birth. "And they that are far off shall come and build in the temple of the Lord." As this was untrue with the literal temple, the words must apply to the anti-typical one. At that time the prophet says: "And many nations shall be joined to the Lord in that day, and shall be My people." (Zech. 2:11.) "In that day;" that is, in the time of the "Loud Cry," a great multitude shall be converted to the church. In Zechariah 13:8, it is stated that one-third of the inhabitants will "come," and they are the ones who shall "build in the temple of the Lord," of which the literal one was a type. End quote*

Is this quote above, from Victor Houteff, speaking of a sinful man today, or Christ the Son, our perfect example? You choose who you want to follow, a man, or Deity.

Here is what Ben Roden states concerning "Christ" in our day, quoting Victor Houeff:

Branch Lesson #3 p. 13 (reformatted)

*"Therefore, when the Rod message came it brought about a division, creating Judah and Israel, fulfilling the type of the division of the twelve tribes shortly after the death of King Solomon. There is no way to legally or Scripturally deny that there are two Seventh-Day Adventist churches - D.S.D.A. (Judah) and S.D.A. (Israel). This does not mean to say that only among the Adventist people we find Judah and Israel; for surely there is the Jewish people in the Israel State and we must be assured that the ten tribes are scattered among the other churches. Since the Seventh-day Adventist are the first to be purified the message through type and antitype deals with them first. **The sad part is that type reveals that Judah (in the church) will again crucify the BRANCH. SINCE THE BRANCH IS NOT A PERSON BUT CHRIST, Inspiration reveals they crucify Christ by rejecting His message - the BRANCH.** This is what Davidians also say:*

*"Just as Christ was crucified, so the Two Witnesses will be killed. And as Christ was resurrected, so the Two Witnesses will be raised...The prophecy of Revelations 11 shows THAT CHRIST IN OUR DAY **IN THE FORM OF HIS TRUTH, HIS WORD, IS TO BE CRUCIFIED AFRESH** at the hands of His professed people and THAT THE TRUTH WILL BE RAISED IN GLORIOUS EXALTATION AND VICTORY and to the shame of its enemies." The Symbolic Code, March 1956, Vol. 11 #5 pp 13, 14. End quote.*

The BRANCH is Christ the Son, in Heaven. But on earth, The Branch is a message, a message of the final atonement, or "closing-up of the Atonement" after 1844. The Divine Daughter in the earth is also "The Branch" – the personal Representative of the Son, forever.

Christ in a message "IN THE FORM OF HIS TRUTH, HIS WORD" "SINCE THE BRANCH IS NOT A PERSON, BUT CHRIST ..." Any man today who thinks he is the antitype of Christ, as supposedly depicted by Isaac, is saying he is Christ in our day. How can that be?

In 1SR227, we read that Isaac represents a corporate application, NOT a personal application of a supreme sibling among us, or a "master" or supreme leader today. There is no TYPE in the New Testament church that even remotely hints at a supreme leader of the first Brass Mountain. The SECOND Brass Mountain will be the same. As Br. Houeff states repeatedly, in so many words, "If we have a type, then we have a truth". "No type, no truth."

*"New Testament (Section One)*

*"As Isaac was the firstborn "after the spirit," naturally he must represent the first section, beginning at the cross of Christ. Quoting the words of Paul, he says, "NOW WE, BRETHREN, AS ISAAC WAS, ARE THE CHILDREN OF PROMISE." Gal. 4:28. Isaac, then, represents that section from the cross to 1844, as there has been no other call before. The commencement of each previous section as well as their completion was marked by an important event; just so with the termination of the section represented by Isaac. 1844, is the only fitting time for that section to pass away and usher in the second, at which time the judgment in the heavenly Sanctuary began. Evidently the scroll had to make a turn, and again type met anti-type." 1SR227*

A corporate application, not personal. Any man who dares to apply the types to himself, even the supreme types of Christ Himself, shows he is unfit for any teaching office, no matter how much knowledge he has. This is exactly why Yahshua said in the parables (Matt. 23:12) that those who exalt themselves will be humbled.

*"Elisha was a symbol of Christ. Prophets and Kings, page 240: "Like the Saviour of mankind, of whom he was a type, Elisha in his ministry among men combined the work of healing with that of teaching." These are the reasons why Isaac, Jonah, and Elisha are types of Christ, REPRESENTING THE DIFFERENT PHASES AND IMPORTS OF THE WORK OF CHRIST."* Applied to the perfect Son of the Most High, NOT to a man today.

Extending types in the Old Testament to the present day, even the type of Christ Himself, other than to the corporate body that is to be PERFECTED by joining to the HEAD of the Body today, the Holy Spirit, is a clear misapplication, intended to exalt a man as supreme leader. There is no type in the first century church to support this idea. No type, no truth. The Branch Movement has gone through this trial by fire, twice now, in Vernon Howell, and presently by Charles Pace at New Mt. Carmel, and now a third attempt. When will we ever learn? Some will not learn, particularly from the brethren of experience, and therefore be gathered into the chaff bundles, rather than the "Barn" (Kingdom).

Ellen White:

*"Shun Desire to Become Great Leaders- It is those who accept the warnings and cautions given them who will walk in safe paths. Let not men yield to the burning desire to become great leaders, or to the desire independently to devise and lay plans for themselves and for the work of God. It is easy for the enemy to work through some who, having themselves need of counsel at every step, undertake the guardianship of souls without having learned the lowliness of Christ. These need counsel from the One who says, "Come unto Me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden." {ChL 42.4}*

*"Our ministers and leaders need to realize the necessity of counseling with their brethren who have been long in the work, and who have gained deep experience in the ways of the Lord. The disposition of some to shut themselves up to themselves, and to feel competent to plan and execute according to their own judgment and preferences, brings them into strait places. Such an independent way of working is not right, and should not be followed. The ministers and teachers in our conferences are to work unitedly with their brethren of experience, asking them for their counsel, and paying heed to their advice. - Testimonies to Ministers, pp. 501, 502. {ChL 42.5}*

*"Brethren of experience should be guarded; and instead of expecting these young preachers to help and lead them, should feel a responsibility upon them to take charge of these young preachers, to instruct, advise, and lead them, to have a fatherly care for them. Young ministers should have system, a firm purpose, and a mind to work, that they may eat no man's bread for naught. They should not go from place to place, and introduce some points of our faith calculated to stir up prejudice, and leave before the evidences of present truth are half presented. Young men who think that they have a duty to do, in connection with the work, should not take the responsibility of teaching the truth, until they have availed themselves of the privilege of being under the influence of some experienced preacher who is systematic in his work; they should learn of him as a pupil at school would learn of his teacher. They should not go hither and thither, with no definite object or matured plans to carry out in their labor. {GW92 142.1}*

*"Some who have but little experience, and are least qualified to teach the truth, are the last to ask counsel of their experienced brethren. They put on the minister, and place themselves on a level with those of long and tried experience, and are not satisfied unless they can lead, thinking that because they are ministers, they know all that is worth knowing. Such preachers certainly lack a true knowledge of themselves. They do not possess becoming modesty, and have altogether too high an opinion of their own abilities. Ministers of experience, who realize the sacredness of the work, and feel the weight of the cause upon them, are jealous of themselves. They consider it a privilege to advise with their brethren, and are not offended if improvements are suggested in their plans of labor, or in their manner of speaking."*

## In Closing

**Romans 10:3,4 -- For they being ignorant of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God.**

**For Christ [is] THE END OF THE LAW OF RIGHTEOUSNESS to every one that believeth."**

With Christ the Son as our Great focus, and His Own Glory, the Divine Daughter, we have a perfect application of the Zechariah 3 parabolic prophecy for our time. It is Deity that completes the Atonement.

NO ONE WAS TO COME AFTER CHRIST, AS HIS EQUAL in type or prophecy. There are men today who carefully search for types, thinking that a type points to themselves, to exalt themselves, but rather brings in the mark of the beast principle of following a man. We must not accept them. "Mark them, avoid them" (Rom. 16:17). Repetition of types after that of Christ Himself for today, even thinking to approach the sacrifice of Calvary, other than the corporate application as the Body of Messiah, is a device and devising of the enemy.

The TYPE of Isaac, Abraham-Sarah, that are reasonable and permitted by Inspiration are:

1. Isaac is a type of the born-again believers, from Calvary to 1844, according to the prophetic time application given by Victor Houteff, although there is an extension to this principle that we are all "children of promise" in a more general application. We were all given a second chance at life because of the Divine "Substitute" provided for us. The time after 1844 began a special time in prophetic history, .... the time of the Firstfruits (Rev. 7/Rev. 14), their preparation and dedication.
2. Isaac represents the condition of humanity that no sinful person can be an offering for sin, in Abraham's time, or ever. Isaac could not make the required expiatory sacrifice for humanity, for himself or his family. This was the key lesson of the Mount Moriah experience of Abraham and Isaac.
3. Abraham (and Sarah) had to understand, and keenly feel, in a deep and personal way (through Isaac's offering), the unimaginable pain, as the Divine Family YHVH in Heaven felt in the Sacrifice of the Son (and Daughter) of Heaven, required to restore humanity to right standing to the Divine Family. Therefore, Abraham and Sarah represented the Divine Father and Mother in this restricted application, even though their son Isaac was not sinless and could not provide expiation for sin, for himself, his family or for humanity. This is why he was not required to be slain in the type. What a happy day for Abraham, and Isaac.

Any other attempted application, in a sinful person today, is vanity, sin, and frankly, unthinkable.

All TYPES meet and END in Christ. There was nothing wanting, nothing deficient, in the Lamb of Calvary, represented in the RAM of Mount Moriah, presented to Abraham as a type of Christ.

In The Spirit of The Branch (1990)

bro. Tom / T L Caldwell