Sunday, 21st June 2026

The Power of The Word of God

The Divine Red Thread That Leads to Christ

"And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, He expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things concerning Himself."
Luke 24:27

"Search the scriptures; for in them ye think ye have eternal life: and they are they which testify of Me." — John 5:39

My Dearest Christian Family,

I am so joyful that so many of you have written to me, saying that you are beginning to connect the dots in the Bible. So, this Sunday, let us continue to reflect on the power of Scripture.

At first glance, the Bible appears to be a collection of stories spread across centuries. Yet if the Bible is truly inspired by God, then it cannot be a disconnected collection of religious writings.

The Holy Spirit is the Author behind every page.

Therefore, beneath the surface there must be hidden connections, divine

patterns, sacred threads that bind Genesis to Revelation.

And indeed, there are.

The Ark of the Covenant is connected to the Virgin Mary.

The sacrifice of Isaac is linked to the crucifixion of Christ.

The bronze serpent in the wilderness points to Calvary.

Melchizedek points to Christ's eternal priesthood.

Boaz reveals our Kinsman Redeemer.

The Cities of Refuge reveal our safety in Christ.

Noah's Ark reveals salvation through Christ alone.

And the astonishing thing is that every thread eventually converges upon one Person:
Our beloved Lord Jesus Christ.

As Charles Spurgeon famously said:
"Christ is the sum and substance of the Scriptures. Take Him out of the Bible and there is nothing left."

Likewise, John Calvin wrote:
"We ought to read the Scriptures with

the express design of finding Christ in them.”

The Bible is one story.

One Author.

One Redeemer.

One Gospel.

One Christ.

JACOB’S LADDER

For centuries many believed Jacob’s ladder represented humanity climbing upward toward God through effort, religion, and moral improvement.

But they were mistaken.

After deceiving his family and fleeing for his life, Jacob collapsed in the wilderness.

There he dreamed of a ladder reaching from earth to heaven.

“And behold a ladder set up on the earth, and the top of it reached to heaven: and behold the angels of God ascending and descending on it.” (Genesis 28:12)

Notice carefully.

The angels are already on earth.

They ascend first and then descend.

The initiative belongs to God.

Hundreds of years later, Nathanael meets Jesus.

The Lord astonishes him and then reveals the meaning of Jacob's dream: "Hereafter ye shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of man." (John 1:51)

Lord Jesus deliberately identifies Himself as the fulfillment of Jacob's ladder.

The ladder was never merely an object.

It was a Person.
Christ Himself.

He is heaven touching earth.

He is the bridge between God and man.

“For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus.” (1 Timothy 2:5)

John Calvin comments:
“Christ is the living and perpetual bond of union between God and men.”

Jacob’s ladder ultimately reveals that salvation is not man climbing to God.

It is God descending to man through Christ.

THE ARK OF THE COVENANT

For centuries people have searched for the Ark.

Yet Luke quietly reveals something astonishing.

Mary's visitation to Elizabeth mirrors David's journey with the Ark.

David took the Ark into the hill country of Judah.

"David arose and went…"
2 Samuel 6:2

Mary likewise:
“Mary arose in those days and went into the hill country.” (Luke 1:39)

David exclaimed:
“How shall the ark of the Lord come to me?” (2 Samuel 6:9)

Elizabeth exclaimed:
“Whence is this to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?”
Luke 1:43

David danced before the Ark.

John leaped in Elizabeth’s womb.

The Ark remained three months.

Mary remained three months.
These parallels are too deliberate to ignore.

Why?
Because the Ark carried:

- The Law of God
- The Manna
- Aaron's rod

Yet Mary carried:

- The Living Word
- The Bread of Life
- The Great High Priest

The Ark contained shadows.

Mary carried the Reality.

And even Gabriel's language echoes Exodus:
"The Holy Ghost shall come upon thee, and the power of the Highest shall overshadow thee." (Luke 1:35)

The same language used when God's glory overshadowed the Tabernacle.

Yet the glory is not Mary herself.

The glory is Christ within her.

As Calvin says:
"All the treasures of heaven are deposited in Christ."

ABRAHAM AND ISAAC

Few passages reveal the heart of God more profoundly than Genesis 22.

“Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest…” (Genesis 22:2)

The language echoes the Father’s love for Christ.

“This is my beloved Son.” (Matthew 3:17)

Isaac carries the wood.

Jesus carries the cross.

Isaac climbs Moriah.

Jesus climbs Golgotha.

Isaac asks:
“Where is the lamb?” (Genesis 22:7)

Abraham replies:
“God will provide himself a lamb.”
(Genesis 22:8)

That answer echoes across two thousand years until John the Baptist declares:
“Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world.” (John 1:29)

When Abraham raised the knife, God stopped him.

When Christ hung upon the cross, no voice cried “Stop.”

No substitute appeared.

Because Christ Himself was the substitute.

J. C. Ryle wrote:
“The sacrifice of Isaac was one of the clearest Old Testament pictures of the sacrifice of Christ.”

Isaac lived because a ram died.

We live because Christ died.

THE TOWER OF BABEL AND PENTECOST

At Babel humanity united in rebellion.

“Let us make us a name.” (Genesis 11:4)
The goal was self-glory.

God responded by confusing their language.

Human pride was scattered.

At Pentecost the exact opposite occurs.

Acts 2

Different nations.

Different languages.

Different peoples.

Yet one Gospel.

One Christ.

One Spirit.

At Babel language divided.

At Pentecost language united.

At Babel humanity sought its own glory.

At Pentecost the Spirit glorified Christ.

Three thousand fell in judgment after the golden calf (Exodus 32:28).

Three thousand were saved at Pentecost (Acts 2:41).

Herman Bavinck wrote:
“Pentecost is the reversal of Babel.”

Christ gathers what sin scattered.

MELCHIZEDEK

The Bible presents a legal dilemma.

Lord Jesus is from Judah.

Not Levi.
How then can He be our High Priest?
The answer appears in Genesis 14.

Melchizedek appears suddenly.

A king.

A priest.

Without recorded genealogy.

Without recorded beginning.

Without recorded end.

“King of Salem.” (Genesis 14:18)

King of Peace.

His name means:
King of Righteousness.

Hebrews 7 reveals that he is a type of Christ.

King and Priest united.

Righteousness and Peace united.

Bread and wine offered.

An eternal priesthood foreshadowed.

John Owen wrote:
“The priesthood of Christ was represented in Melchizedek before ever Aaron existed.”

Thus, Christ is legally and eternally our High Priest.

BOAZ THE KINSMAN REDEEMER

The law required two things:

A redeemer must possess the price.

And he must be a near relative.

Boaz possessed both.

Likewise, Christ.

Humanity stood bankrupt before God.

Our debt was infinite.
Yet heaven's Redeemer had to become our brother.

"Forasmuch then as the children are partakers of flesh and blood, He also himself likewise took part of the same." (Hebrews 2:14)

Christ became our true Boaz.

He had the price.

His perfect life.

His precious blood.

And He became our kin.

John Owen wrote:
“Christ became what we are that He might make us what He is.”

THE BRONZE SERPENT

The mystery puzzled Israel for centuries.

Why would God command a serpent image?

Numbers 21

The answer comes from Jesus Himself.

“As Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of man be lifted up.” (John 3:14)

The bronze serpent represented sin judged.

Christ became sin’s bearer.
“For He hath made Him to be sin for us.” (2 Corinthians 5:21)

“Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us.” (Galatians 3:13)

The Israelites lived by looking.

We live by looking.

Looking away from ourselves.

Looking unto Jesus.
Spurgeon said:
“The look of faith saves. It is not thy tears. It is not thy works. It is Christ.”

THE CITIES OF REFUGE

The guilty man fled.

The avenger pursued.

The city protected.

Yet freedom came only through the death of the High Priest.

Numbers 35

The symbolism is astonishing.
Hebrews speaks of believers:
“Who have fled for refuge to lay hold upon the hope set before us.” (Hebrews 6:18)

Christ is our Refuge.

Christ is our High Priest.

And when our Great High Priest died, our guilt was forever removed.

Matthew Henry wrote:
“Christ is the true refuge for guilty souls.”

NOAH’S ARK

The ark survived because it was covered with pitch.

The Hebrew word is closely related to the word for atonement.

The ark was covered.

Protected.

Sealed.

God Himself shut the door.
“And the LORD shut him in.” (Genesis 7:16)

Noah’s security rested not in Noah’s strength but in God’s sovereign hand.

Peter tells us:
“The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us.” (1 Peter 3:21)

The ark endured the storm.
Those insides were safe.

Christ endured God’s judgment.

Those in Christ are safe.

As Augustine said:
“Outside the ark there was destruction.
Inside the ark there was salvation.”

Lord Jesus declared:
“I am the door.” (John 10:9)

There was one door then.

There is one Door now.

Christ alone.

CONCLUSION

The Bible is not a collection of disconnected stories.

It is one divine masterpiece.
One Author.

One Gospel.

One Redeemer.

One Christ.

Jacob’s Ladder.

The Ark.

Isaac.

Babel.

Melchizedek.

Boaz.

The Bronze Serpent.

The Cities of Refuge.

Noah's Ark.

Every road leads to Christ.

Every shadow points to Christ.

Every promise finds its "Yes" and "Amen" in Christ.

As the great Puritan Thomas Adams said: "Christ is the sum of the whole Bible, prophesied, typified, prefigured,

exhibited, demonstrated, to be found in every leaf, almost in every line."
May God give us eyes to see Him.

May God give us hearts to love Him.
May God give us faith to trust Him.

And may we leave this place rejoicing that the entire Word of God, from Genesis to Revelation, testifies of our beloved Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Much love,
Francis