

Symbols in the Old Testament

Jacob's Ladder

- Christ is the connection between heaven and earth and between God and man. He is the way, the truth, and the life; no one can get to God except through Him (John 14:6).

The Manna

- Jesus also likened himself to manna and declared that He was the true bread that came from Heaven (John 6:32-33), and He is infinitely higher than his type.
- Unlike manna, which could only satisfy the Israelites' physical needs temporarily, Jesus is the bread of life that will meet our spiritual needs eternally (John 6:35).

The Rock at Horeb

- The rock was a shadow of Christ who was also “struck” so that God’s people would receive living water (John 7:37-39). Jesus even told the Samaritan woman at the well, that He would give her living water. And whoever drank from it would never thirst again (John 4:10; 13-14).

The Tabernacle

- In the Old Testament, the tabernacle was a temporary place of worship for the Lord. Its purpose was for God to dwell among his people (Exodus 25:8; 29:45). It is also where the ark of the covenant (the representation of God’s presence), stayed.
- It was a shadow of Christ, who is the true tabernacle and the final meeting between God and humanity (Colossians 2:9, Hebrews 9:11)).

The Passover Lamb

- Jesus became the last and greater Passover lamb. He was the lamb of God (John 1:29) perfect, without blemish and sin (1 Peter 1:19). He was crucified with all His bones intact (John 19:33), and by His blood, many people have been saved (Hebrews 9:12)

The Bronze Serpent

- In John 3:14, Jesus likened himself to the bronze serpent, indicating it was a type of Him. The snake was a curse and symbolized Jesus, who became a curse for us (2 Corinthians 5:21).
- Like the serpent, Jesus was hanged on a tree (Galatians 3:13), and all who look to Jesus and put their faith in Him will get saved from the sting of death (1 Corinthians 15:55-57).
- Also, the serpent was their only means of salvation; just like Jesus is our only way to eternal life (John 14:6).

The High Priest

- The high priest played the role of mediator between God and the people. The high priest was the leader and the only one who could enter the Most Holy place on the day of atonement.
- Jesus is now our high priest because He mediates between God and men (1 Timothy 2:5). Christ is the Great High Priest (Hebrews 2:17, 3:1, 4:14-15, 5:5-10, 6:20, 7:26, 8:1)