

Questions:

1. Why is the Old Testament important to the New Testament literature?
2. Why did the New Testament believers believe that the Old Testament was for First Century believers?
3. What was some of the OT Prophecies and how did the NT view them?
4. How should someone view the events of the Old Testament?
5. What is typology, what should it not be confused with and Why?

Answers:

1. The interweaving of phrases and lines in the Old Testament by the New Testament writers in their own words and literary styles show how much of their thought was immersed in the teaching of the OT. In addition, without the literature of the OT, most of the NT would not be understandable.
2. Based on the language used in the Old Testament, the New Testament writers believed that the relevance was just for that time. However, in some instances the word was not just relevant for Abraham, when it was stated "it was accredited to him" but was also relevant for everyone as stated in Romans 4:23-24
3. Some of the OT Prophecies were Jesus virgin birth (Is. 7:14), the preaching of John the Baptist (Is. 40:3), Outpouring of the Holy Spirit (Joel 2:28-32), Gentiles included (Amos 9:11-14) and all nations blessed (Gen. 12:3). The New Testament writers viewed the OT prophecies as being fulfilled in their times.
4. One should view the OT as a sequence of occurrences that exhibit a strong sense of purpose, connectivity and a divine plan that has been orchestrated by God. They should not be seen as a succession of events.
5. Typology is history and should not be confused with symbolism, allegory or prophecy. This should not happen because it is not fancy imaginings and without divine designation will lose all authority and approval from God. It does deal with relationships of persons, events and institutions rather than just words themselves.

Definition:

Providentially – of, relating to, or determined by Providence which is God conceived as the power sustaining and guiding human destiny.

Analogically – of, relating to, or based on a comparison of two otherwise unlike things based on resemblance of a particular aspect

Juxtaposition - the act or an instance of placing two or more things side by side often to compare or contrast or to create an interesting effect

Summary:

There were many times growing up where I heard that people believed in the OT and not the NT. People still believe in sacrificing animals, people and praying to false gods. However the NT is

better understood because of the OT and there is the ability to believe prophecy has been fulfilled because of OT writings. Some things we may have to be cautious about is the language and how it gets applied. There are some things in the OT that can only apply to the 1st Century believers and then there are other texts that are for everyone. For example, the text “it was accredited to him” when talking about Abraham can be used for us. For as it states in Romans 4:23-24 that it was not written for his sake alone but also for us. “It was imputed to us who believe in Him who raised up Jesus our Lord from the dead.” Both the OT and NT talk about the same things, such as issues of the heart. There used to be people in early days that believed that the OT contradicted the NT, but I see with this explanation that the OT compliments the NT. Just know that because God’s thinking is infinite to our finite minds that his direction was needed before Christ and is still needed after Christ and that although we were saved by sin, it was because of Jesus’ sacrifice we are able to stand blameless before the throne. This is shown throughout the bible and without the confirmation that is expressed in both the OT and NT we would probably not be able to understand either in the context that it was written.