

Jesus' Death (Matthew 27:32-56)

Sunday, April 2nd, 2023

Let's read the text (Matthew 27:32-56)!

- Rewind to Jesus' discourse with Nicodemus (John 3:1-15)

Jesus said that the bronze serpent points to His coming crucifixion!

Guiding Principle for Old Testament Allegory:

1. Christ is the key to interpreting Scripture. All things in the Old Testament point forward to the cross. All things in the New Testament point back to the cross. We can call this the **Christocentric Metanarrative**.

Let's read the text (Numbers 21:4-9)!

A Note from Martin Luther on Allegory

(Luther's Works Vol. 1 Lectures on Genesis Chapters 1-5)

4 Questions to Consider When Making Connections within the Christocentric

Metanarrative:

1. Am I interpreting the allegory in the right direction (Cross → Bronze Serpent → you)?
2. Is this connection helpful and edifying for Christian teaching by pointing me to Jesus?
3. Does this connection illuminate the literal sense of the text?
4. Does this connection avoid twisting Scripture for the devil's purposes?

Compare Numbers 21:4-9 to Matthew 27:32-56. What are the allegorical connections (i.e. similarities)? The first connection should come easy. Later connections may be harder, but this is good because we are training our brains to work in a new way when we interact with Scripture.

Bronze Serpent	Jesus' Crucifixion

Let's see what St. John Chrysostom (AD 347-407) has to say on this topic!

Other things to note regarding the crucifixion of Christ...