

## Messianic in its Predictions

The key to the true exposition of the Old Testament we find in the New Testament. It is contained in the declaration of Christ, Matt. 5:17: "I came not to destroy the law or the prophets, but to fulfill." Christ is the fulfiller of the Scriptures: he is the light which illuminates every page; without it, they remain a sealed book. The Old Covenant is a preparation for the New, the New Covenant is the fulfillment of the Old. They are one in the idea of Covenant, different as Old and New...

Paul represents the law as a schoolmaster to lead men to Christ (Gal. 3:24). Christ and the Apostles see in the Old Scriptures the Word of God spoken through his servants Moses and the Prophets (Acts 1:16; 3:7; 4:7; 9:8). "Moses wrote of me," says Christ (John 5:46). "Holy men spake from God, being moved by the Holy Spirit" (2 Pet. 1:21).

But the Old Testament is not the final revelation of God; it is full of pregnant hints to the future; it is Messianic in its predictions, its institutions and ceremonies; even the law points beyond itself to the gospel. So the Apostles find everywhere Christ in the Old Testament, but Christ in his preparatory stages, Christ foreshadowed, Christ coming, not Christ come.

(Theological Propædeutic: A General Introduction to the Study of Theology... by Philip Schaff, New York: Scribner's Sons, 1904, 197-198, From Chapter CXXVI, Exegesis of the Old and New Testaments)