

# From Shadow to **SUBSTANCE**

By

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## INTRODUCTION

There is a lot of conflict today in the way many people read and understand the Bible, because they do not understand the relationship between the Old and New Testament. They read everything alike. Primarily, these were not sets of books. They were covenants, God's ways of dealing with people in various generations.

Some people struggle with the image of God from the Old Testament which seems to conflict with the image in the New Testament. It all comes down to the truth we are discussing in this series.

Be ready to learn, unlearn and relearn many things as you continue reading this series. You are eternally blessed in Christ.

If you have any question, feel free to send it to me through my facebook account or through my email below:

[favoradet@yahoo.com](mailto:favoradet@yahoo.com).

Read slowly, prayerfully and meditatively. And don't forget to share with others the joy you found in Christ as we continue in this indepth study.

**Adeyemi Favour Aderinto.**

## About the Author.

Adeyemi Favour Aderinto is a vibrant teacher of God's Word, he teaches the New Testament realities with zeal, accuracy and precision. He also actively engages in personal discipleship. Hundreds of people are being reached weekly by his teaching and discipleship ministry.

# From SHADOW to SUBSTANCE. Part 1.

While teaching on the New Testament realities, I notice that some people are very emotional about the Old Testament and do wonder why God would get rid of a system He once created. They still find many things in the Old Testament appealing and want to incorporate them into the New Testament.

In this message, we are going to bring to clarity the relationship between the Old and New Testament, and the reason for a lot of things which took place in the Old Testament. I am going to show you that GOD DOES NOT CHANGE, HE NEVER INTRODUCED OLD TESTAMENT AS AN END or HIS WILL. No. He introduced the Old Testament in preparation for the New Testament.

The Old Testament was supposed to be a pointer (Sign Board) to Jesus. But the problem we have today is that Believers are romancing the pointer. They love the pointer so much that they feel we should bring the pointer (sign board) inside the HALL. THE PURPOSE OF THE SIGNBOARD WAS TO SHOW THE HALL. ONCE YOU ARE IN THE HALL, YOU DON'T NEED THE SIGNBOARD ANYMORE.

## **For instance, why did God give the Law?**

To simply show man that "By the works of the law, no man shall be justified". He didn't give the law to be kept. Because He knows it cannot be kept. Even the lawgiver, Moses, could not keep the law. So, the purpose of the law to point us to Christ. And like a signboard, once we are in the hall (IN CHRIST), the signboard has finished its work. Stop romancing the signboard.

**#Point 1: The Old Testament was a SHADOW of the New Testament. THE SUBSTANCE (REALITY) is CHRIST.**

The Old Testament was a "Reality SHOW", CHRIST IS THE REALITY. The show is NOT real. CHRIST IS THE REALITY. HE IS THE SUBSTANCE.

Hebrews 10:1

"The law is only a SHADOW of the good things that are coming--NOT the realities themselves. ..."

Colossians 2:16 - 17

"16Therefore let no one judge you by what you eat or drink, or with regard to a festival, a New Moon, or a Sabbath.

17.For THESE RULES are ONLY SHADOWS of the reality yet to come. AND CHRIST HIMSELF IS THAT REALITY (SUBSTANCE). "

### **THE IMPLICATION:**

So, the implication is that whenever you read the Old Testament, don't read it like the reality. READ IT THRU THE EYES OF CHRIST. EXAMINE IT IN THE LIGHT OF THE REALITY.

### **#Point 2: Shadows are NOT the accurate representation of the Substance.**

Shadows are different from Image. Image is like a picture / a photograph. Images are more exact.

But shadows are those dark shapes that are formed when light shines on an opaque object. PLEASE CHECK YOUR SHADOW? DOES IT REPRESENT YOU ACCURATELY? Does your shadow show your skin color or your nose, eyes, etc? The only thing is that you can likely differentiate a man from a tree by looking at their shadow. It is a very inaccurate but rough estimation of the substance. THAT IS WHAT THE OLD TESTAMENT IS. It is some inaccurate representation of God.

### **BUT CHRIST IS THE IMAGE OF GOD. HE IS THE EXPRESS IMAGE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD.**

**Jesus is God's Selfie. When God took a picture in order to be visible, YOU SEE CHRIST. HE IS GOD IN HUMAN FLESH. THAT IS WHY HE IS THE SUBSTANCE AND THE REALITY.**

Colossian 1:15

"CHRIST is the VISIBLE IMAGE of the INVISIBLE GOD. He existed before anything was created and is supreme over all creation"

Hebrews 1:3

"The Son is the radiance of God's glory and the EXACT REPRESENTATION of His nature, upholding all things by His powerful word...."

## **The Implication:**

Many rituals and physicality in the Old Testament were just mere shadows of Christ and His finished works in the New Testament. God even arranged some events in the Old Testament to model JESUS in the New Testament.

For instance, Joshua, (who means Jesus in Greek) was a type of Jesus. When Moses (the Law) failed in leading the Israelites to the promised land, Joshua (Jesus) led them to the promise land. WHERE THE LAW FAILS, JESUS (GRACE) SUCCEEDS.

Because the law operated on natural life (human power to keep it), but Jesus (Grace) operated on the power in INDESTRUCTIBLE LIFE (Eternal Life). Hebrews 7:16, referring to CHRIST.

"who has become a priest, not on the basis of a legal requirement concerning bodily descent, but by the power of an indestructible life."

## **#Point 3: The Rule of Interpretation and Comparison of Shadow to the Substance.**

**Since shadows are not exact representation of the Substance, we must not do one-to-one match of the shadow to the reality, when we are making those comparison. IT IS NOT EXACT.**

For instance, as we saw the Joshua was a "type" of Jesus. Because of the role He played in doing what the Law could not do. Leading the human race to God (Our Promised Land). **I hope you know God is our promised land, not heaven?** So, we cannot do match to match between Joshua and Jesus. Joshua was just a shadow, not exact. JESUS IS THE SUBSTANCE. But we have an idea of Christ from the mission of Joshua. You got it?

So, we must apply that rule **WHEN WE ARE MATCHING AN ICON, A PERSON, A RITUAL IN THE OLD TESTAMENT TO THE NEW TESTAMENT.** It is **NOT** going to be accurate, or exact, but a general indication of the Substance.

In the next parts, we are going to examine some shadows in the Old Testament and match them to their realities (Substance) in the New Testament, which is Christ.

In Part 2 and 3 of this note, we will discuss different examples of **SHADOWS TO SUBSTANCE FROM THE OLD TESTAMENT TO THE NEW TESTAMENT.**

I believe you are blessed by this piece so far. Leave us your comment.

I love you eternally in Christ.

# **FROM SHADOW TO SUBSTANCE: - Part 2.**

## **Examples of Some cases of Shadows to Substance in the Old Testament:**

### **Case 1. Passover Event and Passover Feast.**

#### **The Shadow:**

There was an event in the Old Testament where the Angel of destruction passed thru Egypt to kill all their firstborn, but the Firstborn of the Israelites were not touched, because of the blood of the Lamb which God asked them to put in the doorpost.

**So, Passover means "When I see the blood, I will Passover you"**

And then God told the Israelites to keep celebrating the feast of Passover in order to remember that great deliverance that God wrought. Up till today, the Jews still celebrate Passover.

#### **The Substance:**

### **JESUS IS OUR PASSOVER.**

Read the Passage below: 1 Corinthians 5:7

"Get rid of the old yeast, so that you may be a new unleavened batch--as you really are. FOR CHRIST, OUR PASSOVER LAMB, has been sacrificed..."

Jesus is our Passover Lamb, who was slain to preserve us from the judgment of God. When God sees the blood of Jesus, WE ARE KEPT FROM HIS WRATH. HIS WRATH WAS DIVERTED UPON HIMSELF (IN CHRIST).

You note the ALL ISRALITES WHO PUT UP THE BLOOD OF THE LAMB WERE SAVED. IT WAS NOT ABOUT THEIR BEHAVIOR, BUT THE INITIAL FAITH IN WHAT GOD ASKED THEM TO DO.

That is why Our Salvation is 100% by Grace (the Passover Lamb), NOT by our behavior.

And that is why WE ARE ETERNALLY SECURED. JESUS OUR PASSOVER LAMB HAS BEEN SACRIFICED, IT IS IRREVERSIBLE. BECAUSE OF HIS BLOOD, THE WRATH OF GOD PASSED OVER US.

Hear Jesus Himself said in John 5:24

"“Very truly I tell you, whoever hears my word and believes him who sent me has ETERNAL LIFE and will NOT be judged but has CROSSED OVER from death to life. ”

So, Sons of God, if you have allowed the Spotless Blood of Christ to take away your sins, if you have come to Calvary for cleansing, I have a good news for you.

BY THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, YOUR PASSOVER LAMB, GOD'S JUDGMENT HAS PASSED OVER YOU.

Jesus said, You will NOT be judged. But you have crossed over from death to life. REJOICE EVERMORE AND GIVE GLORY TO CHRIST, YOUR PASSOVER LAMB. That is how to celebrate Passover in the New Testament. Glory!!!

Are you excited? Share your comments with us below.

I love you eternally in Christ, Our Passover Lamb. Amen.



# **FROM SHADOW TO SUBSTANCE: - Part 3.**

## **Examples of Shadow to Substance in the Old Testament**

### **Old Testament Circumcision - A Seal of Identification.**

#### **The Shadow:**

God told Abraham to circumcise himself and all the males in their household. This was also carried over into the law. It was a continuous command for the Israelites under the Old covenant.

Genesis 17:10 - 14

"10 This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised.

11 You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you.

12 For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring.

13 Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant.

14 Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant."

Circumcision was a SIGN of the Old covenant. It must be ON THE FLESH. It was THE SEAL that they were in covenant with God. That was why God said "Any male that is NOT circumcised, shall be cut off from His people, because He does not belong. That was a clear seal and indication of being in covenant with God in the Old Testament.

Some early believers, especially Jews still wanted to continue to circumcise. They loved the shadows so much that they would not let go even when Jesus, the Substance is here. YOU MUST LET GO OF THE SHADOW, IN ORDER TO ENJOY THE REALITY.

## **The SUBSTANCE / Reality of CIRCUMCISION in the New Testament:**

When God instituted circumcision in the Old Testament, He was NOT really interested in people cutting their foreskin. NO. He was simply showing the shadow of the NEW TESTAMENT CIRCUMCISION. That is what was on His mind all the while. But human being caught the vision of bodily circumcision, and taught it was Spiritual and some would not let go.

**Let us examine these passages to determine precisely what the REALITY OF CIRCUMCISION is in the New Testament:**

Hebrews 10:17

""This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will PUT MY LAWS ON THEIR HEARTS, and write them on their minds,""

Romans 2:29

""But a Jew is one inwardly, and CIRCUMCISION IS A MATTER OF THE HEART, BY THE SPIRIT, NOT by the letter. His praise is not from man but from God.""

Philippians 3:3

"For WE ARE THE CIRCUMCISION who worship by the SPIRIT OF GOD and GLORY IN CHRIST JESUS and put NO CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH."

From Romans 2:29 above, the TRUE circumcision is done in our heart (spirit), BY THE HOLY SPIRIT.

**#1. Circumcision is the SEALING of OUR HEART (SPIRIT) by the HOLY SPIRIT OF GOD.**

As physical circumcision was a sign of identification in their flesh to indicate who is truly a Jew, the Holy Spirit is a sign on our Spirit to indicate who truly belongs to Christ.

**HOLY SPIRIT IS THE SIGN AND THE WITNESS OF OUR SONSHIP.**

Romans 8:15 - 16

"For you did not receive the spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received the Spirit of adoption as sons, by whom we cry, "Abba! Father!" The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit that we are God's children."

**#2. Also, as circumcision was a SEAL and it was PERMANENT on any Israelite. The same way the Holy Spirit is the SEAL on our Spirit, unto the day of redemption of our body. And He is PERMANENTLY in us.**

"And do not grieve the HOLY SPIRIT of GOD, with whom you were SEALED for the day of redemption. " Ephesians 4:30

This seal by the Holy Spirit happens at Salvation, when you believe in Christ. YOU ALSO RECEIVE THE INDWELLING PRESENCE OF THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO SERVES AS A SEAL, GUARANTEEING THAT YOU BELONG TO GOD.

Ephesian 1:13

"In HIM, you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were SEALED with the promised HOLY SPIRIT"

2 Corinthians 1:22

"Who set HIS seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come."

**#3. In the Old Testament, God said "Anyone who is not circumcised shall be cut off from God's people"** Because it is a sign that he never belong. He was only there by association.

In the New Testament, God said

"If any man does not have the Spirit of Christ, he does not belong to Him" Romans 8:9

Those are those people who will be cut off according to John 15:2, because they look like they are in Christ, but they don't have the Holy Spirit. THEY DO NOT BELONG TO HIM. They were like the five foolish virgins without Oil.

BUT IF YOU HAVE ACCEPTED CHRIST BY PUTTING YOUR FAITH IN HIM, Ephesians 1:13 above says "**You were sealed by the Holy Spirit**", that is the circumcision in the Spirit. And He is the seal of Our Eternal Security.

#### **#4. THE SHIFT FROM PHYSICALITY TO SPIRITUALITY.**

In the Old Testament, it was all about the flesh. That was why it was the flesh that was circumcised. But in the New Testament, it is all about the Spirit. That is why it is your spirit that is circumcised (sealed) by the Holy Spirit.

Don't slide back into worshiping God in the flesh. HE HAS BEEN SEEKING FOR THOSE WHO WILL WORSHIP HIM IN THE SPIRIT. AND WE ARE THE GENERATION THAT WORSHIP HIM IN THE SPIRIT.

Philippians 3:3

"For WE ARE THE CIRCUMCISION who worship by the SPIRIT OF GOD and GLORY IN CHRIST JESUS and put NO CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH."

Worship in the Spirit. Pray in the Spirit. Focus on the Holy Spirit within. REJOICE IN CHRIST JESUS. PUT NO CONFIDENCE IN THE FLESH.

I call you blessed.

I love you eternally in Christ by the Holy Spirit who is our Eternal Seal. amen.