

An open Bible is shown, with its pages slightly aged and the text blurred. The Bible is open to a page that appears to be from the Old Testament, with visible chapter and verse numbers. The text is in a traditional font, likely a translation of the Bible. The background is dark, and the lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the paper and the binding of the book.

Old Testament Shadows

Of N.T. Reality

Shadows, Types and Figures

◆ **Shadows (skia)**

- ◆ **Thayer** – “...an image cast by an object and representing the form of that object opposed to the express likeness, the very image” (p. 578)
- ◆ **BDAG** – “shadow, foreshadowing (in contrast to reality)” (p. 755)

◆ **Types/figures (tupos)**

- ◆ **Strong/Thayer** – mark/stamp/figure formed by a blow or impression
- ◆ **BDAG** – “type, pattern, model...given by God as an indication of the future, in the form of persons or things”
- ◆ Shadows and types are images or patterns resembling the true form to come, the real things of Christ.

Shadows: Food/Drink, Feast, Sabbath Days

- ◆ Col. 2:16-17 – “So let no one judge you in food or in drink, or regarding a festival or a new moon or sabbaths, ¹⁷ which are a **shadow of things to come**, but the **substance is of Christ**.”
- ◆ These were a common part of O.T. life and service – Hos. 2:11
- ◆ These were not to be used as a standard to judge Christians.
 - ◆ Christ has taken away the O.T. and its requirements, and overcome the powers of the world – 2:13-15
 - ◆ These were *shadows* of the real things in Christ – 2:17; Gal. 3:23-25

Shadows: Temple, Priesthood, Sacrifices

- ◆ Hebrews 8:4-5 – “For if He were on earth, He would not be a priest, since there are priests who offer the gifts according to the law; ⁵ **who serve the copy and shadow of the heavenly things**, as Moses was divinely instructed when he was about to make the tabernacle. For He said, “See that you make all things according to the pattern shown you on the mountain.”
- ◆ These help us see the real thing – Heb. 8:5a
- ◆ Since we are to recognize the real thing by the shadow, God demanded that the shadow be made *according to His revealed pattern* – Heb. 8:5b
- ◆ If the shadow must be made according to God’s pattern, how much more the real thing Christ?!

Shadows: The Sacrifices

- ◆ Heb. 10:1-4 – “For the law, **having a shadow of the good things to come, and not the very image of the things**, can never with these same sacrifices, which they offer continually year by year, make those who approach perfect. ² For then would they not have ceased to be offered? For the worshipers, once purified, would have had no more consciousness of sins. ³ But in those sacrifices there is a reminder of sins every year. ⁴ For it is not possible that the blood of bulls and goats could take away sins.”
- ◆ These sacrifices were unable to make those who approached God with them perfect, seeing the Day of atonement brought memory of them again.
- ◆ Why, because being only *shadows* these physically perfect animals sacrificed did not have the spiritual purity needed to take away sins (10:4).
 - ◆ These foreshadowed the perfect sacrifice needed to take away sin.
 - ◆ These foreshadowed sin’s terrible cost.
 - ◆ These foreshadowed the perfect, sinless sacrifice of Christ.

O.T. Shadows: Fulfilled in Christ

◈ Hebrews 9:11-14 – “But Christ came as High Priest of the good things to come (**real**), with the greater and more perfect tabernacle not made with hands, that is, not of this creation (**real**).¹² Not with the blood of goats and calves (**shadow**), but with His own blood He entered the Most Holy Place once for all, having obtained eternal redemption (**real**).¹³ For if the blood of bulls and goats and the ashes of a heifer, sprinkling the unclean, sanctifies for the purifying of the flesh (**shadow**),¹⁴ how much more shall the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered Himself without spot to God, cleanse your conscience from dead works to serve the living God? (**real**) ”

O.T. Shadows: Fulfilled in Christians

- ◆ **As a holy, spiritual, royal priesthood** – 1 Peter 2:4-5, 9 – “Coming to Him as to a living stone, rejected indeed by men, but chosen by God and precious, ⁵ you also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ...⁹ But you are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light”
- ◆ **As serving in newness of the Spirit, not the oldness of the Law** – Romans 7:6 – “But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.”