

# **Elder Vernon Johnson**

## **Numbers**

### **Two**

#### **Moses and Christ Witnesses of a Special Prophet**

Two are often paired together in the scriptures as a witness to testify unto us basic bible doctrines. Moses and Christ are paired together to teach us concerning Christ's office as a Prophet. Men often preach of the Kingship of Christ or of the Holy Priesthood of Christ. They do not preach nearly as much about Christ as "that Prophet." Deu. 18:15 "The LORD thy God will raise up unto thee a Prophet from the midst of thee, of thy brethren, like unto me; unto him ye shall hearken; 16 According to all that thou desiredst of the LORD thy God in Horeb in the day of the assembly, saying, Let me not hear again the voice of the LORD my God, neither let me see this great fire any more, that I die not. 17 And the LORD said unto me, They have well spoken that which they have spoken. 18 I will raise them up a Prophet from among their brethren, like unto thee, and will put my words in his mouth; and he shall speak unto them all that I shall command him. 19 And it shall come to pass, that whosoever will not hearken unto my words which he shall speak in my name, I will require it of him."

Jesus Christ is that prophet like unto Moses. According to John 1:17 "For the law was given by Moses, but grace and truth came by Jesus Christ." Moses was a prophet, but he was not just any prophet, for he had been appointed of God to deliver unto the children of Israel "the law." By the term, "the law," is meant not only the ten commandments, but also all the laws and ordinances that were to govern Israel in her worship, service, and government unto God. Included in the law were all the qualifications, requirements and service of the priesthood and High priesthood, as well as the tabernacle and its service and the instruments thereof, along with the feasts, ordinances, and sacrifices.

Prophets were given the word of God to give unto the people. Frequently, what they were given of God pertained to future events, but always it was the word of God. God identified to the people that a man was a prophet in that God gave the prophet to perform certain signs, wonders, and miracles by the power of God manifest at his hand.

There were a number of parallels between the life and actions of Moses and Christ.

Children were being slaughtered at the time of Moses birth and young childhood. The same was true of the birth of Jesus Christ.

Second, Moses had been, according to the law, cast into the water but was drawn out of the water by Pharaoh's daughter. This parallels the baptism of Christ by John the Baptist and points to the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Third, Moses came out of Egypt. After that Joseph was warned of God that Herod would seek to kill Jesus, Joseph took Mary and the child Jesus into Egypt. The scriptures tell us this was done that it might be fulfilled, "Out of Egypt have I called my son."

Fourth, Moses went into the wilderness. Likewise, Jesus, after his baptism, went into the wilderness to be tempted of the Devil.

Fifth, Moses fasted forty days and forty nights when God gave him the law. Jesus fasted forty days and forty nights before he was tempted of the Devil.

Sixth, God used Moses to bring judgment upon the land of Egypt that the children of Israel might be freed from their bondage. Jesus suffered the judgment of God in the hands of a just God at the cross of Calvary so that the elect might be delivered from the bondage of sin.

Seventh, the enemies of Israel (Pharaoh and his army) who sought to destroy Israel, were destroyed at the Red Sea. The enemies of the elect, who would have destroyed the elect (sin, Satan, hell, death, grave) were destroyed at the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ.

Eight, God performed many miracles at the hands of Moses both in the judgments upon Egypt, the crossing of the Red Sea, and in the wilderness. Jesus performed more miracles in the three and one half years of his personal ministry than all the other prophets put together.

Finally, just as Moses had been selected of God to deliver the law to the children of Israel, Jesus brought forth grace and truth to the family of God. Jesus established the New Testament church, gave us her ordinances, her government, her doctrines, and her manner of worship. He was indeed a prophet like unto Moses, only much greater than Moses.

