

A Lecture On Typology, given by Dr. MacRae in New Testament Exegesis  
Class, November 9, 1953.

Mr. Sanderson is indisposed, today. I don't think it is anything serious, but it is the sort of thing that if you try to disregard, it may become serious. And so <sup>I think</sup> it is very wise for him to take the day and try to get into some decent condition. I hope that he will be entirely well by tomorrow. It is my privilege, however, to have an hour with you so every cloud has a silver lining, at least from my viewpoint. But not from yours! (laughter)

He asked me to discuss with you a little of the subject of typology. And this is a subject which involves, of course, both Testaments, the Old and the New. And yet as you take up interpretation of the New Testament, it is not at all out of place, because the New Testament frequently refers to types and symbols of the Old Testament. And in order to interpret the New Testament correctly, we have to have certain rather definite ideas on this subject.

Now it is a subject on which some people have run wild at different times. It is very easy to do that. I think, <sup>perhaps</sup> ~~perhaps~~, the ones who have run wilder than any others are the founders of the Alexandrian School of Exegesis. Clement of Alexandria, one of the Church Fathers, just at 200 A.D. The Alexandrian School was the first group of any kind that ~~x~~ turned away from the premillennial teaching of the Word of God. And in connection with turning away from premillennialism, they went to great lengths in their interpretation of types ~~of~~, and symbols, and allegories. And I am going to read to ~~x~~ you just a brief quotation from the statements of Clement of Alexandria, about the interpretation of a certain portion of the Book of Genesis. He says that the fact that Abraham, discussed that Abraham married Sarah and then Hagar, proves to us that a Christian should cultivate philosophy and liberal arts before he devotes himself wholly to ~~the~~ the study of divine wisdom.