

The subject I've taken is the problem of NT quotations from the OT. I've seen churches that had the sign of them "no creed but the NT", and I don't think that's a Christian statement. I believe that the Christian stands for the whole Bible. That his belief is based on the whole Bible. That every part of it is important to him. We really cannot understand the NT without knowing a good bit about the OT.

I have a book here called "Finding the OT in the New" written by Henry M. Shires, published by Westminster Press. In this book he discusses quotations from the OT. On the whole I think he has a very nice attitude. But he does take the position that there are many places where the NT misunderstood the OT or quotes the LXX where it is not a correct presentation of the original Hebrew.

He points out though the tremendous extent to which the NT is affected by the OT. I'd like to read a couple of sentences. He says, "Of the 27 books of the NT, only the one chapter letter to Philemon shows no direct relation to the OT. The remaining 26 contain some acknowledged OT quotations, or unacknowledged quotation, or a quotation that has been rephrased, or an allusion in thought or language or at least the borrowing of an OT phrase."

He points out how many echoes of the OT there are in the NT and how many specific quotations from it and how often the NT builds its ideas upon what it taught in the OT. Personally I've always been greatly impressed with the account of the situation when Jesus met the disciples on the Emmaus road. You remember that Jesus during his earthly ministry had told them repeatedly that he was to be crucified and raised from the dead. But it was such a strange idea to them that none of them seem to have grasped it. And then on the day when he was raised from the dead we read that these two disciples were on the road to Emmaus and He drew near to them and began to talk without their knowing who it was.

They remarked on his not knowing these things that had happened in Jerusalem. He asked them, What things? They said, Jesus of Nazareth. We thought he was going to be the Messiah, and he's been killed! They said, We've heard some wild stories that he's been raised from the dead, but you could hardly believe that. If you or I had been in his position I'm sure we would have turned to them, How often do I have to tell you? I told you several times. Can't you remember? Didn't it sink into your minds at all?

But that's not what he said to them at all. He said, You are fools and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken." Then he went on to open up the OT to them, and beginning with Moses and the prophets he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself. This was the great apologetic of the Apostles in their early ministry. The OT predicted it. Here it is fulfilled. He is the one who fulfills what was there stated. However, there are many statements which scholars