

# The Relationship between the Old and New Testaments

Christians understand the Old Testament as preparing us for the coming of Jesus Christ. The authors of the New Testament incorporated Old Testament texts in their writings to demonstrate how this is seen. Below are some of the passages that are connected in the Old Testament and the New Testament. What other connections between the Old and New Testaments can you identify as you read through the Bible?

## From the House of David



**Old Testament**  
Isaiah 11:1-9  
"A shoot shall sprout from the stump of Jesse, / and from his roots a bud shall blossom" (verse 1).

**New Testament**  
Matthew 1:1-17  
"The book of the genealogy of Jesus Christ, the son of David, the son of Abraham" (verse 1).

## Born of a Virgin



**Old Testament**  
Isaiah 7:14  
"The Lord himself will give you a sign; the young woman, pregnant and about to bear a son, shall name him Emmanuel."

**New Testament**  
Luke 1:26-38  
"The angel Gabriel was sent from God to a town of Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin betrothed to a man named Joseph, of the house of David, and the virgin's name was Mary" (verses 26-27).

## Ruler of Israel to Come from Bethlehem



**Old Testament**  
Micah 5:1-5  
"But you, Bethlehem . . . / From you shall come forth for me / one who is to be ruler in Israel" (verse 1).

**New Testament**  
Luke 2:1-14  
"And Joseph too went up from Galilee from the town of Nazareth to Judea, to the city of David that is called Bethlehem" (verse 4).

## Wise Men



**Old Testament**  
Isaiah 60:1-6  
"The wealth of nations shall come to you . . . / bearing gold and frankincense, / and heralding the praises of the LORD" (verses 5-6).

**New Testament**  
Matthew 2:1-12  
"When Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, in the days of King Herod, behold, magi from the east arrived in Jerusalem" (verse 1).

## Baptism of Jesus



**Old Testament**  
Isaiah 11:2  
"The spirit of the LORD shall rest upon him."

**New Testament**  
Luke 3:21-22  
"The holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my beloved Son; with you I am well pleased'" (verse 22).

## Entry into Jerusalem



**Old Testament**  
Zechariah 9:9-10  
"Behold: your king is coming to you, / a just savior is he, / Humble, and riding on a donkey" (verse 9).

**New Testament**  
Matthew 21:1-11  
Also Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:28-40; John 12:12-19  
"When they drew near Jerusalem . . . , Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, 'Go into the village opposite you, and immediately you will find an ass tethered, and a colt with her. Untie them and bring them here to me'" (verses 1-2).

## Suffering Servant



**Old Testament**  
Isaiah, chapter 53  
"He was pierced for our sins. . . . / He bore the punishment that makes us whole, / by his wounds we were healed" (verse 5).

**New Testament**  
John, chapter 19  
"The soldiers wove a crown out of thorns and placed it on his head, and clothed him in a purple cloak. . . . And bowing his head, he handed over the spirit" (verses 2 and 30).

## Pentecost



**Old Testament**  
Joel 3:1-5  
"I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh. / Your sons and daughters will prophesy, / your old men will dream dreams, / your young men will see visions" (verse 1).

**New Testament**  
Acts 2:1-13  
"Suddenly there came from the sky a noise like a strong driving wind, and it filled the entire house in which they were. Then there appeared to them tongues as of fire, which parted and came to rest on each one of them" (verses 2-3).

"The New Testament lies hidden in the Old,  
and the Old Testament is unveiled in the New."

—Saint Augustine