

Biblical Typology Study – Week 2

Adam as Federal Head and Type of Christ

(January 14, 2026)

This week's study continued our series on **biblical typology**, focusing on **Adam as a foreshadowing (type) of Christ**, specifically through the lens of **federal headship** — the idea that one man can represent many before God.

The evening began with prayer, thanking God for successful surgeries for **Ron and Elizabeth** and asking for continued healing for **Royce (leukemia and pneumonia)** and others in need of physical and spiritual strength

Why Typology Matters

Typology is not about creative symbolism — it is about how God has woven the gospel into history itself. Old Testament people, events, and institutions were intentionally designed by God to **point forward to Christ, His church, and eternal realities**

Jesus Himself used typology when He explained the Scriptures to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, showing how the whole Bible was about Him. Typology reveals:

- God's **sovereignty** — only God can plan history this precisely
- God's **wisdom** — thousands of years of foreshadowing converge in Christ
- God's **faithfulness** — every promise finds its fulfillment

This week's type was especially important: **Adam as a foreshadow of Christ**.

Adam and Eve: Image, Equality, and Design

Before focusing on Adam, the study made it clear that **both Adam and Eve were created in God's image** (Genesis 1:26–27) — equal in value, dignity, and worth

Eve was created as an “**ēzer**” (**helper**) — the same word God uses for Himself as Israel’s helper. This means Eve was not weak or lesser, but a **strong, necessary counterpart**. The phrase “fit for him” means **face-to-face, equal, complementary** — different in role, equal in worth.

Adam and Eve together reflect God’s image, including:

- The **relational nature** of the Trinity
- The **covenant mission** to fill and govern the earth

But the theological focus of the night was Adam.

Why Adam Was Created First

Unlike the animals, Adam was created **alone**. God didn’t speak him into existence — He **formed Adam with His own hands** and breathed life into him (Genesis 2:7)

Adam was:

- Created before Eve
- Given the **creation mandate**
- Given the **covenant command**
- Entrusted to teach and lead

This is why Scripture speaks of the “**Adamic Covenant**” — God entered into a binding agreement with **Adam as the representative of all humanity**

Why Adam’s Age Matters

From Numbers 1, 14, 30, and 4, the study showed that:

- Men became legally responsible around **age 20**
- Priests began service at **age 30**
- Covenants and legal authority belonged to adult men

Because God is orderly and precise, Adam was most likely created as a **full-grown man around age 30**, fully qualified to enter into a covenant with God — just as Christ began His public ministry at about 30

What Is Federal Headship?

Federal headship means **representation**.

Just as a president represents a nation or a father represents a household, **Adam represented all humanity**. His obedience or disobedience would legally apply to everyone who came from him

Scripture makes this explicit:

- *“Adam... was a type of the one who was to come”* (Romans 5:14)
- *“As in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive”* (1 Corinthians 15:21–22)

Adam’s single act brought **condemnation and death** to all.

Christ’s single act brought **justification and life** to all who believe.

Why Sin Came Through Adam

Though Eve ate first, **Adam was held responsible** because:

- God gave **Adam** the command
- God gave **Adam** the covenant
- God called **Adam** to account

Adam failed as a federal head — he refused responsibility, blamed Eve, and blamed God. Because of this, **all humanity fell under condemnation**

Why Jesus Had to Be Born of a Virgin

Sin passes **through the father**, not the mother — because the father is the federal head. That is why the Messiah had to be born of a **woman without a human father** (Genesis 3:15; Isaiah 7:14).

Jesus was not under Adam’s federal headship. He came to establish a **new spiritual family**, a **new humanity**, with Himself as the new Head.

The Three Imputations

The heart of the gospel rests on three legal transactions God has made:

1. **Adam's sin → all people**
2. **Believers' sin → Christ**
3. **Christ's righteousness → believers**

This is why salvation is by **grace**, not merit. We are not good — even our best works are stained by sin — but Christ's perfection is credited to us

Why This Matters for Faith

If Adam didn't represent us, then Christ couldn't represent us either. Rejecting Adam's headship destroys the gospel.

We are saved not because we earned it — but because **another Man obeyed where the first failed**.

Prayer, Needs, and Next Steps

The group prayed for many ongoing medical needs, including Ron, Elizabeth, Royce, Eddie, John, Jennifer, Chad, and others carrying heavy burdens

Looking ahead:

- The typology series will continue for about **12 weeks**
- Upcoming studies will include **the Tabernacle, the Temple, and anti-types**
- A possible **mission trip** and upcoming **men's and women's studies** were announced