

Reading and Understanding Old Testament Law
Numbers 19:1-13

Observation

- Who?
- What?
- When?
- Where?
- Why?
- How?

Interpretation

- Three Kinds of Law
 - o Ceremonial: “Abrogated” because fulfilled in Christ (WCF 19.3)
 - o Civil: “expired together with the State” of Israel, but principles of “general equity” still apply today (WCF 19.4)
 - o Moral: Continues to apply to believers (WCF 19.5)
- Avoiding Allegory and Moralism¹

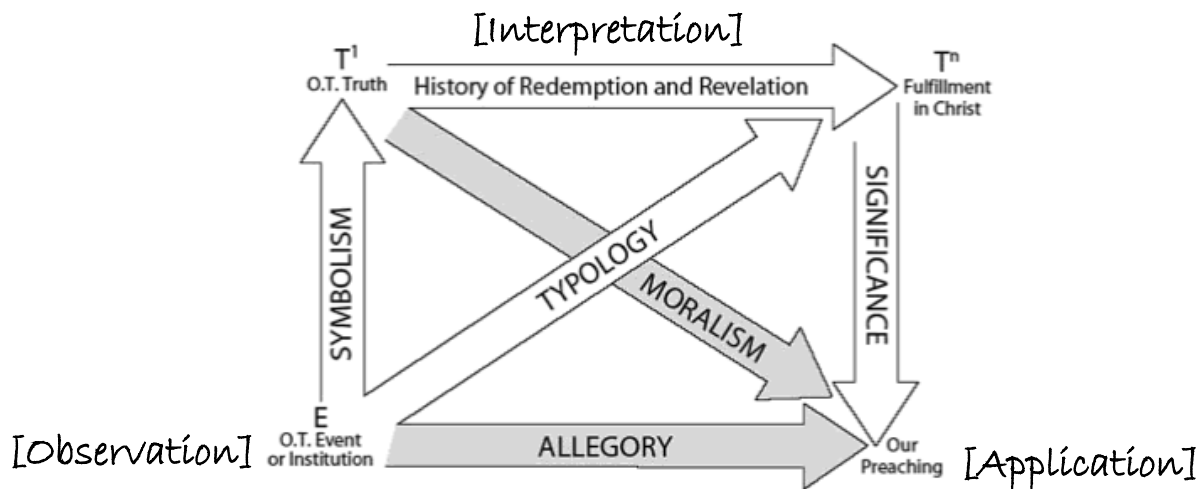


Figure 1

¹ Edmund P. Clowney, *Preaching Christ in All of Scripture* (Wheaton, Ill.: Crossway, 2003), 32.

- Threefold Use of the Law
 - o Convict of sin and drive to Christ
 - o Restrain evil
 - o Guide for obedience

- Context
 - o Immediate context
 - o Broader context (Numbers, the Pentateuch, the exodus/wilderness)
 - o Old Testament context
 - o Canonical context (whole Bible)

- New Testament uses (Hebrews 9:11-15)

- Biblical themes (Biblical Theology)

- Theological themes (Systematic Theology)

- Gospel trajectory (Christ-centeredness)

Application

- What does God want you to know?

- What does God want you to love?

- What does God want you to do?