

It is a shadow of good things to come, for all its hopes are built on the future; the shadow implies a substance that throws it, and Christ is that substance behind the shadow, while the law is simply a schoolmaster to bring us to Him. So that all lines of truth begun to be drawn at the very beginning of scripture, run through, converge, and meet on Him who is the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world. The whole of scripture is simply the record of a manifestation of a gracious purpose which is developed through the ages and finds its grand fulfilment in the Christ of God. For this reason the teachings of the New Testament must be studied in the light and setting of what has gone before, and all becomes interlinked, so that no part can be torn away without feeling that it is a part of an organic whole and fits into its place.

Our Lord regarded the Old Testament as the foundation of His teaching. "Think not that I am come to destroy the law and the prophets. I am not come to destroy but to fulfil." So He takes the truth that is there already and expands it into its later and fuller proportions as the rose-bud swells and opens out into the full blown flower. As the natural sun shines upon germinal life till it all opens out into blossom and fruit, so the Sun of righteousness shone upon the *law* and the *prophets* till they unfold their full story of grace in the Gospel. As Beecher expresses it "Jesus would reform the world not by destroying, but by developing the germs of truth already existing. He accepted whatever truth and goodness had ripened through thousands of years. He would join His own work to that already accomplished and bring to view the yet higher truths of the spiritual realm."

Origen says, "You must not neglect the Old Testament but study it equally with the New, in order that you may be as a good householder bringing forth out of his treasures things both new and old." And this is just what the great Teacher had said before and whom Origen simply quotes. Every Scribe fully instructed would be sure to do this. Not the old only, for then progress would be impossible, nor yet the new merely, for this would break all continuity with the past, and convert progress into mere succession of isolated parts. But the old in connection with the new, and the new in connection with the old, as an organism with its living