

# Images of Redemption

“How Scriptural narratives and the metaphors of redemption are visualized in the sacred signs of Christian worship and the liturgical environment.”

*An installment in the series:  
Orthodox Anglicans Studying Scripture*

## Lesson 1: WATER

### **WATER: Preliminary Questions**

- How is water used in Holy Scripture to depict human salvation, especially as related to the work of redemption accomplished by Jesus Christ? How did the Apostles continue to use this as a metaphor in their teaching and sacramentally as a means of grace?
- How does the presence and use of water in the church make tangible and effectual the grace of redemption in our lives, both aesthetically and spiritually?

### **Old Testament Foreshadowing**

*I Peter 3:18-21 & I Corinthians 10:1-4*

### **Christ's Incarnation & Work of Redemption**

*Mark 1:9-11; John 2:6-9; 3:5; 13:5; 19:34  
I John 5:6, 8*

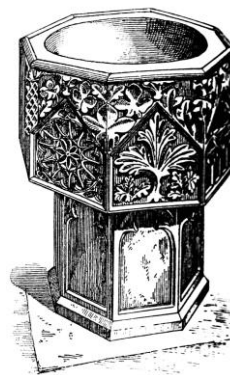
### **Apostolic Teaching & Practice**

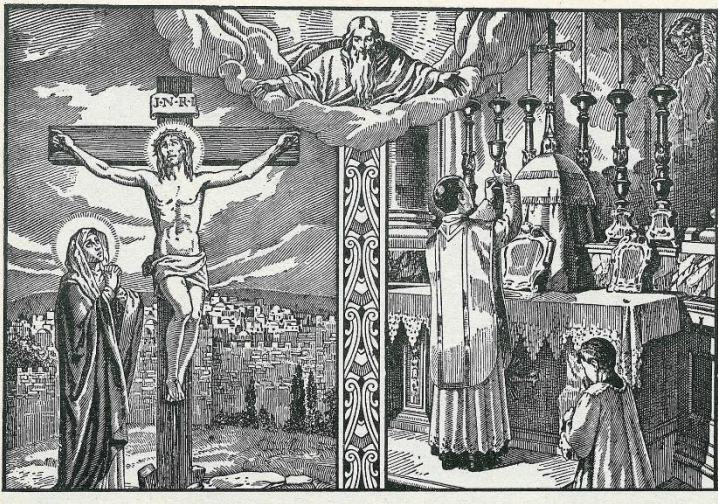
*Romans 6:4 & Titus 3:5-6*

### **A Pledge of Eternal Life & the Kingdom**

*John 4:7-14 & Revelation 7:17;  
21:6; 22:17*

### **Images of Redemption in Faith & Practice**





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## Lesson 2: FIRE

### **FIRE: Preliminary Questions**

- How is *fire*—as burning, purifying, and illuminating—used in Holy Scripture to depict human salvation, especially as related to the work of redemption accomplished by Jesus Christ? How did the Apostles continue to use this as a metaphor in their teaching and sacramentally as a means of grace?
- How does the presence and use of *fire* and what it burns (candles, incense, etc.) in the church make tangible and effectual the grace of redemption in our lives, both aesthetically and spiritually?

### **Fire & Light in the Divine Economy**

*Exodus 13-14; John 1:4-9, 8:12, 9:5, 12:35-6;  
I John 1:5-7; Rev. 21:22-24, 22:1-5*

QUESTION – How do these examples of redemptive revelation relate to God’s original revelation in the Creation (*Genesis 1:3, etc.*)?

### **Fire & Light in the Divine Encounter**

*Exodus 3; 19:17-19; 24:16-18;  
Hebrews 12:18-23*

### **Sacramental Light: On Earth as in Heaven**

*Exodus 25:31-37; Acts 20:7-9; Rev. 1:12-20*

\*\*\*Praxis: *Phos Hilarion* of Vespers\*\*\*

### **Incense of Prayer: On Earth as in Heaven**

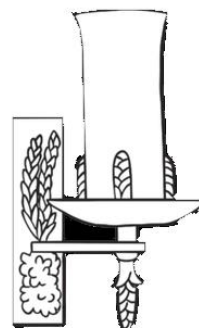
*Exodus 30:1-9, 34-37; Rev. 5:8, 8:3-4*

### **The Fire of the Spirit of Christ**

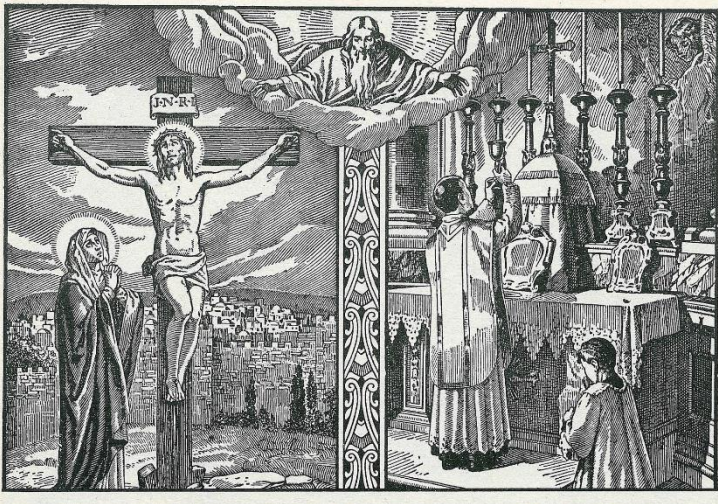
*Malachi 3:1-3; Matthew 3:10-12;  
Acts 2:1-4, 17-19*

\*\*\*Praxis: *Veni, Creator Spiritus*\*\*\*

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## Lesson 3: THE ICON

### THE ICON: Preliminary Questions

- Why did God condemn the making and worshiping of images (especially divine) in the Old Testament? Why did the Church modify this mandate after the Coming of Jesus Christ?
- How does the presence in church/homes of images and their use in prayer make tangible the Person & Work of Christ and the efficacy of grace in His Saints?
- If icons are acceptable, what is the difference in honor Christians should pay to the image compared to the prototype?

### Idol Prohibition in the Old Covenant

*Exodus 20:3-5 & Deuteronomy 5:7-9*

QUESTION – Based on how YHWH had revealed Himself to Israel, why did He forbid the production of images? How did this distinguish them from the religion of their neighbors?

### The Incarnation of the New Covenant

*John 1:1-3, 14; 14:7-11; 1 John 1:1-3*

### The *Eikon* of God: Adam & Jesus

*Genesis 1:26-27; 9:6; Colossians 1:15-20; 2 Corinthians 4:3-5; Hebrews 1:1-3*

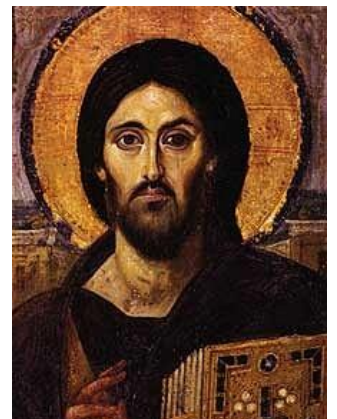
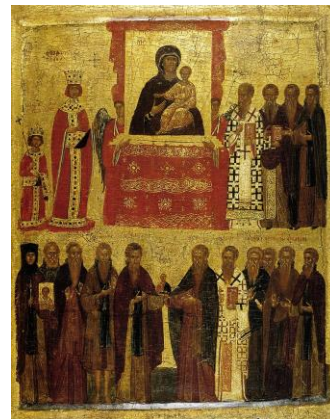
\*\*\*Praxis: *Triumph of Orthodoxy Sunday*\*\*\*

\*\*\*Praxis: *Images in Worship & Devotion*\*\*\*

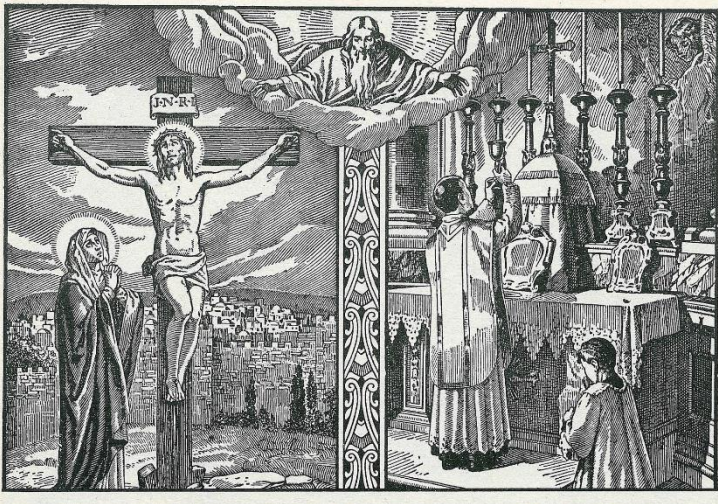
### Restoration of the Image/Likeness in Man

*Romans 8:28-30; 1 Corinthians 15:49;  
2 Corinthians 3:18*

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## **Lesson 4: LITURGICAL COLOR**

### **COLOR: Preliminary Questions**

- Why have the People of God in both the Old and New Testaments used different colors in religious observance?
- How does the use of color in religion teach us about the nature of God and His acts, especially during Lent and Holy Week?
- Where and when do we see color utilized in the church and through the liturgy, especially on the Sundays and Ferias of Lent, and the services of Holy Week?

### **Liturgical Color in OT Judaism**

*Exodus 26-28; 35-36; 38-39*

QUESTION – Why do you think God instructed the Hebrews to use these colors in the tabernacle, and how do they foreshadow both Jesus Christ and the Virgin Mary in the New Testament?

### **The Purple of Lent & Passiontide**

*Mark 15:17, 20; John 19:2, 5*

### **The Red & Black of Good Friday**

*Luke 22:24; John 19:34; Luke 23:44-45*

*I John 5:6-8; Hebrews 9 & 10*

### **Christ & His Martyr-Saints**

*Revelation 1:5-6; 7:14; 19:13*

*Revelation 16:6; 17:6*

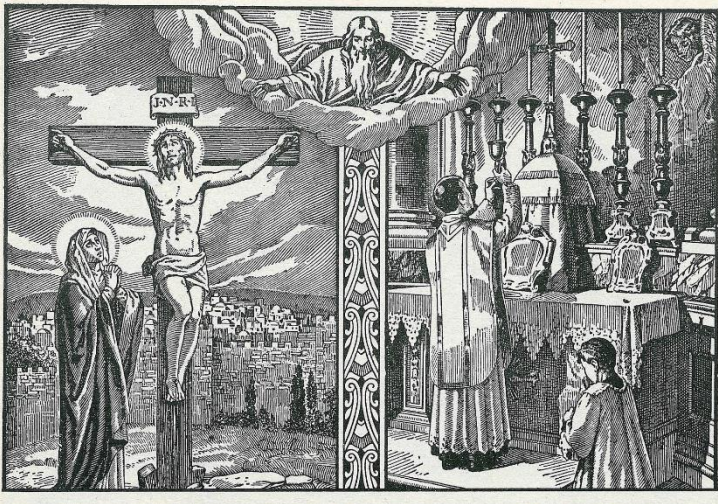
QUESTION – What does the liturgical use of red and white teach us about the redemption accomplished by Jesus and effected in the lives of His Saints?

\*\*\*Praxis: Veiling the Images\*\*\*

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## **Lesson 5: THE LAMB OF GOD**

### **AGNUS DEI: Preliminary Questions**

- Why did the lamb become such an important religious subject and symbol to the Patriarchs and the Hebrew people during the age of the Old Testament?
- How do we see Jesus Christ fulfilling the foreshadowing of the “Lamb of God” from the Old Covenant?
- Why do we see Christ still appearing as the Lamb (post-Resurrection) and how has the Church exhibited this persona in both liturgical rite and sacred décor?

### **The Sacrificial Lamb in the OT**

*Genesis 22:7-9; Exodus 12;*

*Leviticus 3-5, 12, 14, 23; Isaiah 53:5-7*

QUESTION – How do each of these OT types foreshadow, in their own way, the various redemptive characteristics of Jesus as the atoning Lamb of God?

### **The Fulfilled Lamb of the New Covenant**

*John 1:29, 36; Acts 8:32-33;*

*I Peter 1:19; I Corinthians 5:7-8*

### **The Heavenly Lamb of Revelation**

*Revelation 5:1-13; 14:1-4; 19:7-9*

QUESTION – What do learn from St. John’s visions of heaven, that the Lamb of God remains an eternal truth both now and to come?

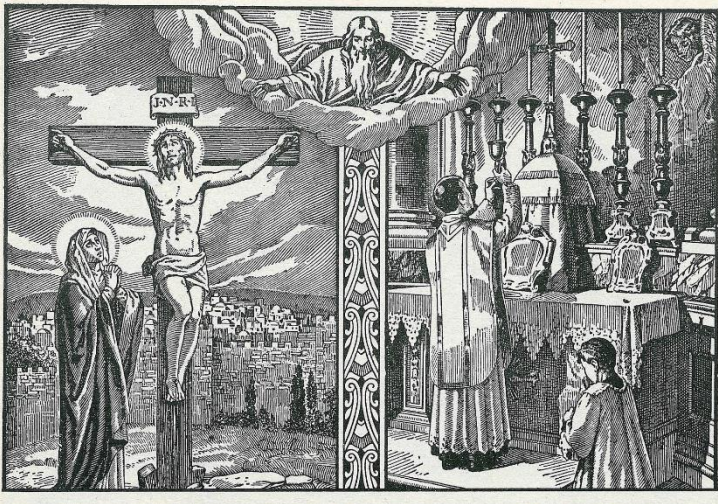
\*\*\*Praxis: *Agnus Dei & Ecce Agnus Dei*\*\*\*

\*\*\*Praxis: “At the Lamb’s High Feast”\*\*\*

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## Lesson 6: THE CROSS

### **THE CROSS: Preliminary Questions**

- From what we know about Hebrew religion and culture, why was Christ’s Cross the unexpected satisfaction of the OT?
- From the Gospels, the Epistles, & Revelation, in what various ways is the Cross the Christian symbol of salvation & eternal life?
- How has the New Testament presentation of the Cross been incorporated into Christian religion, culture, and piety?

### **The Cross Prefigured in the OT**

*Genesis 2:8-9; 3:22-24; Exodus 17:5-6;  
Numbers 21:6-9; Deuteronomy 21:22-23*

QUESTION – From each of these OT portents, what makes the Cross of Calvary an unlikely, but inevitable, fulfillment?

### **Christ’s Work of Redemption on the Cross**

*John 3:14-15; Matthew 27;  
Mark 15; Luke 23; John 19*

### **The Cross of Reconciliation**

*Philippians 2:5-7; Ephesians 2:13-17;  
Colossians 1:19-21; 2:13-17; Hebrews 12:1-2*

### **The Cross of Discipleship**

*Mark 8:34; 10:21; Romans 6:5-7;  
Galatians 2:20; 5:24; 6:14*

### **The Cross: The New Tree of Life**

*Matthew 24:30; Revelation 2:7; 22:2, 14*

\*\*\*Praxis: *Pange lingua gloriosi  
proelium certaminis*\*\*\*

\*\*\*Praxis: The Stations of the Cross\*\*\*

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