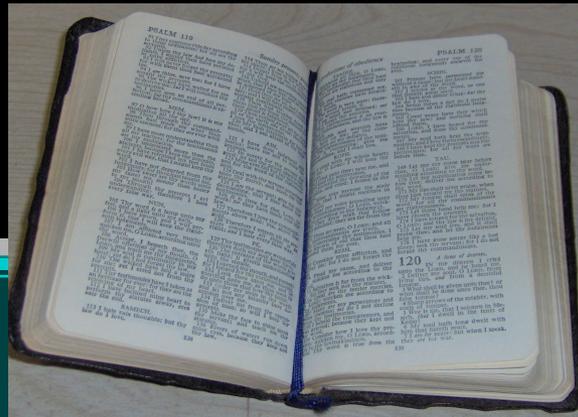


Christ in the Old Testament: Illustrated in Leviticus



Vern Sheridan Poythress, Ph.D., Th.D.

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A. Christ in the Old Testament

Where? How?



The Bible Is Christ-Centered

Luke 24:25-27: ... And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

The Bible Is Christ-Centered

Luke 24:25 And he said to them, “O foolish ones, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! 26 Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?” 27 And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he interpreted to them in all the Scriptures the things concerning himself.

Pervasive Witness

all canon

totality

Luke 24:44 Then he said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you, that everything written about me in the Law of Moses and the Prophets and the Psalms must be fulfilled.”

45 Then he opened their minds to understand the Scriptures.

Main Theme of OT

summary

international
focus of Acts
is in the OT

46 and said to them, “Thus is it is written, that the Christ should suffer and on the third day rise from the dead, 47 and that repentance and forgiveness of sins should be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem.”

Other Passages about Christocentricity

- ◆ 2 Cor. 1:20
- ◆ 1 Pet. 1:10-12
- ◆ John 5:39; 5:46-47; 8:56
- ◆ Matthew

B. Mediation

One Mediator

For there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, ...

-- 1 Tim. 2:5-6

Mediatorial Figures

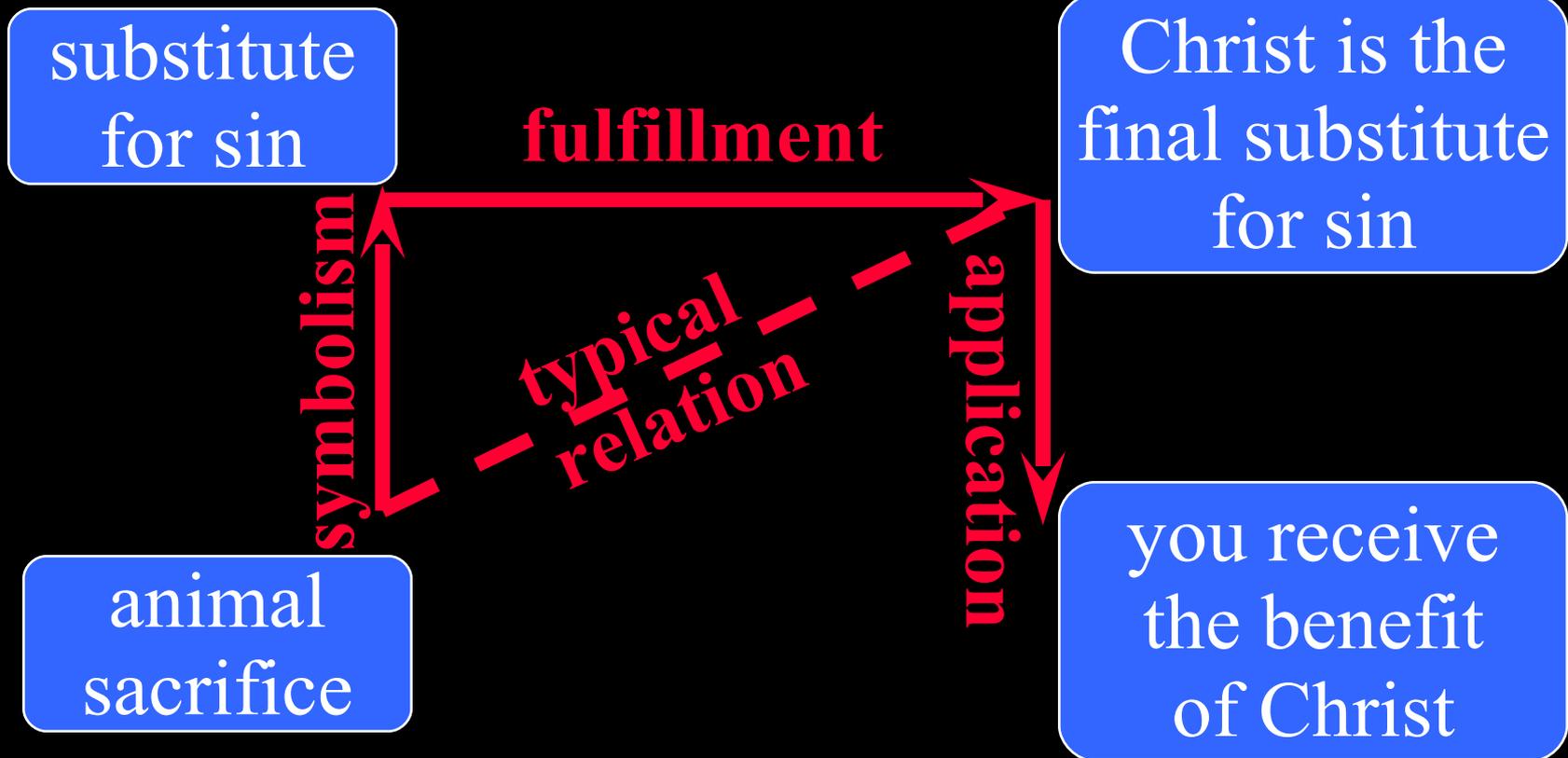
- ◆ Prophets
- ◆ Kings
- ◆ Priests
- ◆ Wise men
- ◆ Deliverers
- ◆ Sacrifices

Mediatorial Figures (2)

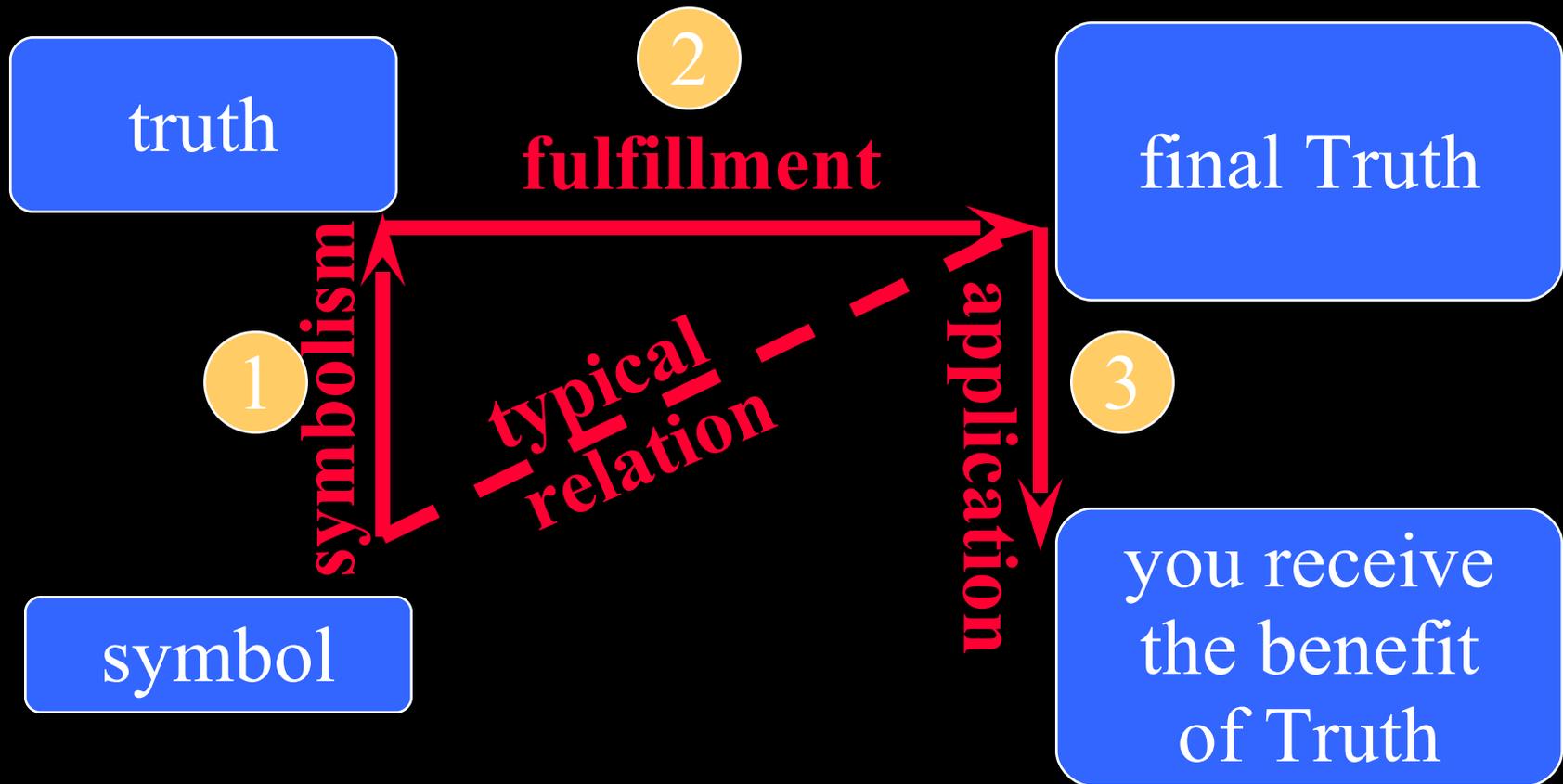
- ◆ Tabernacle / temple
- ◆ Dwelling of God
- ◆ Covenants
- ◆ Laws
- ◆ Appearances of God (theophany)

C. Typology

An Example: Sacrifices



Clowney's Triangle of Typology



Step 1: What Did It Mean Then?

- ◆ What did it symbolize then?

truth

symbolic
reference



1

symbol



Attend to
context.

Step 1: What Did It Mean Then?

- ◆ What did it symbolize then? What was the symbolic significance at the time when God first introduced this item?

truth

symbolic
reference



1

symbol



Attend to
context.

Illustration of Step 1 (Truth)

- ◆ What did it symbolize then?

God gives food

symbolic
reference



1

manna



Attend to
context.

Illustration of Step 1 (Truth)

- ◆ What did it symbolize then? What was the symbolic significance at the time when God first introduced this item?

God gives food

symbolic
reference



1

manna

Attend to
context.



Step 2: Go Forward in History

- ◆ What does it anticipate?



Step 2: Go Forward in History

- ◆ What greater manifestation of truth did it embody and anticipate? (Look at context.)

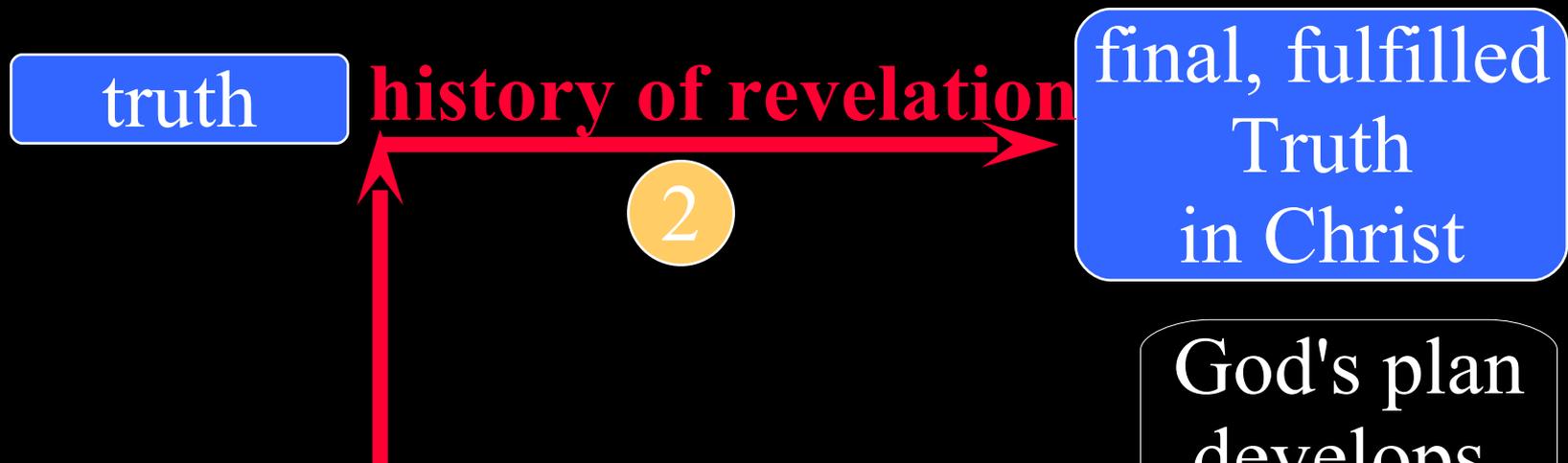


Illustration of Step 2 (Fulfill)

- ◆ What does it anticipate?

God gives food

history of revelation

2

Christ is
the final
Spiritual food

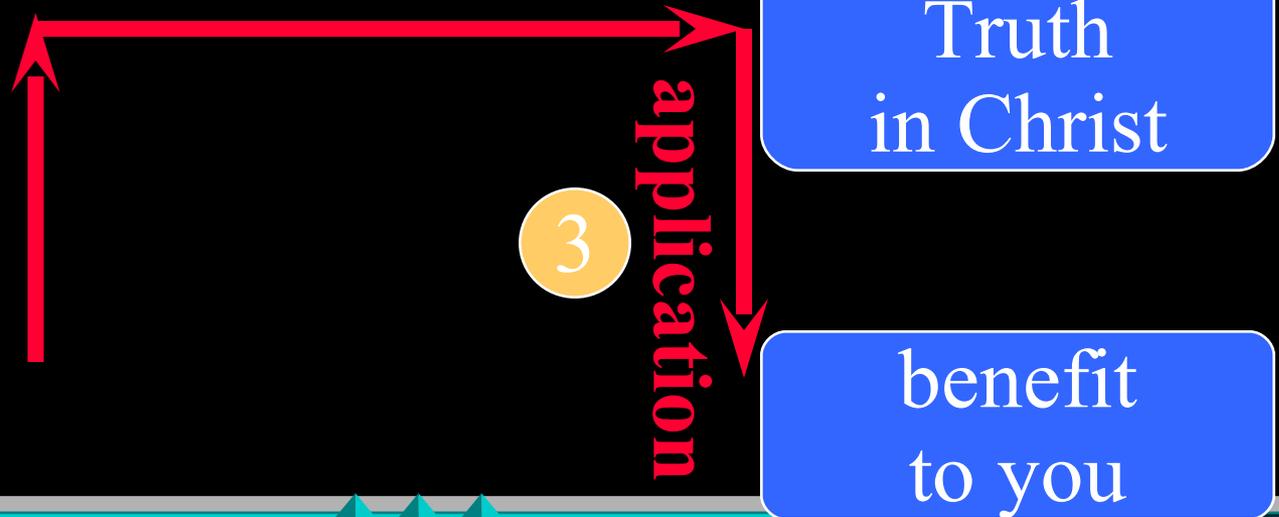
God's plan
develops.



Step 3: Apply to Us

- ◆ How do we benefit?

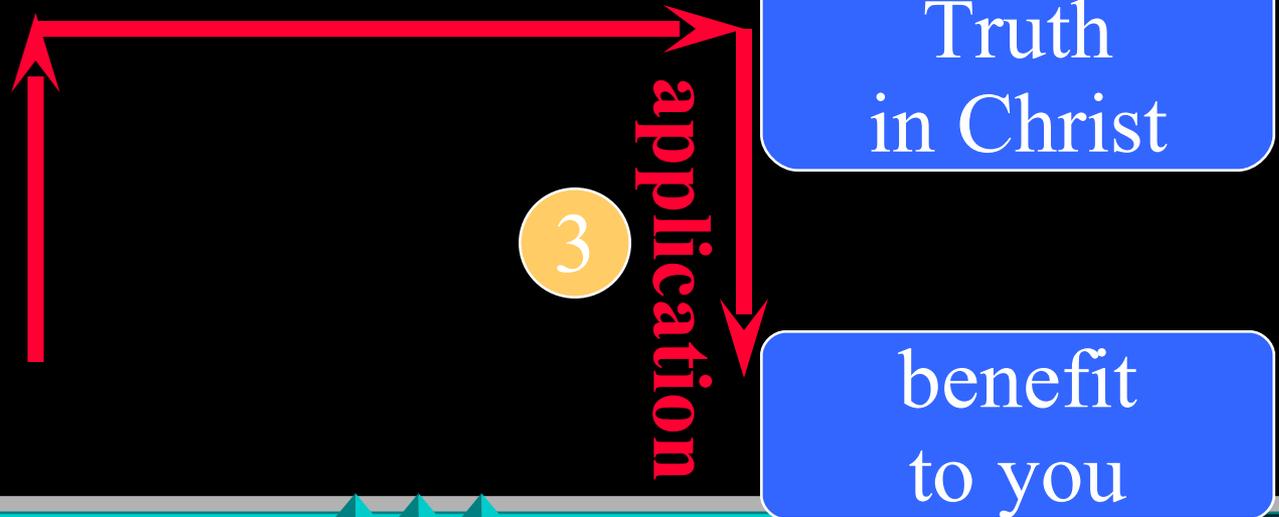
Written
for us!



Step 3: Apply to Us

- ◆ How do we benefit from participating in the fulfillment in union with Christ?

Written
for us!



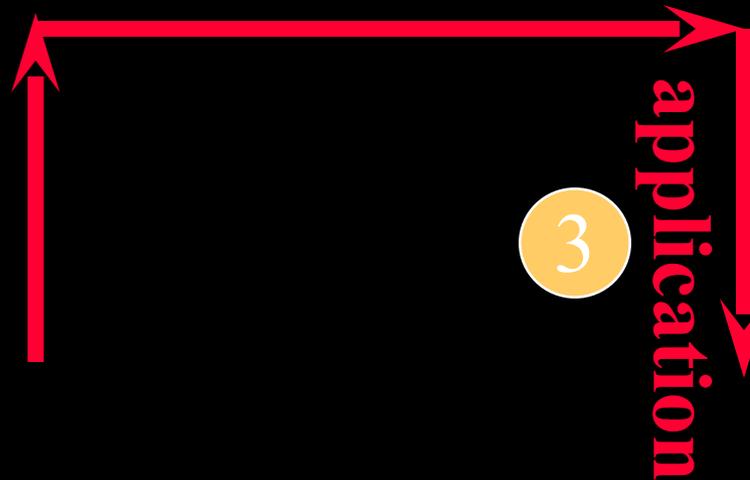
final, fulfilled
Truth
in Christ

benefit
to you

Illustration of Step 3 (Apply)

- ◆ How do we benefit?

Written
for us!



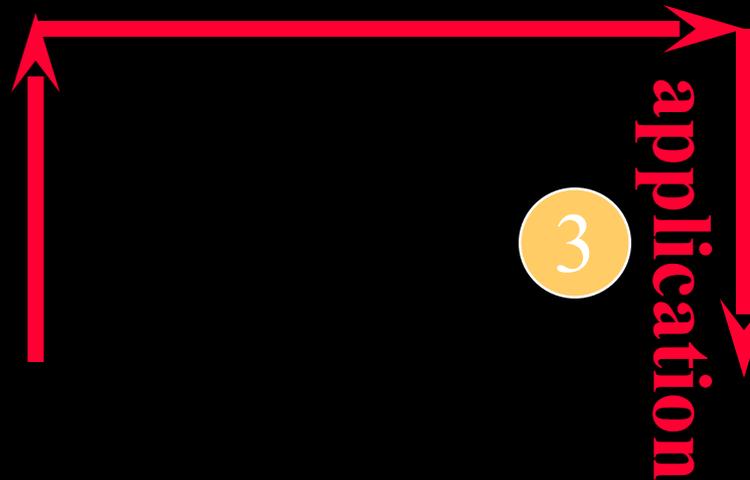
Christ is
the final
spiritual food

you eat Christ

Illustration of Step 3 (Apply)

- ◆ How do we benefit from participating in the fulfillment in union with Christ?

Written
for us!

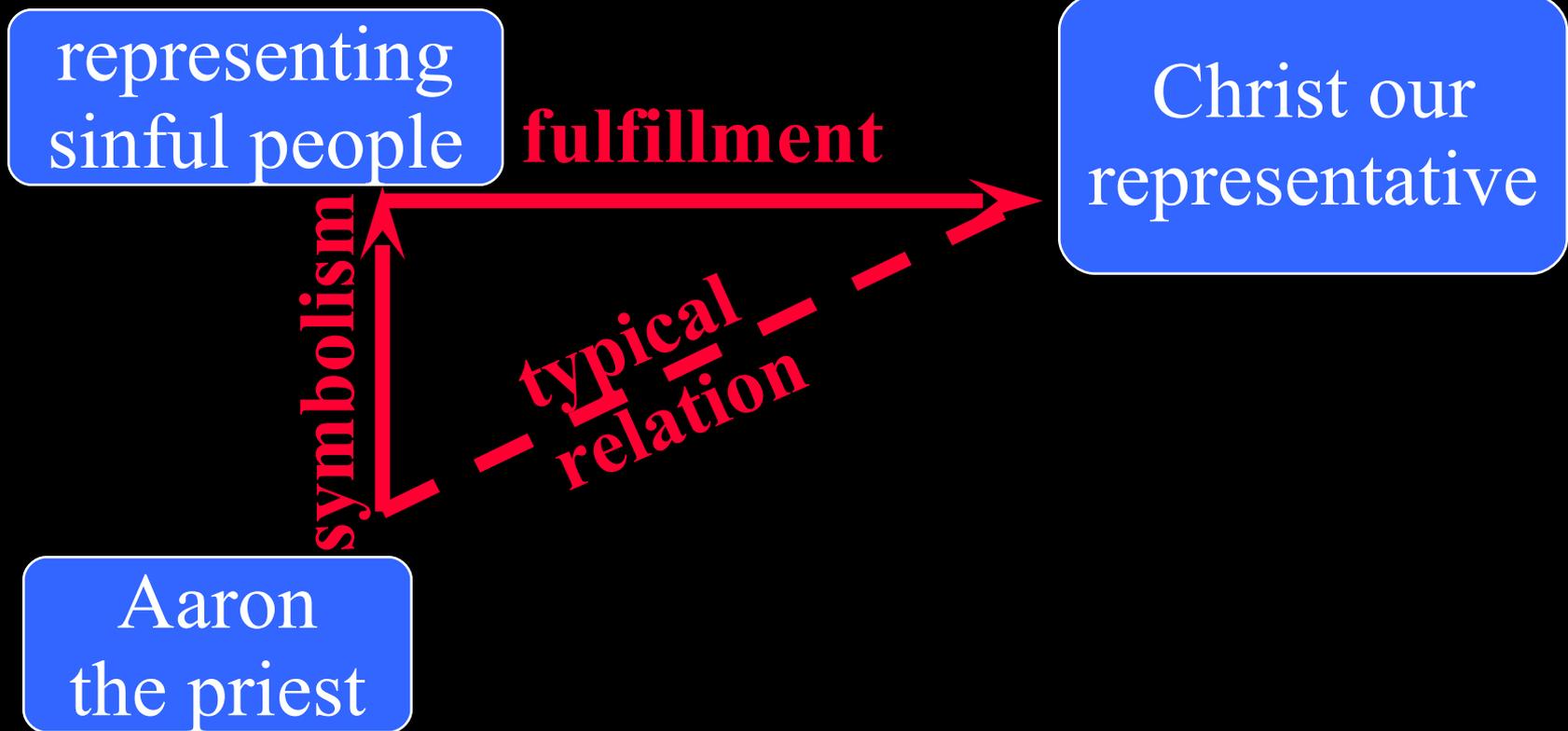


Christ is
the final
spiritual food

you eat Christ

D. Examples

An Example: Priests



Penalty for Molech Worship (Lev. 20:1-5)

abomination
vs. holiness

fulfillment

Christ bearing
punishment;
bringing
holiness

symbolism

— **typical** —
— **relation** —

death for
idol worship