

# Parallel Processing

## Jesus Beside the Well and Jesus on the Cross

### Beside the Well

- “the sixth hour”
- “Give me a drink”
- “living water”

(John 4:6–7, 10)

### On the Cross

- “the sixth hour”
- “I thirst” ...
- “water” flows from Jesus’ heart

(John 19:14, 28, 34)

**Introduction to the Spiritual Life: Walking the Path of Prayer with Jesus;**  
**James Brant Pitre**

# Parallel Processing

## Jeremiah and Moses

### Jeremiah – Pearls from Chapter 1

**[Jeremiah 1:1–19]**

**The dialogue that took place between Jeremiah and Yahweh parallels in many ways that of Moses and Yahweh.**

**Jeremiah, like the great Lawgiver,  
protested that he was not able to speak,  
but he also pointed out his tender age.**

**Where Moses may have felt he was too old for such a task,  
Jeremiah felt he was too young.**

**Fred M. Wood and Ross McLaren**

# Parallel Processing

## Covenant Considerations

**[The everlasting covenant (Isaiah 55:3–5)]**

**All this is explained in verses 3b-5  
in terms of an everlasting covenant  
which will mean the fulfilment of all that was once promised to David.**

**And, like the earlier covenants,  
this final covenant will have a sign to confirm it.**

**The covenant with Noah had the rainbow.**

**The covenant with Abraham had circumcision,  
and the Sinai covenant had sprinkled blood.**

**Appropriately, the final everlasting covenant  
will have ‘an everlasting sign’,  
which will be nothing less than a permanently renewed universe.**

**The final covenant between God and his people  
will not cancel out the earlier covenants  
but fulfil them,  
perfectly and completely.**

**Barry G. Webb**

# Parallel Processing

## Call and Ministry

**There were similar features in the call and ministry of Moses and Jeremiah:**

- both had a dramatic experience of God's call;**
- both shrank back and objected;**
- both heard words of God's over-ruling and promise of protection;**
- both were commissioned to speak truth to power**
  - confronting human authorities at various levels;**
- both had a passion for God's honour**
  - and a horror at the unfaithfulness of God's people.**

**Christopher J. H. Wright**

# Parallel Processing

## Envy vs Mercy

Whereas envy consists of sorrow over another person's good fortune, mercy consists of compassion toward another person's misfortune.

The former is rooted in pride, and the latter in love.

Consider the following:

### Envy

- Grieves over another person's good fortune
- Rooted in love of self

### Mercy

- Grieves over another person's misfortune
- Rooted in love of neighbor

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## Different Views of the Worthy Way

- The **Way** in Isaiah 6 and 8 is the way to everlasting joy. It is the **way** to Zion, the city of God, and all that it symbolizes. In New Testament terms it is the highway to heaven. It is the **Way** of Holiness; it is the Way to God.
- In the middle of all his pain and losses, Job says, “Though he slay me, yet will I trust in him” (Job 13:15, KJV).
- “Your word is a lamp for my feet, a light on my **path**.” (Psalm 119:105)
- “worthy is the lamb that was slain” (Revelation 5:12); We follow the most worthy **path** in the universe.
- There is no greater story or life possible – it leads to the “more abundant life” (John 10:10)
- the most “excellent **way**” of Love (1 Corinthians 13) is the “worthy” **way**
- Christ is the **Way** (John 14:6). This “**Way**” is absolutely beautiful!
- As such, Christ lights our way: “I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never **walk** in darkness, but will have the light of life” (John 8:12).
- Even though I **walk** through the valley of the shadow of death... I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long. (Psalm 23:4a, 6b)
- Whoever claims to live in Him must **walk** as Jesus did. (1 John 2:6)
- Christians said to be on the “**Way**”; Acts 9:2; 19:9, 23; 22:4, 24:14,22 [Tom]

The Worthy Way is a path of relationship to God!

# Parallel Processing

## Weeping for the Lost

**What do you make of Isaiah's remarkable reaction to the prophecy against Babylon (Isaiah 21:3-4)?**

**A prophecy against the Desert by the Sea...**

**A dire vision has been shown to me...**

**At this my body is racked with pain,  
pangs seize me, like those of a woman in labor;  
I am staggered by what I hear,  
I am bewildered by what I see.**

**My heart falters, fear makes me tremble;  
the twilight I longed for has become a horror to me.**

**Jonah had the  
opposite attitude  
towards enemies**

**How do you explain it?**

**How is it related to Jesus weeping over Jerusalem (Luke 19:41)**

**As he approached Jerusalem and saw the city, he wept over it  
and Paul weeping for unbelieving Jews; (Rom 9:2)?**

**I have great sorrow and unceasing anguish in my heart.**

**If so, what does this teach us about compassion for the lost?**

**Andrew M. Davis**

**This points to the "weeping prophet" that will be discussed later.**

# Parallel Processing

## Eden and Canaan

**Sadly, the drama of the cursing of Eden  
was replayed to a smaller degree in the promised land.**

**When Israel entered the promised land under Joshua,  
it was described in magnificently lush terms,  
“a land flowing with milk and honey” (Deuteronomy 11:9).**

**But God went on to warn Israel  
that if they failed to keep his covenant,  
he would curse the land  
by commanding the clouds not to rain on it.**

**Andrew M. Davis**



# Parallel Processing

## Picking the Pearls

### Jeremiah – Pearls from Chapter 11

**[Parallel]**

**[Jeremiah 11:19] God was answering Jeremiah's petition in verse 20b. Now that petition may seem harsh. Certainly, it is one place where Jeremiah differed from Jesus.**

**They may both have been like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter, but whereas Jeremiah cried out, Jesus was silent.**

**Whereas Jeremiah asked God for retribution on his unjust attackers, Jesus asked for their forgiveness. ...**

**And again we have to contrast them with those of Jesus, and remind ourselves that it is the example of Jesus, not of Jeremiah, that we are commanded to imitate.**

**Christopher J. H. Wright**

# Parallel Processing

## Generic “People” of Specific “son”, or “children”

Consider one of our main themes  
that is emphasized many times in the Old Testament:

I will be your God,  
and you will be My people...

It is interesting that in the book of Revelation,  
the generic term “people” is changed  
to the more specific and intimate word  
“Son”.

Those who are victorious will inherit all this,  
and I will be their God  
and they will be my son. [NKJV, RSV]  
children [NIV]

Revelation 21:7

The ultimate flow of God’s plan allows us to become His children.

# Parallel Processing

## Praying for Enemies

Early on,

Jeremiah prayed for his enemies and those who persecuted him.

Listen to me, Lord; hear what my accusers are saying!

Should good be repaid with evil?

Yet they have dug a pit for me.

Remember that I stood before you

and spoke in their behalf

to turn your wrath away from them.

Jeremiah 18:20

[evidently earlier, before they really attacked and rejected him;  
in later verses Jeremiah asked for their punishment]

About six hundred years later,

Jesus instructed his disciples to deal with their enemies  
in the same way.

But I tell you, love your enemies

and pray for those who persecute you,

Matthew 5:44-45

John T. Willis

# Parallel Processing

## Jeremiah and Jesus

**... there are many parallels  
in the life of Jesus  
and the life of Jeremiah.**

**Both were men of the land  
with a deep love of the countryside and all its creatures.**

**Both were rejected by their kith and kin;  
both clashed with the representatives  
of organized religion in their day.**

**When Jesus cleared the money changers from the Temple  
it was with words that had first been used by Jeremiah  
(7:11; cf. Mark 11:17)  
and it was our prophet  
that many people saw  
in Christ in His day (Matthew 16:13-14).**

**William Neil**

# Parallel Processing

## Jeremiah and Christ

God was answering Jeremiah's petition in verse [Jeremiah 11] 20b.

But you, Lord Almighty,  
who judge righteously and test the heart and mind,  
let me see your vengeance on them,  
for to you I have committed my cause.

Now that petition may seem harsh.

Certainly, it is one place where Jeremiah differed from Jesus.

They may both have been like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter,  
but whereas Jeremiah cried out,  
Jesus was silent.

Whereas Jeremiah asked God for retribution on his unjust attackers,  
Jesus asked for their forgiveness.

...

And again we have to contrast them with those of Jesus,  
and remind ourselves that it is the example of Jesus,  
not of Jeremiah,  
that we are commanded to imitate.

Christopher J. H. Wright

# Parallel Processing

## Jesus and Jeremiah

**When Jeremiah challenges God  
as to why God allows such wickedness to continue,  
God answers with a direct parallel to himself.**

**He too is the victim of a conspiracy  
from his own home and family.**

**Christopher J. H. Wright**

# Parallel Processing

## Jesus and Jeremiah

**It is impossible to read chapter 26  
with its account of Jeremiah on trial for his life  
because of his preaching in the temple  
without thinking of Jesus  
and how he walked the same road.**

**We know that people compared Jesus to Jeremiah.**

**One reason for that may be that, like Jeremiah,  
he stood out against popular consensus  
(anti-Babylonian, anti-Roman violent attitudes),  
and certainly criticized both people and government for their ways.**

**Furthermore, Jesus' symbolic action in the temple was interpreted,  
like Jeremiah's preaching,  
as a direct threat,  
and that was a key element  
in the charge brought against him soon after-wards,  
leading to his execution.**

**Christopher J. H. Wright**

# Parallel Processing

## The Perspective of the Crowd on the Subject of Bread

**Instead of accepting their Messiah,  
the crowd began to debate with Jesus.**

**They contrasted Christ's miracle of feeding the five thousand  
with the miracle of the manna in Moses' day,  
when God provided "bread from heaven" (Ex. 16; see also Ps. 78:24).**

**Jesus provided bread for the Jews only once,  
but Moses fed them six days a week for thirty-eight years.**

**Furthermore, Moses fed an entire nation,  
but Jesus fed only several thousand people.**

**Jesus borrowed a child's lunch to provide the bread,  
but Moses brought down the bread from heaven.**

**Warren Wiersbe**

**They had problems expanding their minds  
to a Messiah that could give living bread forever,  
and what that "living bread" meant.**



# Parallel Processing

## Noah and Abraham

In the Old and New Testaments alike Abraham is the prototype of those who are elected by God.

It might be said, indeed, that Noah, not Abraham, was the first man in the biblical record to be **chosen**...

But, if we grant this, we must make the point that, whereas the election of Noah and his family meant the destruction of the rest of mankind, the election of Abraham and his family meant the blessing of the rest of mankind; and it is Abraham's election, not Noah's, that provides the scriptural prototype for God's electing grace.

As Abraham's election was designed to bring blessing to "all the families of the earth" (Gen. 12:3), so Abraham's spiritual progeny, described in Eph. 1:4 as "chosen in Christ before the world's foundation to be holy and blameless in the sight of God", are presented not only as God's **masterpiece of reconciliation** but also as his pilot scheme for the reconciled universe of the future.

F.F. Bruce

# Parallel Processing

## Standing By...

**Jesus went to the cross alone.**

**The cross was not a team effort.**

**Everyone abandoned Jesus at the cross.**

**Like David had done,**

**Jesus ran out onto that field alone  
to face the giant of our sin  
while we all stood  
in unfaithfulness  
on the sidelines.**

**J. D. Greear**

# Parallel Processing

## Falling away in every Generation

[Jeremiah has many references to the people's worship of Baal, and felt a portion of God's grief at their betrayal]

... when they came to Baal Peor,  
they consecrated themselves to that shameful idol  
and became as vile as the thing they loved.

But the more they were called, the more they went away from [God].

They sacrificed to the Baals and they burned incense to images.

... Israel had become a disappointment to God,  
despised by others, and a disaster to themselves.

It is a pattern that did not end with Old Testament Israel.

The Lord Jesus Christ himself detected the same thing  
in the church at Ephesus to whom he wrote:

**'You have forsaken the love you had at first.**

**Consider how far you have fallen!**

**Repent and do the things you did at first' [Rev. 2:4-5]**

– words that carry a perennial warning and challenge to us  
in every generation.

Christopher J. H. Wright

# Parallel Processing

## The Meeting of Two Different Crowds

[re: raising the son of the woman of Nain from the dead]

Two crowds met –

One rejoicing at God's presence,  
the other mourning at God's seeming absence;

Two only sons met –

One was alive, but destined to die,  
the other was dead, but destined to live.

Two sufferers met --

The mother who lost her son  
and "the Man of Sorrows"  
as described in Isaiah as carrying our burdens to the cross

Two enemies met –

The giver of life (life incarnate)  
versus death itself (death incarnate)

from Warren Wiersbe

There is also a parallel between Jesus and His mother  
and the widow of Nain and her son.

[Michael Reynolds]

This event was a foreshadowing of the fact that the God that raised this man from death  
will one day provide the ultimate healing for all who have died.

[PDE]

# Parallel Processing

## The Births of John and Jesus

**Like Jesus,  
John's birth was a miraculous event  
that included an improbable conception  
and a visit from the angel Gabriel.**

**Unlike Jesus,  
lots of people knew about John's birth  
and the circumstances surrounding it.**

**That's because John was the son of a priest,  
a known commodity.**

**And the miracles connected to that moment  
were witnessed by other known commodities in Jerusalem  
rather than shepherds from the hills of Bethlehem.**

**Louie Giglio**

# Parallel Processing

**There were those sent to verify John the Baptist:**

**[John the Baptist Denies Being the Messiah]**

**“Now this was John’s testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was.”**

**John 1:19**

**John the Baptist himself sent some to verify Jesus:**

**When the men came to Jesus, they said, “John the Baptist sent us to you to ask, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or should we expect someone else?’”**

**Luke 7:20**

# Parallel Processing

**The Bible is the story of two gardens: Eden and Gethsemane.**

**In the first, Adam took a fall.**

**In the second, Jesus took a stand.**

**In the first, God sought Adam.**

**In the second, Jesus sought God.**

**In Eden, Adam hid from God.**

**In Gethsemane, Jesus emerged from the tomb.**

**In Eden, Satan led Adam to a tree that led to his death.**

**From Gethsemane, Jesus went to a tree that led to our life.**

**Max Lucado**

# Parallel Processing

When Jesus Marveled (or was amazed - NIV)...

Twice in the Gospel record  
we are told that Jesus marveled.

... in Capernaum,

He marveled at the **faith** of a Gentile [centurion] (Matthew 8:13, Luke 7:1-10);

and in Nazareth,

He marveled at the **unbelief** of the Jews  
[in his own home town] (Mark 6:6).

Warren Wiersbe



# Parallel Processing

## Three Times at the Feet of Jesus

**“Mary of Bethany is seen three times in the gospel record,  
and on each occasion,  
she is in the same place:  
at the feet of Jesus.**

**She sat at His feet and listened to His word (Luke 10:39),  
fell at His feet and shared her woe (John 11:32),  
and came to His feet and poured out her worship (John 12:3).**

**It is interesting to note that in each of these instances,  
there is some kind of fragrance:  
in Luke 10, it is **food**;  
in John 11, it is **death** (John 11:39 – about Lazarus);  
and in John 12, it is **perfume**.”**

**Warren Wiersbe**

# Parallel Processing

**God rejected Saul and chose David**

**(2 Sam. 6:21; cp. 1 Sam. 10:24; 16:8-13; Ps. 78.68).**

**Note that the choice of David was by God's mysterious standards,  
not by human criteria.**

**The rejection of Saul came on grounds of relationship to God,  
not on political or military grounds.**

**This rejection of one previously chosen shows  
the tension the Bible holds in the doctrine of election.**

**God chooses people for his service  
but holds them accountable  
and responsible to obey him.**

**Max Anders**

# Parallel Processing

## Historical Record

**New Testament scholar Justin Bass  
describes the evidence in this manner:**

**“Tiberius was the most powerful man in the world of his day.**

**Jesus was one of the poorest,  
belonging to the peasant class  
as a Jewish carpenter.**

**He even died the most shameful death,  
a slave’s death,  
on a cross during Tiberius’ reign.**

**Yet we have far more reliable written sources  
and closer to the time of Jesus’ actual life and death  
than this Caesar of Rome.**

**J. Warner Wallace**

# Parallel Processing

**[Haman and Mordecai]**

**Behold the first of several reversals of fortune in this story.**

**Haman intended to put Mordecai on a spike.  
Instead, Haman placed him on a horse.**

**Haman planned to lead Mordecai to the gallows  
to the sound of jeers.  
Instead, he led him through the streets  
to the sound of cheers.**

**...**

**Haman, who wanted to kill a Jew  
for not falling down in his presence,  
was caught falling down  
before a Jew.**

**Max Lucado**