

“Hyperlinks”

Often when you are browsing the web or reading a digital document you will come across hyperlinks. In computing, a hyperlink is a reference to data that the user can follow by clicking or tapping that leaps to another document or to a specific element within a document. Biblical authors do the equivalent by expecting readers to connect to other texts because they are inextricably linked by common words or concepts that empower readers to make meaningful comparisons and contrasts. Related to Foreshadowing and Intertextuality.

Biblical Examples:

1. Genesis 1 with Genesis 7-9

the darkness was over the face of the deep v2
the sources of the great deep were broken up (7:11)
and let the dry land appear v 9
and the tops of the mountains appeared (8:5)
God said “be fruitful and multiply” v 22
God said, “Be fruitful and multiply” (8:17)
God said, “Let the land bring out. . .creatures v24
God said, . . . “and bring out the creatures” (8:17)
God blessed them and said “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the land.” v 28
God blessed Noah. . . And said to them “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the land.” (9:1)
“and rule over the fish of the sea” v 28b
“and among all the fish of the sea, they are given (9:2)
And God said, “Behold, I give . . . for food” v29
“To you it shall be for food” (9:3)

2. Moses early life with that of the Nation of Israel

Both have a “water” event (Nile/Red Sea) that is a source of Death but also deliverance
Both experience a “fire” event (Burning bush/ Fire on top of Mt Sinai)

3. Jesus/Paul in Luke/Acts

Jesus breaks bread and gives thanks (22:19)	Paul breaks bread and gives thanks (27:35)
Jesus is seized by an angry mob (22:54)	Paul is seized by an angry mob (21:30)
Jesus is slapped by high priest's aides (22:63–64)	Paul is slapped at high priest's command (23:2)
Jesus is tried four times and declared innocent three times (22:66–23:13)	Paul is tried four times and declared innocent three times (23:1–26:32)
Jesus is rejected by the Jews (23:18)	Paul is rejected by the Jews (21:36)
Jesus is regarded favorably by a centurion (23:47)	Paul is regarded favorably by a centurion (27:43)
Final confirmation that scriptures have been fulfilled (24:45–47)	Final confirmation that scriptures have been fulfilled (28:23–28)

4. Across the Testaments:

confusion of tongues (Babel/ Pentecost)
Despot seeking to kill babies (Pharaoh/Herod)
Miraculous feeding of a nation in a secluded place (Manna/ Feeding of 5,000)
Transformation of body after Mt experience (Moses face shone/ transfiguration)

So what's:

- **give readers points to ponder mainly to draw comparisons and contrasts and ask why?**
- **The world depicted by these narratives also has the same Divine design and purpose!**
- **These examples show that a major aspect of the meaning of the Biblical text lies fundamentally in the patterns of Divine purpose that they infuse into our understanding of the world.**
- **Repetition of elements within and across texts:**
 - Resonates the structure of life itself
 - Creates order and stability through “routinization” of events.
 - Key to remembering –important to a primarily “aural” culture.