

## Elder Vernon Johnson

### Colors

#### Rams Skins Dyed Red

In the scriptures, there is a strong correlation between the color red and the subject of war, blood, and judgment. This correlation is illustrated by the covering of the tabernacle in the wilderness of rams' skins dyed red.

This covering of rams' skins dyed red is mentioned five times in the Old Testament:

1. Ex. 25:5 "And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood,"
2. Ex. 26:14 "And thou shalt make a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering above of badgers' skins."
3. Ex. 35:7 "And rams' skins dyed red, and badgers' skins, and shittim wood,
4. Ex. 36:19 "And he made a covering for the tent of rams' skins dyed red, and a covering of badgers' skins above that."
5. Ex. 39:34 "And the covering of rams' skins dyed red, and the covering of badgers' skins, and the veil of the covering,"

There is much figurative language concerning the elements of the tabernacle in the wilderness, its furniture, the garments of the High Priest, and the sacrifices and offerings. Invariably there is one or more texts that explain each of these types found someplace in the scriptures. The text that opens our understanding to the significance of the rams' skins dyed red is found in Is. 63:1-5.

Is. 63:1 "Who is this that cometh from Edom, with dyed garments from Bozrah? this that is glorious in his apparel, travelling in the greatness of his strength? I that speak in righteousness, mighty to save. 2 Wherefore art thou red in thine apparel, and thy garments like him that treadeth in the winefat? 3 I have trodden the winepress alone; and of the people there was none with me: for I will tread them in mine anger, and trample them in my fury; and their blood shall be sprinkled upon my garments, and I will stain all my raiment. 4 For the day of vengeance is in mine heart, and the year of my redeemed is come. 5 And I looked, and there was none to help; and I wondered that there was none to uphold: therefore mine own arm brought salvation unto me; and my fury, it upheld me."

Christ is the "lamb of God" that taketh away the sin of the world. It is he, who poured out his precious blood to save his people from their sins. It is he, who spoke in righteousness and was mighty to save. It is he, who was red in his apparel (blood of the cross) with dyed garments from Bozrah.

It was Christ, who treaded the winepress of the wrath of God alone. He suffered on the cross alone to redeem his people from their sins. He died for the sins of his elect people, thus satisfying God's wrath because of their sins. His death on the cross was the day of God's vengeance, where God took vengeance on our sins. This was also the time of redemption of the elect family of God.

The sacrificial blood of Christ covered the elect family of God:

1. Ps. 32:1 "Blessed is he whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered."

2. Ps. 85:2 "Thou hast forgiven the iniquity of thy people, thou hast covered all their sin. Selah."

3. Is. 61:10 "I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my soul shall be joyful in my God; for he hath clothed me with the garments of salvation, he hath covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decketh himself with ornaments, and as a bride adorneth herself with her jewels."

4. Eze. 16:8 "Now when I passed by thee, and looked upon thee, behold, thy time was the time of love; and I spread my skirt over thee, and covered thy nakedness: yea, I swore unto thee, and entered into a covenant with thee, saith the Lord GOD, and thou becamest mine."

5. Rom. 4:7 "Saying, Blessed are they whose iniquities are forgiven, and whose sins are covered."

6. Prov. 10:12 "Hatred stirreth up strifes: but love covereth all sins."