

Elder Vernon Johnson

Colors

Red Sea

There is a very strong correlation in the scriptures between the color red and the subject of war, blood, and judgment. This correlation is set forth for us in type in those things that happened at the Red Sea.

The children of Israel had spent over four hundred years in Egypt and much of that time in bondage to the Egyptians. At God's appointed time, he sent Moses to deliver the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage. God poured out ten plagues upon the land of Egypt to convince Pharaoh to let the children of Israel go from their captivity. One of the plagues was the plague of locust: Ex. 10:12 "And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come up upon the land of Egypt, and eat every herb of the land, even all that the hail hath left.

13 And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts. 14 And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: very grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such. 15 For they covered the face of the whole earth, so that the land was darkened; and they did eat every herb of the land, and all the fruit of the trees which the hail had left: and there remained not any green thing in the trees, or in the herbs of the field, through all the land of Egypt.

16 Then Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron in haste; and he said, I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you. 17 Now therefore forgive, I pray thee, my sin only this once, and entreat the LORD your God, that he may take away from me this death only. 18 And he went out from Pharaoh, and entreated the LORD. 19 And the LORD turned a mighty strong west wind, which took away the locusts, and cast them into the Red sea; there remained not one locust in all the coasts of Egypt."

The locust had destroyed every fruit, herb, and every green thing in the land of Egypt. In ending this plague the Lord sent a strong west wind and cast the locust into the Red Sea so that not one remained in all the coast of Egypt. The locust are typical of the sins of the elect children of God. Our sins are a great plague upon us. Only, they were destroyed in the blood sacrifice of Jesus Christ. There is not one to remain to plague us any more: Rom. 8:33 "Who shall lay any thing to the charge of God's elect? It is God that justifieth. 34 Who is he that condemneth? It is Christ that died, yea rather, that is risen again, who is even at the right hand of God, who also maketh intercession for us."

The next time we encounter the Red Sea, the children of Israel are encamped next to the sea and Pharaoh and the Egyptian army are marching against the children of Israel. A pillar of cloud and pillar of fire stands between the two camps. God commands Moses to stretch forth his rod toward the sea and then God sends a great east wind and parts the waters of the Red Sea. The children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground and crossed to the other side. When morning came Pharaoh and his mighty host pursued after the children of Israel but God took off their chariot wheels and then commanded Moses to stretch forth his rod again and the waters returned and Pharaoh and his host were drowned in the midst of the sea. In this encounter at the Red Sea, the Lord delivered the children of Israel and at the same time destroyed their enemies that were marching against them. This is typical of the Lord's war against our enemies, his blood atonement, and ultimate victory and judgment of God.

The crossing of the Red Sea is typical of the death, burial, and resurrection of the Lord Jesus Christ. Water baptism, the scriptures teach us, is also typical of the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ: 1 Pet. 3:21 "The like figure whereunto even baptism doth also now save us (not the putting away of the filth of the flesh, but the answer of a good conscience toward God,) by the resurrection of Jesus Christ:" Just as water baptism is typical of the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ so also is the crossing of the Red Sea. The children of Israel went down into the sea and then they came up out of the sea. They were not hurt of the sea, because there was no death (judgmental waters) in the sea for them. Their enemies were destroyed in the sea. This is in harmony with what we read in 1 Cor. 10:1 "Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our

fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; 2 And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;"

The crossing of the Red Sea was a type of cross of Christ. At the place of the crossing, an east wind crossed a north-south running sea. In the death, burial, and resurrection of Christ, he destroyed our enemies. He destroyed our sins, death, hell, Satan, and the grave. Yet through his death, burial, and resurrection he delivered us, the elect, with an eternal deliverance.

Numerous times after the actual events that transpired at the Red Sea, God reminds us of the significance of the Red Sea in the scriptures:

1. Ex. 15:3 "The LORD is a man of war: the LORD is his name. 4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red sea."

2. Num. 21:14 "Wherefore it is said in the book of the wars of the LORD, What he did in the Red sea, and in the brooks of Arnon,"

3. Deu. 11:4 "And what he did unto the army of Egypt, unto their horses, and to their chariots; how he made the water of the Red sea to overflow them as they pursued after you, and how the LORD hath destroyed them unto this day;"

4. Josh. 2:10 "For we have heard how the LORD dried up the water of the Red sea for you, when ye came out of Egypt; and what ye did unto the two kings of the Amorites, that were on the other side Jordan, Sihon and Og, whom ye utterly destroyed."

5. Josh 4:23 "For the LORD your God dried up the waters of Jordan from before you, until ye were passed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red sea, which he dried up from before us, until we were gone over:"

6. Josh. 24:6 "And I brought your fathers out of Egypt: and ye came unto the sea; and the Egyptians pursued after your fathers with chariots and horsemen unto the Red sea. 7 And when they cried unto the LORD, he put darkness between you and the Egyptians, and brought the sea upon them, and covered them; and your eyes have seen what I have done in Egypt: and ye dwelt in the wilderness a long season."

7. Ps. 106:7 "Our fathers understood not thy wonders in Egypt; they remembered not the multitude of thy mercies; but provoked him at the sea, even at the Red sea.

8 Nevertheless he saved them for his name's sake, that he might make his mighty power to be known. 9 He rebuked the Red sea also, and it was dried up: so he led them through the depths, as through the wilderness. 10 And he saved them from the hand of him that hated them, and redeemed them from the hand of the enemy. 11 And the waters covered their enemies: there was not one of them left."

8. Ps. 136:13 "To him which divided the Red sea into parts: for his mercy endureth for ever: 14 And made Israel to pass through the midst of it: for his mercy endureth for ever: 15 But overthrew Pharaoh and his host in the Red sea: for his mercy endureth for ever."

9. Acts 7:36 "He brought them out, after that he had showed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years."

In summary, the Red Sea is typical of Christ's war against the enemies of the elect, his shed blood and death on the cross to deliver them from their sins, and his resurrection from the dead so destroying all the enemies of the elect.