

Elder Vernon Johnson Colors

Black - The Judgment of Sin

There is a very close correlation between the color black or dark and the subject of sin. This correlation is especially evident in God's judgment of sin. In later essays we will look at the correlation when considering Christ's atonement for sin; the eternal judgment of sin; and the timely judgments of sin. In this essay, we will look briefly at the general overall subject of God's judgment of sin.

Three Old Testament verses show forth this correlation between darkness and God's judgment of sin:

1. Amos 5:18 "Woe unto you that desire the day of the LORD! to what end is it for you? the day of the LORD is darkness, and not light."
2. Amos 5:20 "Shall not the day of the LORD be darkness, and not light? even very dark, and no brightness in it?"
3. Zep. 1:15 "That day is a day of wrath, a day of trouble and distress, a day of wasteness and desolation, a day of darkness and gloominess, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 A day of the trumpet and alarm against the fenced cities, and against the high towers. 17 And I will bring distress upon men, that they shall walk like blind men, because they have sinned against the LORD: and their blood shall be poured out as dust, and their flesh as the dung."

In all three of the above passages, we find God's wrathful judgment against sin and the picture is portrayed as a day of darkness, very dark, and thick darkness. It is in the nature of man to be afraid of the dark. Thus, the judgment of God is a fearful thing. This reminds us of the picture at Mt. Sinai and the giving of the law: Heb. 12:18 "For ye are not come unto the mount that might be touched, and that burned with fire, nor unto blackness, and darkness, and tempest, 19 And the sound of a trumpet, and the voice of words; which voice they that heard entreated that the word should not be spoken to them any more: 20 (For they could not endure that which was commanded, And if so much as a beast touch the mountain, it shall be stoned, or thrust through with a dart: 21 And so terrible was the sight, that Moses said, I exceedingly fear and quake:)" God's judgment of sin is a terrible sight and causes us to exceedingly fear and quake. Thankfully, Christ has delivered us from the wrathful judgment of God because of our sins.