

Elder Vernon Johnson Colors

Black - Timely Judgment of Sin

There is a strong correlation in the scriptures between the color black or dark and the subject of sin. Not only has God judged the sins of the elect in the person of Jesus Christ on the cross, but he also has set forth a time when he will judge the non-elect and they shall be cast into the lake of fire forever. In addition, there are times when God applies his timely judgments upon people here in time. The following verses of scripture using the correlation between darkness and sin illustrate this timely judgment of sin:

1. Matt. 8:12 "But the children of the kingdom shall be cast out into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."
2. Matt. 22:13 "Then said the king to the servants, Bind him hand and foot, and take him away, and cast him into outer darkness; there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."
3. Matt. 25:30 "And cast ye the unprofitable servant into outer darkness: there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

In the first reference, the nation of Israel had long enjoyed the blessings of God under the Old Testament of worship. However, because of their disobedience and rejection of the gospel of Jesus Christ, Christ tells them that they would be cast out of the New Testament kingdom into outer darkness. They had been blessed with the light of Old Testament worship and service, but now their light was taken away because of disobedience and disbelief.

In the second reference, at the wedding feast, celebrating the king's marriage to his bride, there was a man who had not on a wedding garment. This man was not properly attired for the wedding feast. He could not have part in the wedding feast because he had not on the proper attire. A person who comes to be a part of the wedding feast who is not wearing the righteousness of Christ and dressed in humility has not on the proper attire. He cannot be a part of the wedding feast. He is to be cast into outer darkness. A self-righteous, proud person cannot be a part of the Lord's New Testament church. Because of his self-righteousness and pride, he is in outer darkness and cannot understand the truth of salvation by grace alone.

In the third reference, the unprofitable servant had slothfully failed to use the talent

the master had delivered to him. Because of his slothfulness he was cast into outer darkness. This should be a warning to each of us that we are to be diligent to use the gifts and talents the Lord has delivered unto us to his name's praise, honor, and glory. It certainly is our reasonable service and we should delight to do it, considering all the love, mercy, and grace the Lord has showered upon us. Further, when we use the talents God has given us we have the light of His word and the leadership of the Spirit to guide us in this life. Why would we want to lose this light?