

Typology

A Jewish Midrashic method of interpretation.

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EGYPT, PHARAOH & THE ANTICHRIST

The remarkable story of the nation of Israel becoming slaves in Egypt is full of Typology. Egypt is a type of worldly system, which dominates every aspect of life. The Egyptian Empire controlled most of life on the then known world. As a super power, the education system of Egypt was seen and sought after as a necessary destination of people who wanted to learn the arts and wisdom of the world. Today the systems of the academic world suggest that human philosophy and reasoning is necessary if one is to succeed in life. However, the scriptures tell us that the wisdom of the world is foolishness to God.

1Cor. 3:19 *“For the wisdom of this world is foolishness with God. For it is written, He taketh the wise in their own craftiness”.*

1Cor. 2:5 *“That your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God”.*

Israel could only fulfil God’s purpose if they left Egypt. So believers have to resist the influence of the world. **Read 2 Tim 2:19 & James 4:4, Rom 8:5-8, Rom 12:2.**

What does it mean to be a “friend of the world” and how do we avoid it?

JAMES 4:4

Unfaithful creatures!
Do you not know that
friendship with the world
is enmity with God?
Therefore whoever wishes
to be a friend of the world
makes himself
an enemy of God.

TYPOLOGY OF EGYPT & THE WORLD:

EGYPT	WORLD
Controlled the ancient civilization	Human philosophy dominates all of life.
Israel were slaves of Egypt.	Sinners are slaves of the world
Israel had to leave Egypt.	Believers have to leave the world's way.
Israel passed through the Red Sea (A type of Baptism)	Believers are Baptised by the Spirit into the body of Christ at conversion. (1 Cor 12:13)
Israel was guided by God in the wilderness on their way to the Promised Land.	The believer is guided by God through the wilderness of the world, on our way to Heaven.
In the following blocks, write down some of your observations of the typology between Egypt and the World.	

TYPOLOGY OF PHARAOH & ANTICHRIST IN THE SEVEN YEARS OF TRIBULATION.

After the Rapture of believers as declared in **1 Thess 4:11-18**, the door and dispensation of Grace will close and the dispensation of the Kingdom will start with the Great Tribulation Period for 7 years before the Kingdom of Peace is set up by the Lord Jesus Himself.

PHARAOH - EXODUS	ANTICHRIST - REVELATION
Pharaoh rules as King over all Egypt.	Antichrist rules as supreme world ruler. (Rev 13:7).
Two witnesses, Moses and Aaron challenge Pharaoh. (Exodus 5:1)	Two witnesses challenge Antichrist. (Rev 11:3).
The first judgement against Egypt lasted 7 days. (Exodus 7:25).	The Tribulation will last for 7 years. (The week of Jacob's Trouble. Jer 30:7, Dan 9:27)
God sends the plagues as judgement against Egyptian gods.	God will send plagues as a judgement against the world's system and Jacob. (Israel)
Pharaoh is supported by his false magicians. (2 Tim 3:8)	Antichrist is assisted by his False Prophet. (Rev 19:20, 2 Thes.2:9).
The Lord destroys Pharaoh's army and purpose. (Exodus 18:10)	God defeats Antichrist. (Rev 20:10)

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On a note of interest:

THE TWO WITNESSES: REVELATION 11:3-13.

Who are the two witnesses of Revelation?

A common interpretation is that they are Moses and Elijah because the judgement inflicted by Moses and Elijah in the Old Testament are similar to those of the two witnesses. Further support is given to the identification of Elijah because of the prediction in **Mal 4:5** that he will appear “*before the great and dreadful day of the Lord comes*”. Christ said this prophecy of Elijah was partially fulfilled in His lifetime. (**Matt 17:10-13. Luke 1:17**).



Both Moses and Elijah were involved in the transfiguration. (**Matt 17:3**), which anticipated the Second Coming. A problem with this suggested identity is that Moses has already died once.

Enoch walked faithfully with God; then he was no more because God took him away.

Genesis 5:24(NIV)

Some have identified the two witnesses as Enoch and Elijah inasmuch as they did not die but were translated.

(**Gen 5:24 & 2 Kings 2:13**).

Note also **Heb 9:27** – each is appointed “*once to die*”. The witness of Elijah challenges Jews and Enoch, the Gentiles.

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While there is room for considerable discussion of these various views, the fact is that the passage does not identify the two witnesses and they possibly do not have historic identification. The description of the two witnesses as olive trees and lampstands has an Old Testament background. (**Zech 4:2-14**). The two witnesses in this passage were Joshua the High Priest and Zerubbabel, the Governor. Their connection to the lampstands was that they were empowered by the Holy Spirit, symbolised by the olive oil. In a similar way, the two witnesses of Revelation 11 will be empowered by the Holy Spirit.

Like prophets of old, the two witnesses will be able to do supernatural miracles, and fire will destroy those who will try to harm them. (**Rev 11:5**). Like Elijah, they will have power to stop rain and will have power like Moses to turn water into blood and to bring on plagues (**vs. 6**). In the midst of the unbelief, apostasy and satanic power during the Great Tribulation, these two witnesses will be a threat to the entire wicked world for a literal period of 1260 days, 3 ½ years. When their ministry is complete, God allows the beast (Antichrist) to overcome and kill them in Jerusalem, figuratively called Sodom and Egypt. They lie in the streets for 3 ½ days whilst the world rejoices to be rid of them. This event will be seen throughout the world most probably on TV. God then resurrects the two witnesses and they ascend into Heaven in a cloud. Within the hour, 7000 men die in an earthquake. Those left alive begin to acknowledge the God of heaven.

You may wish to read the story of the 10 plagues upon Egypt for the next lesson.

Zechariah's Vision - Zechariah 4:1-14

Paul's Cultivated and Wild Olive Trees - Romans 11:17-24

The Two Witnesses and Two Lampstands - Revelation 11:3-4

The Tree of Life - Genesis 2:9; Revelation 22:2

The Two pillars - 1Kings 7:21, 2Chronicles 3:17, Revelation 3:12

