

~~divinely purposed illustration, then? Well, our question.....(4½)~~

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The thing gets a little more difficult when we get into the case of an individual. Joseph was sold by his rothers into Egypt. Why was he sold by his brothers? He was sold by them into Egypt as he tells them later when they came down, for God's purpose, that I would be sent to Egypt to prepare a place of refuge for you from the famine. A place where Israel could grow from a little group to a large nation, without the difficulties that would have occurred in the land where the Canaanites were at that time. That was the purpose of his ~~x~~ being sent into Egypt. Was it also a divinely purposed illustration of Christ's coming down and suffering for us? Does it? Maybe it does. But the Scripture nowhere says it was, and we cannot use it dogmatically that Joseph is in any sense a type of Christ. He may be an illustration. Anything that is similar we can use ~~as~~ as an illustration, but it is not necessarily a divinely purposed illustration. ~~That~~

These things happened. Now God controlled all history and He caused things to happen certain ways in order to be a type. But to how great an extent did He cause them to happen to be a type? Or did He cause them to happen that way because of the thing that He immediately wished to do? We cannot be dogmatic. And so the main ~~that~~ thing there is that we must not think that we can prove things from types, which are not dogmatically asserted in Scriptures. But we may use them as illustrations. And we can study each particular case to find out whether it is a divinely purposed illustration, or whether it is something else.

It is much easier, of course, to just take a lot of symbols and gather some meaning from them, than it is to get down to the hard task of interpretation of Scripture, taking the Scripture as a whole to see what the truth is. But when you find somebody who is doing it, God hasn't sent us out to rebuke them, to ciriticize them, to try to get ~~x~~ people to stop listening to them, unless they are teaching heresies of