



WELCOME TO BIBLE HOUSE OF GRACE

If you think items presented on this site to be in error, please let me know and I will gladly reconsider the content.

Sea

(2019)

Bible House of Grace contains an easy to read New and Old Testament commentary full of spiritual treasures and pearls, complete with an insightful resource guide illuminating God's love and grace.



Learn the Bible with Friends

Although I believe my aim is pure and God's will perfect this document is still the product of a human man, as to such I neither claim perfect knowledge or perfect understanding.

Sea.

Topics.

- What the sea signifies, and the sea contrasted to the earth.
- A roaring sea, and a calm sea.
- The sea turned into dry land, and righteousness like waves of the sea.
- The tossing sea (trouble sea in KJV), and stirring up the sea.
- A sea of glass, like crystal, and rising out the sea.
- Sea of glass mingled with fire, and a woman seated on many waters.
- The sea gave up the dead, and no more sea.
- Rivers and streams.

WHAT THE SEA SIGNIFIES

The sea is in a perpetual state of unrest and as such, it can signify:

- Great masses of people.
- Nations.
- Troubles of this world, political chaos, and disorders of the nations.
- Hostile and violent forces, and the perpetual, terror, sorrow, and unrest on the earth.
- When linked with the words roaring sea, signifies, fierce nations.

THE SEA CONTRASTED TO THE EARTH

The sea has roaring waves and is constantly moving, and as such, it signifies, constant change, and a state of commotion, disorder and anarchy, chaos, tumultuous troubles, and the destructive ways of mankind, and in some context, a society devoid of God, and totally trusting in mankind to save them and the planet. Unlike the sea, the earth is still, solid, and stable, and as such, signifies, an unchanging constant unwavering society, and in some contexts, a society devoid of God, and totally trusting in mankind to save them and the planet.

A ROARING SEA

The word, roaring, comes from the Hebrew word (yam) and means to roar as breaking waves in the noisy surf of the sea. It can refer to a large body of water, the Mediterranean ocean; a large river or an artificial basin of water locally in the west (it rarely refers to the south sea). In contrast to rivers and streams symbolising calm and peace, the sea is a symbol of

the secular population of the world and the entire world system, the wicked and nations that are aggressively against God, while the roaring sea refers to nations and mighty and cruel armies that have no mercy and are aggressively against God, against the Lord Jesus Christ and against the faithful who belong to him. Following are a few verses that speak of the roaring sea:

- **Psalms 46:1-3:** We (the faithful) will not fear though the earth gives way, though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea, ³though its waters roar and foam.

Here the sea is a symbol of disasters happening on land and earth on a global scale.

- **Isaiah 17:12-13:** The thunder of many peoples; they thunder like the thundering of the sea! Ah, the roar of nations; they roar like the roaring of mighty waters! ¹³The nations roar like the roaring of many waters, but he will rebuke them, and they will flee.

Here the roar of the sea is a symbol of nations who invade and plunder the people of Israel, and by extension the people of God and the Lord Jesus Christ.

- **Jeremiah 50:42:** They lay hold of bow and spear; they are cruel and have no mercy. The sound of them is like the roaring of the sea; they ride on horses, arrayed as a man for battle.

Here the roaring sea is a symbol of a powerful and cruel army that has no mercy. When the word roaring is added to the word sea it intensifies the aggression and hatred, and the power and violence. Based on these verses the roaring sea can be seen as a symbol of:

1. Mighty, powerful, and hostile armies.
2. Nations that are aggressively against God, against Christ and against those who belong to his Kingdom.
3. Secular populations of the world hostile toward God and his people.
4. The corruptions of the global world system.
5. Those who are powerful and extremely deceptive and wicked.

A CALM SEA

A calm sea signifies:

- The masses of humanity being in a state of global calm and peace, free from the rule of ungodly earthly rulers, powers, or governments whose minds are driven by selfish ambition, worldliness, pride, power, and greed.
- A world that is void of all forms of troubles and commotions, violence, wars, hostile forces, and political confusion, conflicting passions, temptations, rebellions, terror, sorrow and rest, peace, and calm.
- The faithful church being under friendly rule of a godly heavenly ruler and government whose minds are toward promoting the cause of Christ and the spread of the Gospel.
- Freedom from conflicting internal mental and emotional passions, temptations, and troubles, and free from whatever can divide or interrupt the communion of the faithful with their Saviour and King.
- The New World where only rest, tranquillity and calm are found and where God's purity, holiness, justice, and peace prevails.

THE SEA TURNED INTO DRY LAND

- **Psalm 66:6:** He turned the sea into dry land; they passed through the river on foot. There did we rejoice in him.

Here the drying up of the sea saved God's people from their enemies.

RIGHTEOUSNESS LIKE THE WAVES OF THE SEA

- **Isaiah 48:17-18:** Thus says the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel: "I am the LORD your (Jacob and Israel) God, who teaches you to profit, who leads you in the way you should go. ¹⁸ Oh that you had paid attention to my commandments! Then your peace would have been like a river, and your righteousness like the waves of the sea.

The context of this chapter is upon the people of Israel, profaning God's name, not being in the truth, and being obstinate, stubborn, and rebellious, which means they are totally devoid of any form of righteousness. Isaiah, recognizing this total lack of righteousness, desires that Israel's righteousness would be like the waves of the sea. The waves of a sea completely cover a person, which means in this context, the waves carry the idea of washing the nation of Israel completely clean.

THE TOSSING SEA (TROUBLE SEA IN KJV)

- **Isaiah 57:20:** The wicked are like the tossing sea (troubled sea in KJV); for it cannot be quiet, and its waters toss up mire and dirt.

3

The seas and oceans occupy about three-fourths of the surface of the globe, and are in a perpetual state of unrest, which means in the context of this verse the sea symbolises:

- The masses of humanity being in a state of global turmoil and restlessness, and under the rule of an ungodly ruler, or government whose minds are driven by selfish ambition, worldliness, pride, power, and greed.
- A world full of violence, wars and hostile forces, political confusion and upheaval, rebellions, terror, sorrow and conflicting passions, temptations, and perpetual unrest.
- The faithful church being under oppressive and corrupt rule of an ungodly earthly ruler, power, or government whose minds are aggressively hostile toward Christ and his people.

During the early generations, many believed the sea was the home of gigantic terrible, fierce monsters, this may be one of the reasons the ten-horned beast of Revelation is pictured as rising-up out of the sea. The following verses show that the image of the sea is frequently used in Scripture to signify a troubled nation or people

- The LORD stills the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, the tumult of the peoples, (Psalm 65:7).
- The sea has come up on Babylon; she is covered with its tumultuous waves. (Jer. 51:42).
- If any of you lacks wisdom, let him ask in faith, with no doubting, for the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea that is driven and tossed by the wind. (James 1:6).

- The angel said to me, "The waters that you saw, where the prostitute is seated, are peoples and multitudes and nations and languages. (Rev. 17:15).

These verses show that the sea signifies the great, restless mass of the human population and of people who are swayed by those who are in great positions of power, authority, influence, and skilful oratory and to those who act on impulse, emotion, or passion. These are all likened to the sea with its forever moving waters and its larger and smaller waves.

STIRRING UP THE SEA

- **Daniel 7:2-3:** Daniel declared, "I saw in my vision by night, the four winds of heaven were stirring up the great sea. ³And four great beasts came up out of the sea.

Here the sea is a symbol of the populations of the world and the world system out of which four great nations rise from.

A SEA OF GLASS, LIKE CRYSTAL

- **Revelation 4:6:** and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal. And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind:

The fact the glass clear as crystal is likened to a sea, signifies that it covers a massive and vast area, and is enormously, wide, and deep, which implies a very large number of people standing around the throne of God. The fact is it pure and clear and appears to the eyes as a sea of glass like crystal, signifies the following two things:

- Those who are standing on it are fully washed in the blood of the Lamb, and are holy and pure, peaceful, and calm.
- The majesty of God's peaceful rule, in contrast to the many turbulent waters on which the great prostitute is seated. (Rev. 17:1).

Since the sea of glass like crystal is surrounded by, twenty-four elders with golden crowns, standing around the throne of God, and seven spirits of God and four living creatures, saying, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty (Rev. 4:2-8), the sea of glass like crystal, can also be taken to signify, peace and calm around God's throne, while the collective, combined, and cumulative works of God's dealings and judgement are being poured out on earth.

RISING UP OUT THE SEA

- **Revelation 13:1:** I saw a beast rising out of the sea, with ten horns and seven heads, with ten diadems on its horns and blasphemous names on its heads.

Rising-up out of the sea carries the idea of the beast rising-up out of the uproars, divisions, and ongoing turmoil of the world. The sea is a symbol of the populations of the world, and the world system out of which ten great nations rise that are aggressively against God, against the Lord Jesus Christ and against the faithful who belong to him.

SEA OF GLASS MINGLED WITH FIRE

- **Revelation 15:2:** And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire—and also those who had conquered the beast (the ten horned beast) and its image and the number of its name, standing beside (on in KJV) the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands.

This ungodly beast sits upon many waters (i.e., the populations of nations) and draws its strength from the vacillating and frivolous impulses of human passion, in contrast to this, is the calm and translucent sea of God's peace, righteousness, grace and love, now clear as crystal surrounding the throne of God.

The sea of glass mingled with fire: symbolises the following two things:

- Faithful people of God coming out of trials, temptations, suffering, and sorrow being in a place of peace, tranquillity, and calm in contrast to an earthly stormy sea with its waves forever tossing and turning, never being at rest.
- The ideal order of the universe, which has the throne of God and the Lamb that was slain as the centre of the universe and round-about the throne, the four living beings, signifying the fullness of all creation, and the twenty-four elders, who represent the faithful Church in the Old and the New Covenants as one complete heavenly structure.

In the context of the seven seals, trumpets, and vials, the sea of glass mingled with fire signifies those who have overcome:

- The two-horned beast like a lamb that spoke like a dragon. (Rev. 13:11).
- The false prophet and the three unclean spirits like frogs (i.e., ungodly doctrines and teachings). (Rev. 16:13).
- The the great prostitute woman arrayed in purple and scarlet, adorned with gold jewels and pearls, full of abominations (Rev. 17:4).
- The beast with seven heads and ten horns that carries her (Rev. 17:7).
- The false prophet who by signs deceived those who gave themselves over to the worldly beast system. (Rev. 19:20).
- The dragon, that ancient serpent, who is the devil and Satan. (Rev. 20:2).

In chapter four the sea of glass was clear as crystal (Rev. 4:6), signifying pure worship and the divine majesty, whereas now a certain portion of it is a fiery red colour like fire, signifying, God's fierce judgment, wrath, and punishment upon his enemies.

A WOMAN SEATED ON MANY WATERS

- **Revelation 17:1:** Then one of the seven angels who had the seven bowls came and said to me, "Come, I will show you the judgment of the great prostitute who is seated on many waters,

The purple-clad prostitute signifies, false religion world-wide, while the many waters signify, the populations of many nations, and enthroned upon many waters, signifies the Vatican with its Popes, bishops and clergy, and all the heads of false religion aligned with them, ruling over the populations of the world.

THE SEA GAVE UP THE DEAD

- **Revelation 20:13:** And the sea gave up the dead which were in it; and death and hell delivered up the dead which were in them: and they were judged every man according to their works.

Collectively, the sea, the dead, death, and hell (i.e., the grave), embrace everyone who has died, no matter how they have died (i.e., natural death, floods, sickness, war, fire or taken by wild beasts). Taking the sea on its own, the words, "the sea gave up the dead," embraces:

- All who drowned in floods of the sea, such as Pharaoh and his great host were, and who drowned in Tsunamis etc.
- All who have been devoured by fish, and drowned by shipwrecks, naval battles, and who have died at sea.

Those being raise from the sea are most likely mentioned, because the number raised from the sea in the final resurrection of the dead will be so vast.

NOTE: the fact we are told, the sea, gave up the dead to be judged at the great white throne judgment (Rev. 20:13), suggests that the sea is still around until the end of the millennial age, should this be so, it is very possible the sea will be fresh water during the millennial age.

NO MORE SEA

- **Revelation 21:1:** And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.

After God Himself descends to earth and the events to take place at the Great White Throne judgment have taken place, John sees the following three things:

1. The first heaven and the first earth had passed away.
2. A new heaven and a new earth replaced the first heaven and earth.
3. The sea had completely disappeared.

Following are the four most common interpretations concerning the new heavens and earth, and there being no more sea:

1. The existing earth and existing heavens, will be completely-annihilated, and replaced with a completely new earth and new heavens.
2. The absence of the sea, signifies a total absence of, powerful, authoritative corrupt leaders (secular and religious), and the absence of war, terror, sorrow, violence, and hostile forces, rebellion, troubles, commotions and conflicting passions and temptations.
3. The sea will be changed, at this present time, the sea occupies about three-fourths of the surface of the globe, which naturally prevents the world from being occupied by a much larger population, and throughout the life of the earth, it has undergone major revolutions that have brought about changes in mountains, plains, lakes, and seas. For these reasons, some take the words, "the sea is no more," to mean it will be changed, so that the whole of the earth will be inhabited by people, and the sea will be replaced by many fresh water rivers and brooks flowing throughout the globe supplying fresh water to all living things such as plants, crops, and trees etc., and drinking water for people, animals, birds, and fish etc.

Ezekiel wrote:

- **Ezekiel: 47:8:** the LORD God: said to me, “This water flows toward the eastern region and goes down into the Arabah, and enters the sea; when the water flows into the sea, the water will become fresh (shall be healed in the KJV).

The picture here is of a trickle of fresh water flowing from the temple and sanctuary of God until it becomes a great river of water healing everything it touches, wherever its waters flow, and as the river enters sea, it turns its salt water to fresh water.

4. The earth in these verses, symbolise worldly populations, leaders and governments, and the heavens symbolise followers of false, religions, and religious leaders that have great power, authority, influence, and followings. The idea here is that all corrupt worldly nations, leaders, and governments, and followers of false religions, and false religious, organisations and churches, will be replaced with godly populations and godly leaders, nations, and governments.

RIVERS AND STREAMS

Rivers and streams: in contrast to the roaring seas, is rivers and streams of water which are a symbol of God’s presence, help, Spirit, and joy bringing spiritual life to the heart and mind of the faithful and to God’s protection and abundant blessing, prosperity, salvation, and eternal life flowing to all who will receive it. In the following verse the state of Jerusalem, the city of God is represented by a calm and gently-flowing river that brings eternal life, security, and peace to all who swim in it.

For further information concerning rivers and streams, see the title:

7

- Rivers and Streams.

In Symbolisms. (ON WEBSITE MENU).

As the founder of Bible House of Grace, I would like to thank the many Christian scholars, commentators and theologians who have gone before me, and the many today, who have freely made available their works to enhance the knowledge of the Bible to all people worldwide. It is only with the help of these faithful writers that much of Bible House of Grace exists as it does today.

Bible House of Grace