

The East Wind

When the east wind is mentioned in the Bible, it will bring punishment or judgement from God.

The east wind figures prominently in the dream that Joseph interpreted for pharaoh. The east wind brought the seven years of famine.

Genesis 41

The east wind takes people to hell.

Job 27:19-23

The rich man shall lie down, but he shall not be gathered: he openeth his eyes, and he is not.

Terrors take hold on him as waters, a tempest stealeth him away in the night. **The east wind carrieth him away, and he departeth: and as a storm hurleth him out of his place.** For God shall cast upon him, and not spare: he would fain flee out of his hand. Men shall clap their hands at him, and shall hiss him out of his place.

The east wind brought the plague of locusts on the Egyptians when God was using Moses to lead Israel out of slavery.

Exodus 10:3-4, 12-14

And Moses and Aaron came in unto Pharaoh, and said unto him, Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, **How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me? let my people go, that they may serve me. Else, if thou refuse to let my people go, behold, to morrow will I bring the locusts into thy coast:** ¹²And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, that they may come up upon the land of Egypt, and eat every herb of the land, even all that the hail hath left. And Moses stretched forth his rod over the land of Egypt, and **the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day, and all that night; and when it was morning, the east wind brought the locusts.** And the locusts went up over all the land of Egypt, and rested in all the coasts of Egypt: **very**

grievous were they; before them there were no such locusts as they, neither after them shall be such.

It is no wonder that the east wind is so powerful. The next verse shows that the east wind is the wind of the Lord. (Many times in the Bible, the definition of something is found by repeating a verse and changing a word or phrase in it, showing that the words or phrases are interchangeable.)

Hosea 13:15

Though he be fruitful among his brethren, **an east wind shall come, the wind of the LORD shall come** up from the wilderness, and his spring shall become dry, and his fountain shall be dried up: he shall spoil the treasure of all pleasant vessels.

Here are other examples of the east wind blowing in punishment. It can break ships.

Psalm 48:6-7

Fear took hold upon them there, and pain, as of a woman in travail. **Thou breakest the ships of Tarshish with an east wind.**

Jonah did not want to do what God told him to do.

Jonah 3:10—Jonah 4:1-2

And God saw their works, that they turned from their evil way; and God repented of the evil, that he had said that he would do unto them; and he did it not.

¹But it displeased Jonah exceedingly, and he was very angry. And he prayed unto the LORD, and said, I pray thee, O LORD, was not this my saying, when I was yet in my country? Therefore I fled before unto Tarshish: for I knew that thou art a gracious God, and merciful, slow to anger, and of great kindness, and repentest thee of the evil.

God used the east wind to punish Jonah.

Jonah 4:8

And it came to pass, when the sun did arise, that God prepared a vehement east wind; and the sun beat upon the head of Jonah, that he fainted, and wished in himself to die, and said, **It is better for me to die than to live.**

God told Jeremiah that he would punish Judah for refusing to obey God. He was going to scatter them (with an east wind) in front of their enemy.

Jeremiah 18:11-13, 15-18

Now therefore go to, speak to the men of Judah, and to the inhabitants of Jerusalem, saying, Thus saith the LORD; Behold, I frame evil against you, and devise a device against you: return ye now every one from his evil way, and make your ways and your doings good. And they said, There is no hope: but we will walk after our own devices, and we will every one do the imagination of his evil heart. Therefore thus saith the LORD; Ask ye now among the heathen, who hath heard such

things: the virgin of Israel hath done a very horrible thing.

¹⁵Because my people hath forgotten me, they have burned incense to vanity, and they have caused them to stumble in their ways from the ancient paths, to walk in paths, in a way not cast up; To make their land desolate, and a perpetual hissing; every one that passeth thereby shall be astonished, and wag his head. **I will scatter them as with an east wind before the enemy; I will shew them the back, and not the face, in the day of their calamity.**

While the east wind is most often responsible for punishment and judgement, the east wind was also responsible for one of the greatest miracles that God has ever performed for Israel—the parting of the Red Sea.

Exodus 14:19-21

And the angel of God, which went before the camp of Israel, removed and went behind them; and the pillar of the cloud went from before their

face, and stood behind them: And it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel; and it was a cloud and darkness to them, but it gave light by night to these: so that the one came not near the other all the night. **And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.**

**Gulf Coast Dispensational Church
Derek and Karen Conklin
513-520-6077
RightlyDividingTheWord.org**