

INDICATORS OF TYPOLOGY WITHIN THE
OLD TESTAMENT: THE EXODUS MOTIF

Researcher: **Friedbert Ninow**
Adviser: Richard M. Davidson, Th.D.

This dissertation seeks to ascertain whether there are indicators of Exodus typology within the OT, based on R. M. Davidson's definition of biblical typology. Various elements that comprise biblical typology such as the historical aspect, divine design, prophetic aspect, *Steigerung* (intensification), and eschatology are traced in a number of texts that deal with the Exodus motif. This examination seems to be crucial for establishing the exegetical and hermeneutical basis for the use of Exodus typology by the NT writers.

Chapter 1 surveys the perception and use of typology throughout the centuries up to the present. The traditional approach considers persons, events or actions, and institutions as types divinely ordained or designed to foreshadow aspects of Christ and his ministry. After the historical-critical repudiation, a new interest in typology arose. While most scholars tend to favor either the "pattern-of-God's-acts" approach or the "historical hermeneutic" approach, R. M. Davidson points out the need for a controlled hermeneutic, based on indicators of typology already found within the OT.

Chapter 2 establishes the basic elements of a biblical typology suggested by Davidson's definition. Various passages in the Pentateuch that are directly linked to or descriptive of the Exodus are discussed. Particular emphasis is given to eschatological context.

Chapter 3 traces elements of biblical typology throughout the prophetic writings that deal with the Exodus motif. While passages of the Pentateuch stand in direct connection with the historical event of the Exodus, the prophetic writings function as links that connect past and future redemption.

The dissertation concludes that there is in relation to the Exodus a type/antitype relation that connects the OT with the NT. This type/antitype relation is based on a historical structure. It includes a divine design and the element of *Steigerung*. The announcement of the antitype is always a prophecy (and thereby hermeneutically controlled). The antitype has but one fulfillment, which it finds in the *eschaton*, i.e., in Christ or in the realities of the new covenant related to and brought about by Christ.