

PREPARATIONS FOR ENTERING YOUR DESTINY / PROMISE LAND

I. As we study Israel's travel through their Wilderness Experience we will Discover vital lessons that we can apply to our walk with God, as The Holy Spirit prepares us for entering our destiny / promise land:

A. We will also find that many meanings of / definitions of the names of some Of the locations Israel travelled thru in the wilderness:

1. reveal a specific lesson that had to be learned in their spiritual development

B. 1 Cor 10:1-6

10 Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,

2 all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,

3 all ate the same spiritual food,

4 and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ.

5 But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness.

6 Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted.

1. This passage of scripture is speaking of Israel's wilderness journey:

2. vs 6 tells us that Israel's wilderness journey was recorded in scripture to teach us personally & corporately as a local church body:

a. to help prepare us in our walk with God & to help prepare us for our destiny / promise land

(1) "Now these things become our examples"

II. Our lessons begins with Israel's deliverance out of Egypt:

Ex 13:17 - 19

17 Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, "Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt."

18 So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.

19 And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had placed the children of Israel under solemn oath, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here with you."

A. vs 17 informs us that God did not take Israel directly into what He had promised them:

- 1. Israel did not walk directly into the VISION God had given them of the Promise land:**
- 2. Because, they were not yet ready to**
 - a. Pay the Price**
 - b. Make the necessary sacrifices**
 - c. Fight the battles in the natural & also the spiritual warfare required of them to receive the Promises of God**
 - (1) Israel had the Vision / the Promise / The Prophetic Word, but not The manifestation of what God had spoke**
 - (a) vs 17 “For God said, Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt”**

B. The principles apply to us, when we are first Born Again:

- 1. We receive Promises, Vision & Prophetic Word from the Spirit of God**
 - a. The Lord begins to speak to us about our Promise Land / Destiny**
 - b. But: we are in the same place Israel was, in regards to maturity in our walk with God:**
 - (1) Not yet ready to pay the price, make the necessary sacrifices & face The spiritual warfare that will attempt to resist us in receiving what The Lord has in store for us**
- 2. So God does with us like He did Israel:**
 - a. Ex 13:18 So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea.**

C. Immediately we discover one of the lessons we must learn, as Israel began Their journey into the wilderness:

- 1. Ex 13:18 the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.**
 - a. Note: “ORDELY RANKS”**
 - b. The King James Versions says: “Israel went up harnessed out of the land Of Egypt”**
 - (1) In other words....no one was doing their own thing**
 - (2) No one was going where they wanted to go & dong what they wanted to do**
 - (3) They came up out of Egypt: harnessed, in orderly ranks:**
 - (a) they were walking in unity**

(b) & they were submitted to spiritual authority

© as we continue to study Israel's journey thru the wilderness... we will discover that this would be a lesson that they struggled with

(d) and was the root reason why an entire generation never entered their promise land / destiny....instead they died in the wilderness

2. The Spirit of God immediately applies this spiritual lesson to our lives,

When we are first saved:

a. we need to go from being our own lord: and allowing Jesus Christ not only to be our Savior, but also Lord of every area of our life:

b. we have to go from being rebellious to learning biblical submission

c. we have to go from being a law unto our self ..to submitting to both natural & spiritual authority God sets in our life

(1) Be it the Five Fold Ministry Gift in the local church

(a) Five Fold Ministry Gifts bring Divine order into the church & our life

(1) 1 Cor 11:34 “and the rest I will set in order when I come. “

(2) Submission to authority also includes:

(a) the boss at work

(b) the laws of the land

3. Orderly: (continued) 1 Cor 14:40 “Let all things be done decently and in order

D. Ex 13:18 states that that the children of Israel went up out of Egypt in Orderly ranks:

1. ORDERLY.....no confusion

a. one of the first things God does when He delivers us out from Egypt / which is a type & shadow of the world is:

(1) The Spirit of God removes confusion & brings ORDER into our life:

(a) 1 Cor 14:33 For God is not the author of confusion but of peace, as in all the churches of the saints.

b. James 3:16 tells us how confusion can stay in the life of a person....

Including a Believer:

(1) “For where envy and self-seeking exist, confusion and every evil thing are there.”

(a) When Israel first came out of Egypt they were harnessed / orderly :

(1) Not full of envy & self seeking

- E. Next we seen that, as Israel came out of Egypt they were not only orderly
But Ex 13:18 tells us they were also in “ORDERLY RANKS”**
- 1. It does not matter if it is:**
 - a. marriage, on the job, or in the church, ministry, etc.**
 - b. if we do not learn to “keep rank”....**
 - (1) we will do like Israel & perish in the wilderness:**
 - 2. Knowing how to “Keep Rank” makes us effectives warriors in the spirit realm:**
 - a. The key to the Roman Centurion words carrying authority is the fact
That he was a man under authority...thus releasing authority into his
life**
 - (1) Matt 8:9 For I also am a man under authority, having soldiers under
me. And I say to this one, 'Go,' and he goes; and to another, 'Come,'
and he comes; and to my servant, 'Do this,' and he does it."**
 - 3. We cannot effectively exercise spiritual authority when we are
out of rank:**
 - a. not under authority**
 - b. or attempting to function where we have not been graced, gifted &
anointed**
 - c. Israel would have perished if it would have attempted to come out from
Under the covering of the cloud & pillar of fire**
 - (1) and the same is true for every believer, home, ministry & local church**
 - 4. Keeping rank means that you understand boundaries**
 - a. Keeping rank means you know & understand your strengths...as well as
Your limitations**
 - b. Keeping rank means you understand the blessing of financial giving:**
 - (1) Rom 13:7 Render...honor to whom honor (is due)**
 - (a) As God deals with Israel about their tithes & offerings he says this
to them:**
 - (1) Mal 1:6 If then I am the Father, Where is My honor?**
 - (a) To not honor God with our tithes and offerings means that we are
telling the Lord, that we will be our own provider and this area
of our life (finances) does not need His covering)**
 - 3. David's army was a tremendous example of understanding how to Keep
Rank:**
 - a. 1 Chron 12:33 Of Zebulun, such as went forth to battle, expert in war,
with all instruments of war, fifty thousand, which could keep rank: they
were not of double heart.**
 - b. 1 Chron 12:38 All these men of war, that could keep rank, came with a**

perfect heart to Hebron, to make David king over all Israel: and all the rest also of Israel were of one heart to make David king.

- (1) It was not until David was leading a people who could “KEEP RANK”...that he was then enabled to walk into his destiny as King Over all of Israel
 - (a) The same is true for every Pastor leading their congregation
 - (b) Same is true of every believer in their walk with God in their home, As well as their ministry

III. Ex 13:20-22

20 So they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham at the edge of the wilderness.

21 And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night.

22 He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.

A. The Lord now begins to further reveal Himself to Israel thru a Pillar Of a cloud & a Pillar of fire

1. The main purpose of the pillar of cloud & fire was to provide Israel COVERING & DIRECTION:

B. This COVERING involved more than:

1. the Cloud providing Israel shade from the hot desert sun
2. and the Pillar of fire providing heat in the night
3. There was also a spiritual principle involved in this cloud & pillar of fire need to apply to our lives today: SPIRITUAL COVERING

C. The Principle of remaining under a SPIRITUAL COVERING

1. Every Believer needs to keep their life under the cloud & fire of a spiritual covering
2. Every Five Fold Ministry Gift needs to keep their life & ministry Under the cloud of a spiritual covering
3. Every Local Church needs to keep itself under the cloud of a spiritual Covering:
 - a. Note: If Israel did not have the covering of the cloud & pillar of fire:
 - (1) they would have not direction for entering into the promises of God & would be out from under Divine protection
 - (a) Ex 13:21 the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way,

4. This clouds start with:

- a. Keeping our lives under the covering of the Blood of Jesus**
- b. Surrendering to the Leading of the Holy Spirit**
- c. To submitting to the natural & spiritual authority God has set in our life:**
 - (1) from the church & it's leadership**
 - (2) to our homes being in biblical order of covering:**
 - (a) involving husband & wife**
 - (b) parents with children**
 - (3) to our nation & laws of the land**
 - (a) no covering means no direction from God**
 - (b) and roaming endlessly n a wilderness experience**
 - (3) But, being under cover means:**
 - (a) Direction comes into our life**
 - (b) Protection comes into our life**
 - (c) Blessings & provisions will manifest in our life**
 - (a) As long as Israel stayed under the spiritual covering of the cloud**
And pillar of fire:
 - (1) God faithfully provided, protected, & directed**
 - (2) same is true of our lives, walk with God, ministry, career, & homes**

IV. We see more evidence of this spiritual principle in:

Num 9:15-23

15 Now on the day that the tabernacle was raised up, the cloud covered the tabernacle, the tent of the Testimony; from evening until morning it was above the tabernacle like the appearance of fire.

16 So it was always: the cloud covered it by day, and the appearance of fire by night.

17 Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, after that the children of Israel would journey; and in the place where the cloud settled, there the children of Israel would pitch their tents.

18 At the command of the Lord the children of Israel would journey, and at the command of the Lord they would camp; as long as the cloud stayed above the tabernacle they remained encamped.

19 Even when the cloud continued long, many days above the tabernacle, the children of Israel kept the charge of the Lord and did not journey.

20 So it was, when the cloud was above the tabernacle a few days: according to the command of the Lord they would remain encamped, and according to the command of the Lord they would journey.

21 So it was, when the cloud remained only from evening until morning: when the cloud was taken up in the morning, then they would journey; whether by day or by night, whenever the cloud was taken up, they would journey.

22 Whether it was two days, a month, or a year that the cloud remained above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would remain encamped and not journey; but when it was taken up, they would journey.

23 At the command of the Lord they remained encamped, and at the command of the Lord they journeyed; they kept the charge of the Lord, at the command of the Lord by the hand of Moses.

A. Israel learned to move, only when God was moving:

1. If God was staying still....Israel stayed still:

a. Ps 46:10 Be still, and know that I am God;

(1) There are some spiritual lessons that will only be learned, when we are being still in the presence of God

2. note: sometimes the cloud stayed still for a day & then moved the next vs 22 tells us that there were times when the cloud did not move for two days, a month, or even a year at a time

a. this is where so many believers miss God

b. because nothing is happening.....they move without God's leading

(1) they may make this mistake in financial decisions

(2) their career

(3) from their ministry to their marriage

(4) or even in the church they attend

(1) they fail to learn the lessons of:

(a) surrender

(b) obedience

© & faithfulness

B. We have to learn to:

1. keep on doing what God spoke to us...until He speaks again

a. even if He does not move

b. even if I do not receive a new prophetic word

c. even if it is not exciting

d. just keep on...keeping on

e. If the cloud has not moved

- f. If the brook has not dried up**
- g. If the ravens have not quit coming**
- h. If there is still meal in the barrel**
 - (1) keep our life under Cover!!!!!!!**
 - (2) We are not called to make a way, Rather we are to follow
The Way Maker: Jesus**
 - (3) We are called to follow the leading of the various
coverings God has placed in our life**