

Wednesday Night Worship & Study
Exodus Bible Study
January 13th, 2021

Two Weeks Ago:

- Plague of firstborn death on Egyptians
- Setting apart (consecrating) of firstborn of Israel to God

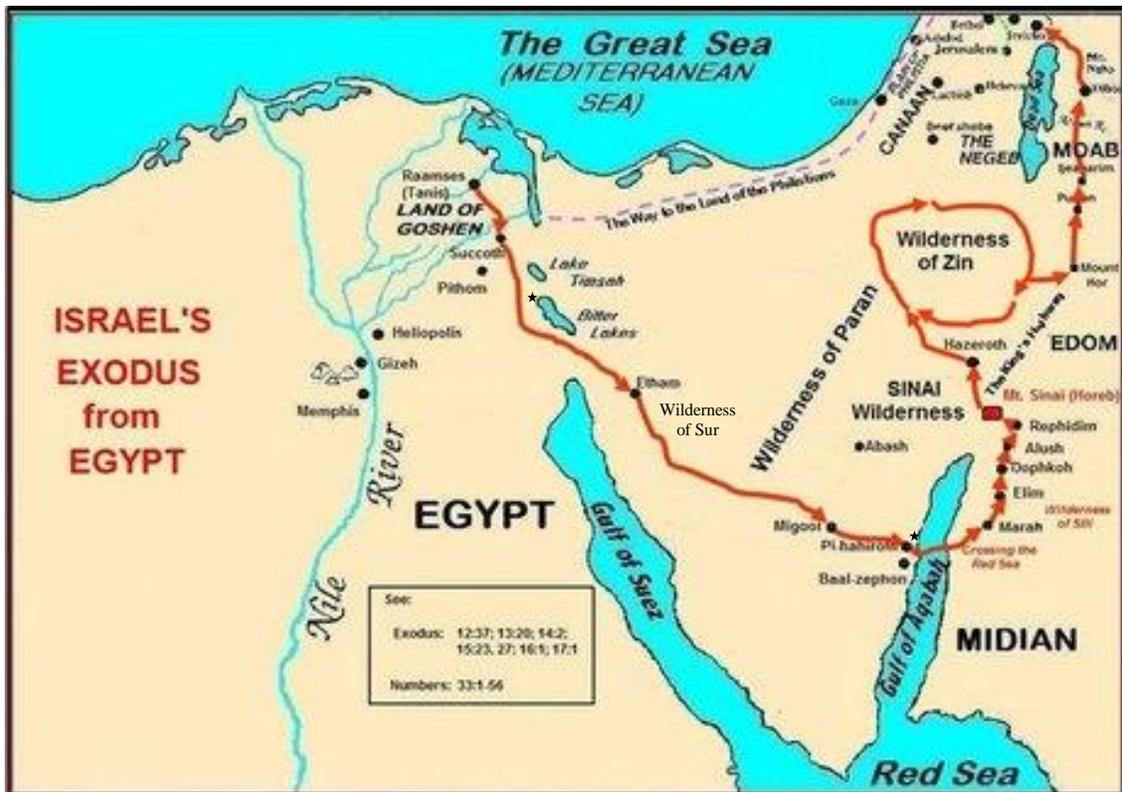
Tonight - *leaving Egypt and crossing the Red Sea*

“3 Acts of Exodus:

- Ex 1-13:16 – Remembering the promise and freeing (redeeming, saving) Israel from Egyptian slavery through wonders and signs:
- Ex 13:17 - Ex 18 – 3 months on the road to Mt. Sinai (Horeb)
- Ex 19 - 40 – 11 months at Mt. Sinai where God was creating His new nation with new laws and new way of life.

Exodus 13:17 – 15:21

- vs 13:17-22 By way of the wilderness



- They didn't go the direct route (East then NE) to Canaan from Egypt is along the sea (land of the Philistines); dotted with Egyptian forts and then the Philistines.
- "Around by the way of the wilderness of the Red (or reed, rush plant) Sea", unknown route and not sure location.
- *Was God really concerned that the people might "change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt"?*
- v21 ...**the LORD** (*Jehovah, Yahweh*) 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.
 - Ex 14:19 And the **Angel of God** (*messenger of Elohim*), who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the *pillar of cloud* went from before them and stood behind them.
 - Ex 14:24²⁴ Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the **LORD** looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the *pillar of fire and cloud*...
 - Ex 23²⁰ "Behold, I send an **Angel** before you to keep you in the way and to bring you into the place which I have prepared. ²¹ Beware of Him and obey His voice; do not provoke Him, for He will not pardon your transgressions; for My name *is* in Him. ²² But if you indeed obey His voice and do all that I speak, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries. ²³ For **My Angel** will go before you and bring you in to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites and the Hivites and the Jebusites; and I will cut them off (*destroy/annihilate*).
- Bones of Joseph – Joseph foresaw the exodus and made them promise to take him back.
- vs 14:1-30 Red Sea crossing (OR God judging Egypt)
 - vs 1-5 – God telling Moses His final 'set up' of Pharaoh that the Egyptians will know He is LORD. 'Set up' meaning:
 - Placement of Israel such they were trapped by water and wilderness
 - Hardening of Pharaoh, turning the Egyptians hearts against Israel

- I will gain honor that the Egyptians may know that I am the LORD.
 - v5 – why have *WE* done this (let Israel go)? (Pharaoh and servants)
 - Exodus 9 ¹⁴ for at this time I will send all My plagues to your very heart, and on your servants and on your people, that you may know that *there is none like Me in all the earth.* ¹⁵ Now if I had stretched out My hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, then you would have been cut off (*destroyed, annihilated*) from the earth. ¹⁶ But indeed for this purpose I have raised you up, that I may show My power *in* you, and that My name may be declared in all the earth.
- vs 10-12 – Israel was ‘very afraid’, seems reasonable from a human perspective but still a lack of faith in light of the past several weeks; they voice a desire to be back in bondage to Egypt.
 - *What were the Israelites implying about God’ character when they accused Him of leading them into the wilderness to destroy them?*
 - *Ever feel the pull or even desire to fall back into the ‘old life’?*
 - vs 13-15 – Do not be afraid! Salvation is of the LORD. The LORD will fight for you.
 - *What does that look like today?*
Romans 8 ³¹ What then shall we say to these things? If *God is* for us, who *can be* against us? ³² He who did not spare His own Son, but delivered Him up for us all, how shall He not with Him also freely give us all things?
 - “Go forward (into the sea)!“
 - vs 19-20 – God in a pillar of cloud moved behind Israel and gave them light while separating them from the Egyptians who remained in the dark (night).

- v22 – Israel’s faith was on display when they walked between walls of water! (yet another miracle!)
 - 1 Corinthians 10:1-2 by passing under the cloud and through the sea, Israel was baptized into Moses – showing their oneness with Moses as their leader
 - 1 Corinthians 10¹² If you think you are standing strong, be careful not to fall (*sin*).¹³ The temptations in your life are no different from what others experience. And God is faithful. He will not allow the temptation to be more than you can stand. When you are tempted, He will show you a way out so that you can endure. (NLT)
 - *When we stand strong (resist sin, not be tempted to action), God provides a way through to endure.*

- vs 24-25 – God frustrated the Egyptians (Psalm 77:16-20) *Can or does God frustrate those who oppose Him and His children today?*

- v31 – Israel saw the LORD’s great work, feared Him, and believed Him and Moses (*at least in that given moment!*). *When are you most likely to marvel at God’s work, fear (revere) Him and believe Him to be who He says He is?*

- vs 14:31 – 15:21 Songs of Moses and Miriam
 - Summary: the LORD reigns forever and ever.
 - Miriam the prophetess (spokeswoman for God):
 - Numbers 12:2 – self proclaimed prophet (not sure if she spoke accurately as God judged her immediately afterwards and she became leprous)
 - Micah 6:4 For I (God) brought you up from the land of Egypt, I redeemed you from the house of bondage; And I sent before you Moses, Aaron, and Miriam.
 - Others: Deborah in Judges 4; Huldah in 2 Kings 22; Anna in Luke 2; Philip’s four daughters in Acts 21

APPLICATION (*take aways!*)

- Do not forget what the LORD has done. (Deut 8:11; Ps 103:2)
 - They had seen amazing (and multiple) miracles and it all happened as God said it would.
 - But at the first setback, they forgot all the miracles and had their eyes focused on their circumstances.
 - This is human nature but if the LORD has been faithful in the past, we can be confident that He will be faithful in the future.

- Do not fear what men may do to you.
 - Pharaoh was the most powerful man of the most powerful nation on earth. Neither was a match for God.
 - We tend to focus on what we can see and understand.
 - But God calls us to walk by faith, not by sight, and to rely upon His unlimited power and faithfulness.
 - Ps 56:11; Hebrews 13:5-6 The Lord is my helper, in Him I have put my trust - what can man do to me?
 - 1 Peter 1:6-10 ⁶In this you greatly rejoice, though now for a little while, if need be, you have been grieved by various trials, ⁷that the genuineness of your faith, *being* much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ, ⁸whom having not seen you love. Though now you do not see *Him*, yet believing, you rejoice with joy inexpressible and full of glory, ⁹receiving the end of your faith—the salvation of *your* souls.

- If we harden our heart, we will become blind to the truth.
 - Have you knowingly ever hardened your heart toward God?
 - It is human nature to place our faith in the evidence of our senses and experiences ...but they are not reliable discerners of the truth of God.
 - Faith in His Word and His holy character is required to discern God's truth.

Before Next Class (January 20th)

Re-read Exodus 1-15:21 and see how the story unfolds now! (overachiever)

Read Exodus chapters 15:22 - 16:35.

Read Numbers 33 on more details Israel's journey from Egypt.

Questions from last week (*Let Scripture interpret Scripture!*)

Q1 Why did the mixed multitude go with the Israelites?

A1 Other Semitic people, other races and perhaps some native Egyptians accompanied the departing nation. They preferred to be identified with the victorious nation and Jehovah God. Later, some of these became the troublemakers with whom Moses had to deal (Numbers 11:4). MacArthur Study Bible Semitic people refers to the offspring of Noah's son Shem. From Shem came Abraham, Ishmael (and his Arabic descendants), Issac, Judah, David and Christ.

Q2 In reference to 1 Corinthians 5 on 'leaven and the lump', how as a church do we "purge out" the leaven (sin) of the church? What does it look like? When is church discipline appropriate?

A2 We all sin; and all too regularly. Believers are to rightly judge one another for the good of the sinner and the body (1 Corinthians 5:9-13); not in a condemning and self-righteous way (Matthew 7:1-7) or in regards to Christian liberties (Romans 14:4). Believers *are able* to judge sin and disagreements with the body (1 Corinthians 6:11). The focus of church discipline is to address unrepentant sin with the purpose of restoring (*to mend as in setting a broken bone, Galatians 6:1*) an unrepentant sinner back into a right relationship with God. It is also required to protect the body of believers, as a little leaven leavens the whole lump (1 Cor 5:6-8). It is never for justice or revenge. Galatians 6:1-5 is clear that the believer who is to approach the sinning brother or sister must do so with the right God honoring heart!

The process that Christ Himself gave us to deal with sin in the body is found in Matthew 18:15-18 and confirmed in 1 Corinthians 5 and 6, 1 Timothy 5:17-22 (for Elders), Titus 3:10, and Deuteronomy 19:5. While every situation is unique, all can be lovingly and responsibly handled in the following steps initiated by the individual who was sinned against:

1. Reprove (lovingly rebuke) brother (or sister!) privately (Matt 18:15; Luke 17:3; Gal 6:1-2). If he repents, you have forgiven and served your brother and he is restored! If he refuses to repent then you move to the next step.
2. Reprove brother again with one or two witnesses (Matt 18:16; Deut 19:15). If he repents, you have served your brother and he is restored. If he refuses to repent then you move to the next step.
3. Reprove brother before the church (members; Matt 18:17; 1 Tim 5:20 if an elder is in unrepentant sin). It is the Elders who oversee its communication to the church. If he repents, you have served your brother and he is restored. If not, then put the unrepentant brother out of the fellowship of the church and remove the bad influence from the body (Matt 18:17; 1 Cor 5:5).

Step 1 occurs on a daily basis among believers just in the normal course of loving fellowship! It is the responsibility of each and every believer to loving bear with and to watch over one another. When we're in sin we do not see clearly and are in desperate need of those around us and love us to help us!