

DESPIISING THE PLEASANT LAND

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**“Then they despised the Pleasant land:
They did not believe his promise.”**

◇ Psalm 106:24 NIV

“Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be Unaware that all of our fathers were under the Cloud, all passed through the sea, all were Baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all Drank the same spiritual drink. For they Drank of that spiritual Rock that followed Them, and that Rock was Christ. But with Most of them God was not well pleased, for Their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Now these things became our examples, to the Intent that we should not lust after evil things as They also lusted. And do not become idolaters as Were some of them ... nor let us commit sexual Immorality as some of them did ... nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted ... nor complain as some of them also complained ... now all these Things happened to them as examples, and they were Written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the

Ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.” ◇ 2 Cor. 10:1-12

As I was reading in the Psalms this morning the Lord gave me this teaching which applies to the Church and our world today—it is an Eye of the Eagle teaching which means that the Holy Spirit needs to explain it to you in spiritual terms through His own language. And if you will read it over a few times and meditate on it I believe the Holy Spirit will open your own understanding to how critical this message is for the Church today and for your own life if you are part of the Church.

If you have heard any of our messages or read any of our books over the years then you know that we only speak and write what we feel is on the heart of God—His revelation. This teaching today also demonstrates one of the two greatest misconceptions people have in the Church today that I’ve dealt with in various sermon messages. The idea that because we are under the New Testament which as the writer of Hebrews tells us is “based on better promises” than the Old we somehow reach the erroneous conclusion that God has changed or that mankind has changed. No! God never changes—that’s how we can trust Him and know that His promises never fail. But man never changes either and the sin nature of man is to be sinful and idolatrous. Israel proved that in the Bible and the Church is proving it today.

Yet the Cloud is still moving; He is continuing to try and take the Church forward to possess the Promised Land or as our key text for this teaching refers to it—“the Pleasant Land.” But as you will learn in this teaching, if you resist the Spirit of God—and the Church as a whole is resisting Him today by pursuing “Your best life now” and the *perverted* prosperity gospel (like every perversion that the enemy brings out there is a genuine prosperity gospel) instead of where the Cloud is wanting to take the Church today. As a result, we are paying the price just like Israel did in her day when they rejected God’s promise and command to “take the Promised Land” and “destroy all the wicked inhabitants” of the land of Canaan.

This teaching is particularly applicable to America as you will see later and the fact that the Church has not followed the Cloud by entering into spiritual warfare to possess the Pleasant Land but instead has followed the same pattern as Israel highlighted in Psalm 106—“they mixed with the Gentiles (the unsaved, non covenant people) and learned their ways; they served their idols (money, fame, sex, materialism, etc.), which became a snare to them. They even sacrificed their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan (America); and the land was polluted with blood. Thus they became unclean (unholy) by their acts, and played the whore in their deeds.” (Ps. 106:35-39

As I've written and said probably thousands of times: “the Word of God is so awesome; it is indeed living and if we will just partake of it every day like the pattern God gave Israel in the desert of *daily fresh bread* and the pattern of the same He gave in the symbolism of the Tabernacle then our spirits will continue to grow, live and be healthy. I've shared many times, especially in the T.V. interview Eve and I gave a couple of years ago because they wanted to talk about Heaven, my first trip to Heaven about 35 years ago I was surprised as an angel was giving me a preview tour of my mansion there to find sitting on a gold coffee table (it was like the streets of gold; a *transparent* gold that looks like glass because you can see right through it but it's really gold) in my sunken living room a gold Bible!

The great revelator of his day, the Apostle Paul, used a phrase that most Christians don't understand when he wrote: “but we have the mind of Christ.” (1 Cor. 2:16). As I've stated in a few preaching messages when I've quoted this verse of Scripture: “Then why don't you have the mind of Christ? Why don't *you* have it?” Now in Heaven when you think a thought you will *have* the Mind of Christ on that thought but I did not know this my first time there so when I saw that gold Bible sitting there I thought: “What's that gold Bible doing there?” And the Mind of Christ answered me with, what else, the Word: “The Word of God is eternal; it never passes away.”

Now you need to understand another principle or pattern of God from the Scriptures that the Lord spoke to me in Akure, Nigeria, in

December of 1989 when He said: “God always makes the man (or woman) before He makes the ministry and the devil always destroys the man before he can destroy the ministry.” That’s why you have to watch yourself real close and not allow the man of the flesh to dominate your spirit man and it’s also the reason that most ministries fall—the man or woman that God called never develop their spirits to the point that Jesus did.

In a few days we will celebrate the birth of Jesus and although the world and especially America today wants to do away with the true message of Christmas and worship Santa Claus, the reason we give each other presents is to celebrate the Great Gift that the Father gave the human race in the birth of Jesus and we give gifts to others as a symbol of our love for them.

The reason Jesus was the perfect man was not because He was born that way, although He is called “the second Adam” for a reason—He was only the second man to be born without sin. No, although Jesus was born the perfect man—because He was/is God incarnate, He still could have sinned. The Lord appeared to me back in 1981 at midnight and spoke to me about His temptations in the wilderness and He said: “Those temptations were real; I could have sinned.” To which I responded, “Yes, Lord I know that those temptations were real.” Then He said, “Do you know what would have happened to me if I had sinned?” The subject that Jesus was speaking to me about at this time was *love*. Jesus showed me in this visitation not only that He came to die for the sins of the world but that He loved me (and you) so much that He *risked* something by coming here to die for us.

The reason Jesus lived the perfect life and is our perfect example is because He learned to follow the Holy Spirit who never makes any mistakes. If, like Jesus, you can develop your spirit and learn to follow the Holy Spirit you too can live a more perfect life. Whenever you make a mistake in this life it’s because you didn’t follow the Holy Spirit. Jesus was submissive and followed the Spirit which is why He made comments to the disciples such as “I must go through Samaria” because normally the Jews stayed away from the hated Samaritans

and Jesus would not have journeyed that way but, like in His desert experience, He was following the Holy Spirit.

Now back to Psalm 106 because the Lord wants to emphasize some things today that are holding you back from your “Promised Land” and it’s your responsibility to do something about it. These verses of the Scriptures in Psalm 106 are very similar to some things that I wrote in our book, *The Gifts and Operations of the Holy Spirit*, about Esau. You see, unlike Ishmael which is another pattern that we must avoid—creating Ishmaels in our lives that limit God’s ability to bring forth His true purposes and plans through Isaac—the promised seed, Esau was a covenant son of Isaac and brother of Jacob. And the seed of Esau is what physically and spiritually to Israel? An enemy! But Esau despised his birthright didn’t he? He despised “the pleasant land.”

And in the covenant Church today we have both Esaus and Jacobs—the Jacob generation that Evelyn preached a series on back in 1997 in Kingman, Arizona, is the seed of promise. The Jacob Generation are those who seek the Face of God and not His Hand (of blessing). In other words, they’re not consumed with being blessed now like so many in the Body of Christ today! Look at the life of Jesus as an example; was He consumed with living His “best life now” by praying for Cadillac cars, mansions, airplanes, etc.? Most of you know the life of Jesus from the Scriptures and how would you say that it lined up with the *Prosperity Gospel* that is preached on the Balaam networks and in many churches today? Peter addresses this in 2 Peter 2: “There will be false teachers among you, who will secretly bring in destructive heresies ... and many will follow their destructive ways, because of whom the way of truth will be blasphemed. By coveteousness (underline that word in your Bible) they will exploit you with deceptive words ...”

The nation of Israel depicted in these verses of Psalm 106 are guilty of Esau’s sin of despising their birthright and what was the result? Well, there are different generations spoken of so let’s deal with them individually. The fact is that you need to also meditate Psalm 107 because it not only speaks about the sin and “evil hearts of unbelief” (Hebrews 3:1-12) of some of these generations but also reveals the

correct response in vv. 8, 15, 21 and 31: “Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love” instead of murmuring and complaining.

The first generation or group of Israel that is discussed is “those who wandered in the wilderness or barren places.” This was caused at Kadesh Barnea because of the “evil report” (the report of doubt) of the 12 spies. This was a test of God, of course, that the nation failed because although they had seen the miracles of God over and over they did not understand the principle of faith and that “without faith it is impossible to please God.” Paul also discusses this in the key New Testament scripture given at the beginning of this teaching in 2 Corinthians 10. Just because you are in covenant with God through the Blood of Jesus doesn’t mean that the devil cannot lead you into an “evil heart of unbelief” that will cause you to perish in the desert instead of receiving your healing, finances, etc.

But now I want to show you a key point that the Holy Spirit brought to my attention this morning concerning this first group or generation of Israel that perished in the desert—they did not fulfill their destiny for God because they did not first fulfill their destiny in God! A principle God revealed to Eve and I back in the ‘90s (see our message titled *Destiny* in the bookstore). The Lord showed us that we are all created with a two-fold destiny: a destiny *in God* and a destiny *for God*. If you don’t fulfill your destiny in God you cannot fulfill your destiny for God. Jesus fulfilled His destiny in God. That’s why He spent over 30 years (about 35) preparing His life—His destiny in God—for only 3 ½ years of ministry or destiny “for God.”

Now concerning this first generation that God brought out of Egypt, what was their “destiny for God?” It’s obvious—to inherit the Promised Land., right? But how were they going to inherit it? Were they just going to cross the Jordan and put an Israeli flag with the Star of David on it in the ground and tell the Canaanites, etc., to leave? No! The devil is not going to give up his territory that he’s spent thousands years occupying without a fight. So they were going to have to take it from the people, weren’t they? And so this is what the Spirit showed me this morning: because their destiny for God was to fight and occupy the Promised Land God created them to be a warring people!

So when they rebelled against God and denied that He would help them take the Promised Land their lives in effect were over because that was the purpose for which God created them! Remember, it took 400 years after this promise was first given to Abraham for God to raise up this special generation—a generation of war! The same is true today! The Spirit is trying to lead the Church into spiritual warfare against the rulers of the Dark Kingdom but like Israel most have resisted His direction and that is why most of the true churches have been destroyed and false churches with no anointing have taken their place.

The Divine Magna Charta of God given in Genesis 1:27, 28 has not changed: Satan is the “god of this world” as Paul wrote and God, the rightful owner, wants to evict him so that Revelation 11:15 can come to pass (and it will come to pass as soon as the Joshua generation rises up and “takes their rightful place). So what is holding God back? The building of a mighty army of the Joshua generation that understands spiritual warfare and will decide to take back “the kingdoms of this world” and make them “the kingdoms of our Lord and Christ.”

But because this first generation didn’t believe the Promise and refused to enter into Canaan they wandered and perished in the wilderness where many in the Church are likewise perishing today if they, like Israel, are following the deeds of this first generation. It’s like the Lord showed me concerning Eve and I back on October 7, 1996, in what I call *The Vision of the Blacksmith*. Jesus was working over a hot fire and He was wearing one of those leather blacksmith’s aprons and holding a pair of those heavy iron tongs. He was placing Evelyn (a sword) into the fire and then He would place me (a battle ax, see Jer. 51:20) which was a prophecy I received 3 times (God’s perfect number) back in the ‘80s when the Lord first sent me to Nigeria. In this vision the Lord said that we were His weapons of war and that He had to harden us in the fire (trials and tests) so that “You will not fail me when the battle becomes hot.”

But because this generation of Israel refused God’s purpose of battle then He could no longer use them and also what else do we learn from

this? God's purposes and plans were delayed another 40 years! In addition, the task of the fathers fell to the children who now had to go in and fight the battles that their parents were created to fight. Even though this first generation didn't die for 40 years, when they refused to believe God and His Promise, like Adam, they died because there was no other purpose of God for which they were raised up. Is not the same true for us today?

Now let's look at their children, the second generation that came out of Egypt. They learned the lesson and so they allowed Joshua and Caleb—the only two men from the previous generation who lived to fulfill the Promise of God because they believed the Lord—to lead them into battle and begin to take the Promised Land. But they too did not fulfill the commandment of God because Psalm 106:34 says, "They did not destroy the peoples, concerning whom the LORD had commanded them." After all, these people hadn't done them any harm, right? Like the Muslims who are building mosques all over our nation now and infiltrating our schools and society with their customs and doctrines and influencing our government against Christians.

What was this generation guilty of? Rebellion again because like King Saul they did not do what God told them to do! They only did part of it. And what was the result? Well the Scriptures tell us right here in Psalm 106: "But they mingled with the Gentiles and learned their works (ways); they served their idols, which became a snare to them."

And as a result of this the spiritual results are even more disastrous for our children: "They even sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons, and shed innocent blood, the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan; and the land was polluted with blood." You see it's not just the blood of the aborted babies that pollutes our land but also the very blood of our own children. God showed this very vividly to Evelyn in a night vision years ago.

So let's look at the results of this again from Psalm 106 and you will see this same pattern in America today:

“Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against his people (whose people?), and he abhorred his own inheritance.” Now notice closely the conclusion of this verse: “And He gave them into the hand of the Gentiles (the unsaved), and those who hated them ruled over them. Their enemies also oppressed them, and they were brought into subjection under their hand.”

So, it should not be surprising to us today to see our own government that was founded upon Christian principles “hate” us and begin to try and destroy the Church. It is simply the fulfillment of Scripture and our refusal to learn this lesson from Israel vividly displayed here in Psalm 106. We have been rebellious and not *possessed* the Promised Land where God has placed us but for the most part we have served other idols in the Church and not “been about our Father’s business” which is the souls of men and women in our neighborhoods and communities.

One of the things that has kept Eve and I from our own “Promised Land” is the refusal of the Church and churches to enter into spiritual warfare to take the land. We have written, preached and taught this for over 3 decades but very, very few Christians have shown any interest so the promise that the Lord gave me in 1988 that “I’m putting you at the head of an army” cannot come to pass until there’s an army willing to “go in and possess the land.”

In the meantime our nation and the world is continuing down the road to hell because when the Church is silent and refuses to fight to fulfill God’s plan, the enemy will continue to take more land. It is the nature of warfare.

Now let’s look at a few closing prophetic Scriptures from Psalms:

110:1 “The LORD said to my Lord, ‘Sit at My right hand, till I make Your enemies your footstool.’ All Bible scholars agree that this verse of the Scriptures is prophetic regarding the Messiah but most stop there because they don’t have revelation from the Spirit about what this means exactly. We know that to be seated at “the right hand” of somebody means that this is the place of highest honor. Additionally,

it's another problematic Scripture for our UPC folks who don't believe in the Trinity because it's a difficult concept to be seated next to yourself—which is the real you?

But I want to deal with the last part of this Scripture because the Lord began speaking to me about it back in the '80s: “till I make your enemies your footstool.” How is He going to do that? Well, for the answer to that question let's look at another Psalm.

149:6 “Let the high praises of God (high praises are what? A weapon of warfare! See 2 Chron. 20:22) be in their mouth, and a two-edged sword in their hand (another weapon discussed in MSDK), to execute vengeance on the nations, and punishments on the peoples; to bind their kings with chains, and their nobles with fetters of iron; to execute on them the written judgment—this honor have all His saints. Praise the LORD!”

Yes, God the Spirit wants to lead the Church into spiritual warfare but He's having difficulty getting Christians interested because warfare is dangerous, difficult work and when you fight the enemy fights back. They are shown in the vision God gave me back in 1988 which I discuss in both MSDK and *Revelations from God*. I call it The Vision of the Battlefield.

PRAYER

O Lord God, we are a sinful people—a sinful nation and our whole nation is being destroyed because we have denied the Scriptures and the moving of your Spirit to “take dominion over the earth” for you and to establish your kingdom on earth. Lord we've all heard the Lord's Prayer “thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven” but we've not prayed that prayer in earnest nor have we followed your precious Spirit into warfare but have instead indulged our own selfish appetites for the lures and idols of the Dark Kingdom.

Like our spiritual fathers before us in the faith we have not been obedient to the covenant. We have not realized that as Israel fought physical battles to possess her Promised Land from you the Church

today must fight a spiritual battle. We must take up our weapons of warfare, be trained in them and “fight the good fight of faith” to possess the Pleasant Land where you have placed us—the land that has been occupied by the devil for hundreds of years. Lord you have given us this land already by faith if we will simply rise up and destroy the work of the enemy by your Word and your power flowing through us to a sin-sick, crying dying world. Lord, you lived a perfect life—a sinless life. We will soon celebrate your birth again but there can be no real celebration in Heaven until we repent of our sins and actively follow your Spirit into battle to dethrone the god of this world. May your Spirit cause us to know this truth and live differently in the coming year of 2014 so that your Kingdom and your Glory can come and as a result what you showed me today will come to pass, Psalm 107:42, 43—“The upright see it and are glad, and all wickedness shuts its mouth. Whoever is wise, let him attend to these things; let them consider the steadfast love of the LORD.”

“Save us, O LORD our God, and gather us from among the nations, that We may give thanks to your holy name and glory in your praise.”

Amen! Maranatha!