

God's Plan for our Partnership

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Aug. 13th

Last week we discussed Deut 32:8 *"When the most High divided to the nations their inheritance, when he separated the sons of Adam, he set the bounds of the people according to the number of the children of Israel."*

This occurred at the tower of Babel (Gen. 11) which was ruled ed by Nimrod (Rebel) and Semiramis, who formed a demonic "trinity cult" which included Nimrod (Sun God); Semiramis (Queen of Heaven); and Tammuz: god of fertility. Babylon was the first (Gen. 10,11) and will be the last example (Rev. 17, 18) of a world empire in rebellion against God. Rev 17:5 *"Mystery, babylon the great, the mother of harlots and abominations of the earth."*

After the division of the Nations, the people branched out and worshipped different "gods", but usually kept some form of this "trinity" of gods. While Egypt had almost 2000 different "gods", Their "Trinity" were known as Osiris, Isis, and Horus.

After the division at Babylon (Gen. 11) most of the people followed "strange gods", but God had a plan to reach and redeem them.

1. It began by exposing these false "gods". Ex. 12:12 *"Against all the gods of Egypt I will execute Judgment: I am the LORD!"*

A. Each plague exposed their impotency."

- 1) Water Turned to Blood (Hapi: god of the Nile)
- 2) Frogs:(Heket: goddess of fertility/frogs)
- 3) Lice From the Dust (Geb: god of earth/land)
- 4) Swarms of flies (Khepri: god of resurrection)
- 5) Death of Cattle (Hathor: goddess of fertility, livestock)
- 6) Boils (Isis: goddess of healing)
- 7) Fiery Hail (Nut: sky goddess)
- 8) Locus (Seth: god of desert and storms)
- 9) Darkness (Ra god of the sun)
- 10) Death of firstborn (Horus: god of kingship, healing and protection)

2. It included a means of reaching/redeeming those enslaved by them.

A. Many Egyptians joined the Exodus.

Ex 7:5 *"And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD."*

Ex 11:3 *"the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt...in the sight of the people"*

Ex 12:37,38 *"Israel journeyed from Rameses about six hundred thousand on foot that were men...And a mixed multitude went up also with them..."*

B. God invited Israel to partner with him. Ex. 19:5 *"ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation."*

- 1) They initially responded to him. Vs 7,8 *"All that the LORD hath spoken we will do."*
- 2) They failed to recognize how much influence the gods of Egypt still had on them.

C. Moses' final challenge in Dt. 32 revealed the contrast between:

- 1) God's Character Vs 3,4 *"He is the Rock, his work is perfect: for all his ways are judgment: a God of truth and without iniquity, just and right is He!"*
- 2) And Israel's Corruption vs 5 *"They have Corrupted themselves, ... Vs 16 They provoked him to jealousy with strange gods..."*

- a) The first of the 10 commandments warn. Ex 20:3 *“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”*
 (1) Withing a couple of months they were worshipping “Hapi” god of fertility, declaring:
“These be thy gods, O Israel; which brought thee up out of Egypt.” Ex. 32:4
 (a) Hep was the “god” of fertility from Memphis region of Egypt.
 (b) Associated with the goddess Hathor (Isis) daughter of Ra and Mother of Horus.
 (c) She was the sky goddess of love, fertility, and sex. <https://egyptianmuseum.org/deities-hathor>

D. The corruptions of these strange gods would only grow in Canaan.

- 1) God’s commands would defend & protect them. Ex 23:32-33 *“Thou shalt make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. . . it will surely be a snare unto thee.”* (môqēsh’: a noose, hook or trap)
 2) They failed (again) to obey God’s Laws. Ps 106:35-37 *“they were mingled among the heathen, and learned their works, and served their idols: which were a snare unto them. Yea, they sacrificed their sons and their daughters unto devils!”*

God invited Israel to partner with him in reaching their world: but they failed.

Conclusion:

While most still follow “strange gods”, *God still has a plan to reach/redeem them.*

Mt 24:14 *“this gospel of the kingdom shall be preached in all the world for a witness unto all nations;*

Mk 16:15 *“go into all the world and preach the gospel”*

2 Pt 3:9 *“The Lord is . . . not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.”*

He gives us the same promise and partnership (Challenge/Charge) he gave Israel:

1 Pt 2:9-11 *“But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, . . . , a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:*

11 Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul!”

Application:

Will we heed the warning (1Cor. 10:11-14), or repeat their deception, distraction, and disobedience?

11 *“Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.*

12 Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall...

14 Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry.”

Direction: Over the next few weeks we’ll discuss:

Who were these “strange gods”?

Where did they come from?

What did (*and do*) they want?

Where are they now?

What can we do about them?

