

Our Personal Exodus

(2 Cor. 6:14-18)

Guided Growth with Pastor Keith @ CBC Sunday, Sept. 10th

There's a cosmic war being waged for the hearts & souls of humanity. The Bible repeatedly warns us about the nature of this conflict as well as the Powers and Personalities behind this struggle. In this age-old conflict, there is no neutral ground!

Mt 12:30 *"He that's not with me, is against me!"*

One side of this spiritual war is led by Jesus Christ introduced himself to Joshua as:

"Captain of the host of the LORD!"

The other side is led by Satan who also goes by many names. Rev 9:11 *"they had a king over them, ... whose name in the Hebrew tongue is Abaddon, (destruction)*

(Job 26:6; 28:22; 31:12; Psalm 88:11; Prov 15:11) *but in the Greek...Apollyon" (destroyer)*

Mt 12:24 *"Beelzebub the prince of the devils."* (Literally the "dung god")

Both seek Partners in this cosmic conflict and Our choices align us with one of them.

God uses ancient Israel to illustrate this struggle, and our part in it. 1 Cor 10

11 "these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition... 12 let him that thinketh he stands, Take heed lest he fall... 14 Wherefore, my dearly beloved, flee from idolatry... 20 ... the things which the Gentiles sacrifice, they sacrifice to devils!

I would not that ye should have fellowship (koinonos': partnership) with devils."

1. Israel was initially in bondage to the Pharaoh and gods of Egypt. Ex. 1,2

A. God warned of this 400 years earlier. Gen 15:13-16 *"Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve and afflict them four hundred years; "And also that nation, ... will I judge And afterwards will they come out with great substance. But in the fourth generation they shall come here again: for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet full."*
God gave the Canaanites 400 years to repent!

B. God delivered them from their bondage Ex 6:6-7

1) The 10 plagues were specifically targeted: *"against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. ..."* Ex 12:12

2) The final plague had a final price! Ex 12:13 *"the blood shall be to you for a token ... : and when I see the blood, (of the Passover lamb) I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt."*

C. There was initial excitement and even enrichment. Ex 12:36 *"And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians.*

1) God had also foretold this. Genesis 15:14

D. God orchestrated a clean and complete break from Egypt (and her gods). Ex 14

- 1) God intentionally led them into a trap! *“Between a rock and a hard place!”* vs 1,2
- 2) God was setting the stage for a great battle! Vs 3-9
It was clear that Pharaoh (and Egypt’s “gods”) didn’t want to let Israel go.

E. The crossing of the Red sea was the start of a new life, Purpose and Partnership

Ex 19:4-6 *“Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine: And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.”*

- 1) Israel initially accepted that covenant partnership. Ex. 19:7-8
- 2) The 10 Commandments were the conditions of this covenant. Ex. 20
Vs 3 *“Thou shalt have no other gods before me.”*

F. Satan quickly seduced them to return to the “gods” they had known in Egypt.

- 1) Soon they declared: *“These (liep) be thy gods, which brought thee out of Egypt.”* Ex. 32:4

Conclusion:

Although God redeemed Israel and called them into a Partnership with Him, Satan continued to seduce them to betray God and embrace the “gods” of this world.

Their 4000 year history is a record of this cycle of seduction!

History is really “His” Story!

Application:

1 Cor. 3:11 *“these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition...”* (Nouthesia: warning) Like Israel:

- 1) Humanity is in Bondage. Satan as *“the god of this world”* holds mankind in bondage to the seduction of sin. (2 Cor 4:4; Eph 2:1-3; Jn 8:34; Rq. 6:17; 1 Jn 3:8)
- 2) God paid a great price for our redemption. (Jn 1:29; 3:3; 16-18; 1 Pt 1:18,19; 1 Cor 5:7)
- 3) God desires we make a clean break with the “gods” of this world.
(Symbolized by baptism!) (1Cor 10:1-2; Rq. 6:3,4)
- 4) God invites us to partner with him in reaching the world.
(Mt 28:18-20; Acts 1:8; 1 Cor 3:9; 1 Pt 2:9-11)
- 5) Satan is ever seeking to seduce us into infidelity by neglecting God and embracing (*flirting with*) the world and it’s gods! (aka: Values) (Jms 4:4-10; 1 Pt 5:8,9; 1 Jn 2:14-17)
- 6) God had plans for Israel to “take back” the promised land from the “Giants” and “gods” who had corrupted it.

In much the same way, there are still battles to fight and “giants” that would seek to rob us of the inheritance (Purposes and Partnership) that God has called us to! John 10:10

Eph. 6:10-12 “Finally, my brethren, be strong in the Lord, and in the power of his might.

Put on the whole armour of God, that ye may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil.

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places.”