

THE PROCESS OF SALVATION AND BEING IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD IN THE OLD TESTAMENT BIBLE

1-22-23

PART # 12

THE SPIRITUAL EXPERENCES IN THE OLD TESTAMENT, ARE EXAMPLES TO BELIEVERS TODAY, LIVING IN THE GRACE OF GOD.

1 CORINTHIANS 10: 11 – “Know all these things HAPPENED unto them for ENSAMPLES (EXAMPLES TO US); and they are written for OUR ADMONITION, upon whom the ends of the world are come”.

GOD DELIEVERS THE HEBREW PEOPLE OUT OF EGYPT – GOD CALLS FORTH THE FIRST “CHURCH”

The calling and commissioning of Moses (EXODUS 3: 1- 10), to lead the Hebrew people out of Egypt to the “PROMISED LAND”, began when “The Angel of the Lord” (GOD), appeared unto Moses, in the midst of a fire, in a bush, but was not being consumed by the fire. The God that kept the bush from being consumed and kept the Hebrew children from being burned up in the “Fiery furnace” (DANIEL 3), will also keep the earth, the kingdom, and the people on earth at that time, from also being consumed, during the future renovation, by God, of the earth, by fire (2 PETER 3: 10 – 13; REVELATION 20, 21).

EXAMPLES OF THE IMPORTANCE OF HOLINESS, FOR THE “CHURCH” IN ALL AGES.

2 PETER 3: 10 – “But the Day of the Lord WILL COME as a thief in the night; in the which the heavens shall pass away with a great noise, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat, the earth also and the works that are there in shall be burned up”.

2 PETER 3: 11 – “SEEING THEN that all these things shall be dissolved WHAT MANNER OF PERSON OUGHT YE TO BE IN ALL HOLY CONVERSATION AND GODLINESS”,

2 PETER 3: 12 – “Looking for and hastening unto the coming of the day of the God, wherein the heavens being on fire shall be dissolved, and the elements shall melt with fervent heat”?

The Pharaoh refuses, to let the Hebrew people go and the nation of Egypt, receives nine plagues upon Egypt (EXODUS 5 – 10). Then God says to Moses, I will bring one more plague upon the Pharaoh and upon Egypt and afterwards the Pharaoh will let the Hebrew people go to the PROMISED LAND of God (EXODUS 11: 1). So God prepares the Hebrew people, for the last plague (The death of the “Firstborn”), in all of Egypt and those who do not heed the instructions of God; God promises death of the “Firstborn”, in all of the families in Egypt (EXODUS 12).

SYMBOLISM IN THE EXODUS STORY:

THE PHARAOH – A SYMBOL OF SATAN

THE HEBREW PEOPLE IN SLAVERY – A SYMBOL OF SIN AND DEATH

GOD’S REMEDY FOR DELIVERANCE FROM SATAN AND THE SLAVERY TO SIN – “THE PASSOVER FEAST”.

EXODUS 12: 1 – 10 - TEXT

THE PASSOVER FEAST AND THE CROSS OF CHRIST JESUS

The Lord gives detailed instructions, to Moses and Aaron, on how to prepare for the primary Passover. THE PASSOVER LAMB, OF COURSE, IS A TYPE, OF THE CHRIST JESUS (1 CORINTHIANS 5:7).

“The Passover Lamb” was to be without “BLEMISH (EXODUS 12:5)”; which speaks of the SINLESS NATURE OF CHRIST JESUS (HEBREWS 4:15).

The Passover Lamb was to be “A male of the first year (EXODUS 12:5)”; perhaps suggesting that the Christ Jesus, was cut off in the prime of His life.

The Passover Lamb was to be kept “Until the 14th day of the month” (EXODUS 12:6); pointing toward the Savior’s 30 years of private life in Nazareth, during which He was tested by GOD, then publicly for three and a half years, by the full scrutiny of MAN.

The Passover Lamb was to be “Killed by the congregation of Israel” (EXODUS 12:5); killed by Hebrew people - Just as the Hebrew people were responsible for the death of Christ Jesus (MATTHEW 27: 24, 25).

The Passover Lamb was to be “Killed at evening” (EXODUS 12: 6); between the 9th and the 11th hours – Just as Christ Jesus was killed in the 9th hour (MATTHEW 27: 45 – 50).

The Passover Lamb’s blood, was to be applied to the doorway (EXODUS 12: 7), which was to bring salvation from the Destroyer (EXODUS 12:23) – just as the BLOOD OF CHRIST, appropriated by faith and who puts their trust in the commandments of God, brings victory over sin, self and Satan.

The Passover Lamb’s flesh, was to be “Roasted with fire” (EXODUS 12:8); which pictures Christ Jesus suffering and God’s Wrath, that was upon Him, as He atoned, for our sins.

The Passover Lamb, was to be eaten with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs, symbolizing Christ as the food of His people. We should live life of sincerity and truth, without malice and wickedness and with true repentance; always remembering the bitterness of Christ suffering.

Not a bone of the Passover Lamb, was to be “Broken” (EXODUS 12:46); a stipulation that was literally fulfilled in the case of our Lord Jesus Christ (JOHN 19: 36).

Christ Jesus started His earthly ministry at the “Feast of Passover” (JOHN 2:13) and ended His ministry at the “Feast of Passover” (JOHN 19:14)!

JOHN 1: 29 – “The next day John (the Baptist) seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith ,BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD, WHICH TAKETH AWAY THE SIN OF THE WORLD”.

1 CORINTHIANS 5: 7 – “Purge out therefore the OLD LEAVEN, that you may be a NEW LUMP, as ye are UNLEAVEN. For even CHRIST OUR PASSOVER (LAMB) is sacrificed for us”;

1 CORINTHIANS 5: 8 – “Therefore let us keep the feast, not with OLD LEAVEN, neither with the leaven of MALICE AND WICKEDNESS; but with the UNLEAVENED BREAD OF SINCERITY AND TRUTH”.

DID THIS LED THE HEBREW PEOPLE DIRECTLY TO THE “PROMISED LAND”?

NO, BUT IT WAS THE FIRST “STEP” OF FAITH, THE HEBREW TOOK THEMSELVES – WHEN THEY SUCCESSFULLY OBEYED THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD!

After the tenth plague upon Egypt, the Pharaoh released the Hebrew people for “The Promised Land”. But God did not lead the Hebrew people, down the fastest or most direct route but led them to a place, that literally, LOOKED LIKE A DEAD END (EXODUS 14:11)!

EXODUS 14: 1 – 31 - TEXT

The most direct route from Egypt to “The Promised Land”, would have been through Philistine country, a trip of about two weeks (Not 38 years), along the coastal road known as “THE WAY OF HORUS”. SO WHY DID GOD LEAD THE HEBREW PEOPLE TO THE RED SEA?

THE PASSING OF THE HEBREW PEOPLE, THROUGH THE WATERS OF THE RED SEA.

EXODUS 14, IS ONE OF THE MOST DRAMATIC CHAPTERS IN THE WHOLE BIBLE.

In EXODUS 14: 1 – 9, God directed the Hebrew people, somewhere west of the Red Sea and with the trail ending at a mountain, they were literally “Boxed IN”. This made escape impossible, but made the subsequent miracle more marvelous. The pharaoh thought, that the Hebrew people were trapped and set out his mobile army after them. When the pharaoh’s army, overtook the two million, helpless Hebrew people ; it is probably the origin of the popular idiom, for a terrible dilemma: “Between the Devil (Pharaoh) and the deep blue (Red) Sea”!

In EXODUS 14: 10 – 18, When the Hebrew people, raised they eyes and saw the Egyptian army marching after them, they were naturally petrified but wisely cried out to the Lord (EXODUS 14: 10). BUT THEIR CRYING OUT TO GOD, QUICKLY CHANGED TO CRYING OUT AGAINST GOD’S SPIRITUAL LEADER – MOSES.

EXODUS 14: 13 – “And Moses said unto the people, FEAR YE NOT, STAND STILL, AND SEE THE SALVATION OF THE LORD, WHICH HE (GOD) WILL SHEW TO YOU TODAY: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them, again no more forever”.

EXODUS 14: 14 – “The Lord shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace”.

The word “SALVATION” in EXODUS 14:13, is the Strong’s Hebrew word # 3444, “YESUA”, pronounced “yesh-oo-aw”, and is an all inclusive word that means “Salvation, something saved, deliverance, aid, victory, prosperity, health, welfare”. This Hebrew word is used 78 times, in the Old Testament Bible.

HERE IS SOME OF THE OTHER PLACES WHERE THE STRONG’S HEBREW WORD # 3444, “SALVATION” IS USED:

1 CHRONICLES 16: 23 – “Sing unto the Lord, all the earth; shew forth from day to day His SALVATION”.

PSALMS 13: 5 – “But I have trusted in thy mercy; my heart shall rejoice in thy SALVATION”.

PSALMS 116:13 – I will take the CUP OF SALVATION, and call upon the name of the Lord”.

PSALMS 118: 14 – The Lord is my strength and song, and is become my SALVATION”.

SEEING AND HONORING GOD AS OUR “SAVIOR” – WHAT GOD DOES IN OUR LIVES.

“SALVATION” (Strong’s Hebrew word #3444), is from the root word in Arabic and means “TO MAKE WIDE” or “TO MAKE SUFFICIENT”. The word connotes “Freedom from distress and ability to pursue one’s objectives”. The idea behind, “TO MAKE WIDE”, is to move from the “DISTRESS” that comes from enemies, natural catastrophies, plagues, famine, sickness - to “SAFETY”– which requires DELIVERANCE. Generally, “DELIVERANCE”, in the Bible, comes from a OUTSIDE SOURCE (SUCH AS GOD).

THE ONE WHO BRINGS DELIVERANCE IS KNOWN AS THE “SAVIOR”! So, we read in the Old Testament, that “YAHWEH” (GOD) has brought “DELIVERANCE and that HE IS THE GOD OF OUR SALVATION (PSALMS 68: 19, 20). “YESHUA” (H #3444), can also describe “SALVATION” through human agents, EMPOWERED BY GOD (1 SAMUEL 14:45).

*While the New Testament idea, of “SALVATION”, is primarily “THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, DELIVERANCE FROM SIN’S POWER, AND THE DEFEAT OF SATAN”, the Old Testament only begins to POINT TO THIS DIRECTION, but to us today, these are “EXAMPLES”, and so in the Old Testament, the majority of the references of “SALVATION”, speaks of “Yahweh”, granting deliverance from real physical enemies and out of real physical catastrophes. In the “SEPTUAGINT BIBLE” (The translating of the Old Testament Bible, from Hebrew to Greek), “YESHUA” (H#3444) - “SALVATION”, which is found in this text, in EXODUS 14:13 and in EXODUS 15: 2 – Is translated into the New Testament Greek word “SOTERIA” (G#4991) (SALVATION) which denotes “DELIVERANCE, PRESERVATION, SALVATION” and the Greek word “SOTER” (G#4990) and means “A SAVIOR, DELIVERER, PRESERVER”.

HERE IS SOME EXAMPLES OF THE STRONG’S GREEK WORD #4991, “SALVATION”, IN THE NEW TESTAMENT BIBLE:

ACTS 4:12 – “Neither is their SALVATION in any other: for there is none other name under Heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved”.

ROMANS 10:10 – “For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness and with the mouth confession is made into SALVATION”.

1 THESSALONIANS 5:9 – “For God has not appointed us to wrath but to obtain SALVATION by our Lord Jesus Christ”,

THE HEBREW PEOPLE WERE “SAVED” BECAUSE THEY BELIEVED IN ALL THE COMMANDMENTS OF GOD!

God speaks to Moses and says “Why are you crying out to me” (EXODUS 14:15)? God tells Moses to take the “Rod” that is in your hand and stretch it forth over the Red Sea and it will divide, and the children of Israel, shall go forth on “DRY GROUND”, in the midst of the Red Sea and the pharaoh’s army will see this and will try to follow but I (THE LORD GOD) will get honor over the pharaoh and his army, and the Egyptians shall know that “I am the Lord” (EXODUS 14: 15 – 18). Then the Angel of the Lord went before the camp of Israel and went behind them and a “Pillar of cloud”, was before the Egyptians and darkness but to the Hebrew people, it was a “Pillar of light” and light in the night. The Hebrew people were able to pass through the Red Sea, between with walls of water, which has been estimated to be at least, 75 feet to 100 feet high (IMMERSION) – and the Hebrew people passed through, on dry ground but at the once, the pharaoh’s army was unrestrained, the Pharaoh’s army tried to follow and God told Moses, to stretch forth his hand, for the Red Sea to close back together, and it did and the Pharaoh’s army was destroyed (EXODUS 14:19– 31).

THE “SONG OF MOSES” – EXODUS 15: 1 – 21. THE RIGHT SONG BUT WAS SUNG OF THE WRONG SIDE OF THE SEA.

Prelude - The triumph of Jehovah (EXODUS 15:1).

Stanza # 1 - What He (JEHOVAH) IS: STRENGTH, SONG, SALVATION (EXODUS 15: 2, 3).

Stanza # 2 - What He (JEHOVAH) HAS DONE: victory over past enemies, deliverance of His people from Egypt (EXODUS 15: 4 – 13).

Stanza # 3 - What He (JEHOVAH) WILL DO: victory over future enemies bring his people into their inheritance (EXODUS 15: 14 – 18).

Postlude - The contrast of the defeat of Egypt and the Deliverance of Israel (EXODUS 15:19).

NOW, WERE THE HEBREW PEOPLE, IN THE PROMISED LAND ? NO

THE HEBREW PEOPLE WENT INTO “WILDERNESS”, WHICH I BELIEVE, IS SYMBOLIC OF “THE SINFUL WORLD”, IN WHICH WE ALL LIVE IN AND WAS WHERE HIS PEOPLE NEEDED TO MAKE GOD - THE “LORD (THE CONTROLLING FORCE OF THEIR LIVES).

THE ABSOLUTE NEED OF THE HEBREW PEOPLE TO MAKE THEIR GOD - THEIR “SAVIOR” AND “LORD” OF THEIR LIVES!

Now, the Hebrew people were to enter into “The Wilderness of Shur” (EXODUS 15:22) and “SHUR” means “A WALL”, also known as “The Wilderness of Etham” (NUMBERS 33:8) – A STOPPING PLACE for Israel, and also “The Wilderness of Sin” (“Sin” meaning “Thorn” or “Clay”) (EXODUS

16:1, 17:1). If you put all this together, about “The Wilderness” – God was taking the Hebrew people to “The Promised Land” but God was “TESTING” the Hebrew people, along the way, to make God and His Word, the “Controlling Force” – “Lord” of their lives”. BUT BECAUSER OF SIN AND REBELLION AGAINST GOD AND HIS WORD, THE HEBREW PEOPLE HIT “A WALL” AND WAS STOPPED AND “CAUGHT” IN “THE WILDERNESS OF “A WORLDLY LIFE”! GOD NOW WAS TESTING THE HEBREW PEOPLE AND THEIR WORDS (TESTIMONY), OF THEIR “SALVATION” - THAT WHICH CAME OUT OF THEIR MOUTH, AND WHAT THEY WERE DOING - WAS NOT JUST BASED ON JEHOVAH BEING THEIR “SAVIOR ONLY” (WHAT GOD DOES FOR US) BUT ALSO JEHOVAH BEING THEIR “LORD” (THE CONTROLLING FORCE) OF THEIR LIVES AND BY THEM HAVING PERSONAL HOLINESS IN THEIR LIVES!

While the Hebrew people was in “THE WILDERNESS”; there was two events that happened, that points us to the importance of making God both the SAVIOR AND LORD OF OUR LIVES and those two events were: GOD PROVIDING “MANNA “FROM HEAVEN AND THE RECEIVING OF WATER FROM THE “ROCK”. Both of these two experiences, that the Hebrew people received; has great spiritual significance to the Believers today and further states: the importance of keeping the Commandments of God, by rightly viewing our lives in the light of God’s Word and by being thankful and by honoring God, in all that we DO AND SAY.

IN EXODUS 25; GOD CALLS THE PEOPLE TO MAKE SACRIFICES FROM THE “HEART” (EXODUS 25:2) BECAUSE GOD WANTS TO BUILD A “SANTUARY”; THAT HE MAY DWELL AMONG THEM (EXODUS 25:8), A “TABERNACLE” – DESIGNED BY GOD (EXODUS 25:9), FOR GOD (LITERALLY), TO BE AMONG HIS PEOPLE!

*HOW WAS THE HEBREW PEOPLE TO ENTER INTO THE PRESENCE OF GOD?

AN OFFERING NEEDED TO BE MADE ON “THE ALTER OF BURNT OFFERING” (EXODUS 29: 15 – 18).

THEN THE “PRIESTS OF GOD” PROCEEDED, TO THE WASHING IN THE “BRONZE LAVER” (EXODUS 30: 18 – 21).

EXODUS 30: 20 – “When they go into the Tabernacle of the congregation, they shall WASH WITH WATER THAT THEY DIE NOT; or when they come near to the altar to minister to burn offering made by fire under the Lord”:

EXODUS 30: 21 – “So they shall WASH THEIR HANDS AND THEIR FEET THAT THEY DIE NOT and it shall be a STATUTE FOREVER TO THEM EVEN TO HIM AND HIS SEED THROUGHOUT THEIR GENERATIONS”.

The washing of the water, in the “Bronze Laver” was for “The Priests of God” and it speaks of the necessity of CLEANSING FOR SERVICE (ISAIAH 52:11). The priests were bathed (Immersed) in water, upon entering into the office of a “Priest of God” (LEVITICUS 8:6). After that they were required to wash their HANDS and FEET regularly. In the Old Testament, the “Priests of God”, received ONE “BATH BY WATER” but MANY “WATER CLEANSINGS”, of hands and feet.

THEN THE “PRIESTS OF GOD”, COULD ENTER INTO “THE HOLY PLACE” – THE TABERNACLE OF GOD AND ONCE A YEAR, ENTER INTO THE “THE HOLY OF HOLIES” AND CONTINUE TO MINISTER, FOR/

