

The Captive That Was in the Dungeon

Exodus 12:13 – 51

~ Our Spiritual Safari spends its final night in Egypt in this section of Scripture. Before the sun comes up on the end of this report, the nation Israel will be out of Egypt, out of slavery, and deep into the wilderness. We have learned very definitely that without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sins. That is a great principle that runs the entire length, width and height of the Bible. God does not shut His eyes arbitrarily to our sin and do nothing about it. Whatsoever a man shall sow, that shall he also reap. We establish laws in our society and when a lawbreaker is brought before a judge, the penalty must be prescribed; or that system isn't going to work very long. Poor enforcement of law and the laxity and corruption within law enforcement is, of course, one of America's biggest problems today as a nation. Law is inexorable in God's universe, my beloved. The soul that sinneth must die. It will die. Life must be given up if we are to be reconciled with God our Father in Heaven. That's a bill you could never pay, by the way. So, the death sentence is upon all of us and only faith can save us. Every first born in Egypt dies at midnight in this report irrespective of race, color, gender or height; the only contingency being the blood of that lamb on the doorposts and lintel when the death angel rides through. God makes no apologies for this, either, friends. If you think God is horrible for judging sin, God says to you, "too bad!" ~

13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

14 And this day shall be unto you for a memorial; and ye shall keep it a feast to the LORD throughout your generations; ye shall keep it a feast by an ordinance for ever.

15 Seven days shall ye eat unleavened bread; even the first day ye shall put away leaven out of your houses: for whosoever eateth leavened bread

from the first day until the seventh day, that soul shall be cut off from Israel.

~ This commandment had nothing to do with the death angel passing over. The feast of unleavened bread was a time of wonderful fellowship within the family. It was a privileged duty, but it did not represent their salvation in any way – it represents their fellowship with God! To be cut off from the camp speaks of being cut off in fellowship. If they did not perform this rite they would be cut off from fellowship in their family. This brings up leaven again as a principle. In BOTH Testaments, leaven always represents evil; as we so clearly saw in painstaking detail when we were in Matthew. The woman hiding leaven could not possibly refer to the Gospel because the Gospel is not hidden. The three measures of meal are the Gospel and the leaven is evil that has been added to it! It has come in the form of unsound doctrine.

Religious racketeers do a whole lot better financially in their ministries than simpletons like me who just try to teach the Word of God properly, correctly and completely. If you look into the life of a poor Bible teacher such as I am, you're going to find there are some real problems. Leaven here is evil and it represents unsound doctrine that has been put into the teaching of the Word of God - the Bread of Life. All credible cults use the Bible as their base booklet. Some people put just enough leaven in to ensure they have no fellowship with God whatsoever - and some pack it so full it's perfectly absurd. The Lord said, "beware of the leaven of the Pharisees!" At that time, the disciples thought Jesus meant physical bread. They didn't understand doctrine being polluted. Furthermore, unleavened bread is almost not palatable. Most people do not enjoy systematic and scheduled Bible study. People seem to love the social time and music with friends at church and they love the beauty of the building itself and the smell and the feel of the sanctuary; but they aren't there for the Word of God and they aren't interested in the Lord Jesus Christ. Unleavened bread is not tasty and it's not something you look forward to eating. You will get tired of it really quick if you eat it for several days. It's not like a hot southern buttermilk biscuit! Well, unleavened bread is God's food for the child of God, friends; and you can just write that down....

16 And in the first day there shall be an holy convocation, and in the seventh day there shall be an holy convocation to you; no manner of work shall be done in them, save that which every man must eat, that only may be done of you.

17 And ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever.

18 In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even.

19 Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land.

20 Ye shall eat nothing leavened; in all your habitations shall ye eat unleavened bread.

21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the Passover.

22 And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning.

23 For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.

24 And ye shall observe this thing for an ordinance to thee and to thy sons for ever.

25 And it shall come to pass, when ye be come to the land which the LORD will give you, according as he hath promised, that ye shall keep this service.

26 And it shall come to pass, when your children shall say unto you, What mean ye by this service?

27 That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S Passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.

28 And the children of Israel went away, and did as the LORD had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

29 And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.

~ Hyssop is a small, fluffy plant that grows in damp, rocky places. The hyssop as an applicator represents faith to the believer. It is spiritually symbolic of faith all the way through Scripture. This is the same manner in which the blood is applied to our heart and our life today. The blood is applied by faith when we trust what Christ has done for us. So, just like that; no one in the land escaped the judgment of God unless they had the blood on the doorposts. As we have said, any Egyptian could have followed the command and they would have been saved. It was simply a matter of believing God; the death angel didn't ask any questions of national origin. I think many people will be surprised when the Lord doesn't ask them the name of their church or the name of their pastor - or how many orphans they've fed, either - but I digress. Up to this point in our Exodus safari, God has not taken human life with the plagues. This judgment is no joke for Pharaoh. The Lord giveth and the Lord hath taken away; blessed be the name of the Lord. Pharaoh doesn't just get up in the middle of the night to do business for no reason....

30 But Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.

31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said.

32 Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also.

~ When Pharaoh saw his own son dead there was no more thought about Israel leaving. Pharaoh was spooked; and Israel couldn't stay now if they wanted to. Pharaoh will be personally escorting them to the edge of town; but God didn't begin this way with Pharaoh. Pharaoh had every opportunity under the sun to turn to Him. Moses just came in and threw down his rod of Authority. The children of Israel could have exited a long time ago and the people would have been spared from all this despair. God is forcing the release of His people from bondage by forcing Pharaoh to harden his heart because this is His way of doing things, friends. Whatever God does is right. If you don't think so - then you are wrong. We see Egypt running around in a panic; positively terrified about what might happen next. The Egyptians are confused and wonder if death might come to ALL of them! When they finally calm down, they're going to figure out Pharaoh was responsible. That could easily mean a coup d'état. Everyone wants the Israelite gone now – out – tonight! Well, Israel is going to collect on some back wages in the form of “borrowing” first. I like that very much. The Egyptians owed them a whole lot of back slave labor wages....

33 And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.

34 And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders.

35 And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:

36 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians.

37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.

38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.

~ You will need to gather your first figure for the mathematical equation we'll deduce in the Book of Numbers from verses thirty-seven and thirty-eight. Dr. Kyle tells us the rest of the number later. Plus, we have the "mixed multitude" in the camp that will have to be accounted for. This will be the trouble-making crowd that tags along. Factually, they were half-breeds; and Egyptian-Hebrew-other-mix offspring. They're not sure if they should stay or if they should go. Their motives vary greatly. The ones that go will quickly wonder if they have made a mistake! They constantly talk about going back to Egypt later when things get rough. These are always the first types of people to complain about Bible teaching. This has always been trouble in the church - and it still is today. People join the church all the time who are not saved; and most of them don't ever get saved - they're just part of the mixed multitude. Well, the children of Israel are leaving Egypt now....

39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual.

40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.

41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

42 It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.

43 And the LORD said unto Moses and Aaron, This is the ordinance of the Passover: There shall no stranger eat thereof:

44 But every man's servant that is bought for money, when thou hast circumcised him, then shall he eat thereof.

45 A foreigner and an hired servant shall not eat thereof.

46 In one house shall it be eaten; thou shalt not carry forth ought of the flesh abroad out of the house; neither shall ye break a bone thereof.

47 All the congregation of Israel shall keep it.

48 And when a stranger shall sojourn with thee, and will keep the Passover to the LORD, let all his males be circumcised, and then let him come near and keep it; and he shall be as one that is born in the land: for no uncircumcised person shall eat thereof.

49 One law shall be to him that is homeborn, and unto the stranger that sojourneth among you.

50 Thus did all the children of Israel; as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.

51 And it came to pass the selfsame day, that the LORD did bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their armies.

~ Our Spiritual Safari expedition through the entire Word of God will follow Israel from here through the Red Sea experience - and then on into the

frightful wilderness. We're going to closely examine and correlate the Christian experience of today with the experience of the Children of Israel wandering through the wilderness as we move forward with them across the desert. We're in an awesome section of Scripture in these accounts from Exodus. I hope all of you dear readers will continue to go through the Bible with us. We have some profoundly sobering truths about our Savior and Lord Jesus Christ coming up in our next report ~

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