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Scripture Fulfilled Today Series



Exodus 3

Mount Sinai

Reading EXODUS 19

EXODUS 19:1

1 ¶ In the third month, when the children of Israel were gone forth out of the land of Egypt, the same day came they into the wilderness of Sinai.

2 For they were departed from Rephidim, and were come to the desert of Sinai, and had pitched in the wilderness; and there Israel camped before the mount.

3 And Moses went up unto God, and the LORD called unto him out of the mountain, saying, Thus shalt thou say to the house of Jacob, and tell the children of Israel;

4 Ye have seen what I did unto the Egyptians, and how I bare you on eagles' wings, and brought you unto myself.

5 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:

6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation. These are the words which thou shalt speak unto the children of Israel.

Background

The people of God had accepted the slain lamb and the angel of death passed over them. It's just the same as us accepting the Lamb of God, Jesus Christ, and we gain eternal life. The first death has no power over us.

But that is only the beginning. They had to leave Egypt. They had to separate themselves from the places where they had been in slavery. God people are always called to separation. We have to come out of the life and habits we had and align to God's Word. For the people of Israel it was a physical walking away from Egypt, for us today is staying away from those places that are no good for us.

But our past tries to drag us back. We find our past desires and habits so close to us. Only God protects us from failing and from being dragged back into the old life. But there is one way forward and that, like the children of Israel was through water. For them it was the Red sea for us it is water baptism by immersion in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

But that isn't the end of our journey. Our past life may have been drowned in the Red Sea or in the waters of Baptism and we will have risen as new creatures in Christ. But that is not our destination. There is still a long way to go before we arrive in the Promised Land. Nor are we ready yet to move into that land. There is more to come on our journey through life.

Sinai

How many days from Egypt?

EXODUS 12:1

- 1 ¶ And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying,
- 2 This month shall be unto you the beginning of months: it shall be the first month of the year to you.
- 3 Speak ye unto all the congregation of Israel, saying, In the tenth day of this month they shall take to them every man a lamb, according to the house of their fathers, a lamb for an house:

Then jump to verse 5

5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year: ye shall take it out from the sheep, or from the goats:

6 And ye shall keep it up until the fourteenth day of the same month: and the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it in the evening.

So Israel left Egypt on the 14th day of the first month.

A Jewish month is 30 days.

According to the first reading they arrived at Mount Sinai on the first day of the third month. So their arrival was 16 days and one month after Passover. That's 46 days.

Then Moses went up the mount and spoke with God.

47 Days

EXODUS 19:10

10 And the LORD said unto Moses, Go unto the people, and sanctify them to day and to morrow, and let them wash their clothes,

11 And be ready against the third day: for the third day the LORD will come down in the sight of all the people upon mount Sinai.

EXODUS 19:18

18 And mount Sinai was altogether on a smoke, because the LORD descended upon it in fire: and the smoke thereof ascended as the smoke of a furnace, and the whole mount quaked greatly.

19 And when the voice of the trumpet sounded long, and waxed louder and louder, Moses spake, and God answered him by a voice.

20 And the LORD came down upon mount Sinai, on the top of the mount: and the LORD called Moses up to the top of the mount; and Moses went up.

47 Days plus three is 50 days

Fifty days after Passover is Pentecost. So, Mount Sinai represents Pentecost.

But what happened at Sinai?

The people chose law.

EXODUS 19:7

7 And Moses came and called for the elders of the people, and laid before their faces all these words which the LORD commanded him.

8 And all the people answered together, and said, All that the LORD hath spoken we will do. And Moses returned the words of the people unto the LORD.

EXODUS 20:18

18 ¶ And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.

19 And they said unto Moses, Speak thou with us, and we will hear: but let not God speak with us, lest we die.

The biggest mistake the people made and the biggest mistake that most people still make.

They didn't want God to speak with them directly, they wanted Him to only speak through someone else. They wanted a man to tell them what God said.

That is still true today. People want to look up to a leader, a king, a Pastor a Teacher or someone they think they can rely on. There is only one person good enough to be relied upon and that is Jesus Christ. What God wanted was for people to believe His Word and act on it.

Abraham and his Children

God told Abraham to leave his home and family and go to a land that God would give him.

GALATIANS 3:6

6 ¶ Even as Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness.

7 Know ye therefore that they which are of faith, the same are the children of Abraham.

8 And the scripture, foreseeing that God would justify the heathen through faith, preached before the gospel unto Abraham, saying, In thee shall all nations be blessed.

There was no, "If you do this I will give you the land," there was no laws given first.

The Original agreement between God and man is unconditional. There are no conditions attached.

We are called from this world to journey to a land God wants to give us, a spiritual land, a new world, a new Jerusalem. And we step forward in faith believing that God will be as good as His Word then we are justified.

Justification

If I stole something from you then you could forgive me.

But if I never stole in the first place then you can't forgive me, I am just, I never did it. I am justified.

But back to our journey. If we believe the Word of God and act on it just as Abraham did then we are the spiritual children of Abraham.

Genes, parents, children have the same tendencies. Sometimes we get really cross with our kids over their attitude or something they do, but if we examine ourselves then we can see we have the same problem, that where they got it from. They got their behaviour from their parents; it is hereditary.

We have a saying when kids turn out much like their parents, the apple (maybe orange here) doesn't fall far from the tree. In other words a child is generally (and there are exceptions) very like his or her parents.

So if we act like Abraham when we hear God's Word, we trust Him and step out in faith then we are the children of Abraham, we have the same spiritual genes.

GALATIANS 3:9

9 So then they which be of faith are blessed with faithful Abraham.

10 For as many as are of the works of the law are under the curse: for it is written, Cursed is every one that continueth not in all things which are written in the book of the law to do them.

11 But that no man is justified by the law in the sight of God, it is evident: for, The just shall live by faith.

So what then was the Law given for?

GALATIANS 3:24

24 Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith.

25 But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster.

26 For ye are all the children of God by faith in Christ Jesus.

27 For as many of you as have been baptized into Christ have put on Christ.

Some people think they are good if they obey the 10 Commandments. But that wasn't what the 10 Commandments are for. They were there to show us that nothing we do is good enough, we cannot ever be good enough to fulfil the law. And to fail the law is death. There has to be a way out.

There is, through the freewill offering of Jesus Christ to die for us, to take our place.

Catch this.

He, Jesus, became me so that I might become Him by grace

God Himself came down as a man to take our place in death so that we could become part of Him and live and reign with Him eternally as His Wife, His Queen.

GALATIANS 3:12

12 And the law is not of faith: but, The man that doeth them shall live in them.

13 Christ hath redeemed us from the curse of the law, being made a curse for us: for it is written, Cursed is every one that hangeth on a tree:

14 That the blessing of Abraham might come on the Gentiles through Jesus Christ; that we might receive the promise of the Spirit through faith.

Back to Mount Sinai

The people wanted God to speak through prophets only. The people did not want God to talk with them direct. And that is why there are so many religions and different denominations. People follow different leaders. What God wants is to lead His people Himself.

EXODUS 19:5

5 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:

6 And ye shall be unto me a kingdom of priests, and an holy nation.

But they wanted a structure, they wanted an organisation. They failed the test. They are no longer an kingdom of priests, a holy nation. So the promise passed to us, the Gentiles

I PETER 2:9

9 But ye are a chosen generation, a royal priesthood, an holy nation, a peculiar people; that ye should shew forth the praises of him who hath called you out of darkness into his marvellous light:

Does that mean we don't need church, that we don't need Pastors, and Teachers and Evengelists and so on? On the contrary, they are essential, but never replace them with God.

What is the ministry?

The Five Fold ministry. Apostle, Prophet, Pastor Teacher, Evangelist.

To minister is to serve.

Called for the purpose of bring all of us to that position where we are ready to be lead by the Spirit of God.

The Spirit of God will lead us to gather together to share, to praise, to hear from the other members of the body of Christ. But it will also lead you individually in your daily life. What you should do, where you should go, who should you speak to, how you should project your life in God.

At that fist Penetecost which is Mount Sinai and the Law and priesthood the people received the instructions to live the life.

But in Acts 2 at the Christian Pentecost they received the power to live the life.

ACTS 2:1

1 ¶ And when the day of Pentecost was fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.

2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting.

3 And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them.

4 And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.

There were 120 in that upper room but the apostleship was only on 11 of them.

They all spoke as the spirit gave them utterance, but when Peter preached that first Christian sermon they shut up. Everyone has a part to play but it is God that like a great conductor of an orchestra. He calls in the various instruments at specific times to play their parts so the whole is a beautiful symphony.

We must all go through a Pentecostal experience. We should all receive the spirit of God. But that doesn't mean that all will be well.

Look at what happened at Sinai.

They wouldn't wait to hear God's Word delivered by a prophet

They built a golden calf. Pentecostal worship will always have the temptation to become a golden calf type of worship where money and gold become the object of worship not Jesus.

And it cost the people their earrings. People hear with their ears. These people paid the price of hearing to make Golden Calf worship. They couldn't hear the true message, they had given their hearing to a false religion and they only hear that. Even today Jews are noted for their concentration on money. And so are many Pentecostal churches throughout the world.

GIFTS AND CALLINGS

There are many today who have genuine gifts and callings from God but they turn to money making schemes or golden calf worship.

How can this be?

Surely God will only bless those with spiritual gifts, those that have genuine Holy Spirit gifts.

No!

ROMANS 11:29

29 For the gifts and calling of God are without repentance.

That means that God doesn't take away genuine gifts if someone goes wrong. It also means that it is not necessary for someone to repent to receive a gift from God. In other words they can have a Holy Spirit gift or calling without being a Christian.

JOEL 2:28

28 ¶ And it shall come to pass afterward, that I will pour out my spirit upon all flesh; ..

It doesn't say pour out my Spirit on all believers, it says upon all flesh.

Not all flesh is saved.

LUKE 10:17

17 ¶ And the seventy returned again with joy, saying, Lord, even the devils are subject unto us through thy name.

18 And he said unto them, I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven.

19 Behold, I give unto you power to tread on serpents and scorpions, and over all the power of the enemy: and nothing shall by any means hurt you.

20 Notwithstanding in this rejoice not, that the spirits are subject unto you; but rather rejoice, because your names are written in heaven.

Seventy, including the 12 disciples, including Judas Iscariot went out and used genuine Holy Spirit gifts to heal, cast out demons and so on.

But the seventy left Jesus. Judas betrayed our Lord.

Having genuine Holy Spirit gifts does not mean that you will make it. Having Holy Spirit gifts do not even mean you are a genuine Christian.

Balaam:

NUMBERS 22:15

15 ¶ And Balak sent yet again princes, more, and more honourable than they.

16 And they came to Balaam, and said to him, Thus saith Balak the son of Zippor, Let nothing, I pray thee, hinder thee from coming unto me:

17 For I will promote thee unto very great honour, and I will do whatsoever thou sayest unto me: come therefore, I pray thee, curse me this people.

18 And Balaam answered and said unto the servants of Balak, If Balak would give me his house full of silver and gold, I cannot go beyond the word of the LORD my God, to do less or more.

Balaam had the genuine God given calling and gifts of a prophet, But he was a false prophet!

The Anointed Ones At the End Time

MATTHEW 5:45

45 That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven: for he maketh his sun to rise on the evil and on the good, and sendeth rain on the just and on the unjust.

God sends good to all, he sends gifts to all, even the unsaved. Spiritual gifts do not mean salvation or eternal life or any such thing. All Christian should have and will have spiritual gifts and callings. but demon

worshippers and witch doctors can speak in tongues. They can dance in the spirit but their lives show what they are.

And that is the difference.

The true infilling, not outward anointing of the Holy Spirit, will change a person, give them different desires, different values, different ambitions. The wise virgins had oil in their vessels, their body's. The foolish had an outward anointing but no inward spirit. They had the gifts of the Holy Spirit but not the Holy Spirit Himself.

Those 120 were frightened. They met in secret behind locked doors, but when they were filled with the Holy Spirit they were bold, they went out preaching teaching, healing. They proclaimed openly what once they held secretly. They were new people.

That is the Pentecost we all need. Not just an outward spiritual show, but an inner life.

One lives by the spirit and checks the leading of the Spirit by the law, the other lives by the law

The Life of Christ in a person, making them anew. This is being born again. Being born again contains Justification, Sanctification, as well as the baptism of the Holy Ghost. All are part of being born again.

There is a change, and it is seen by others more than seen by ourselves.

Summary

In Summary: in the Exodus journey Mount Sinai represents Pentecost.

It has all the good and all the bad tendencies of Sinai.

It tends to be ruled by law, not grace.

It can easily turn into a money making or Golden Calf worship system

It concentrates on spiritual gifts not on the Holy Spirit Himself

It tends to believe that if someone has a genuine Holy Spirit gift then they must be saved. Wrong!

JOHN 11:49

49 And one of them, named Caiaphas, being the high priest that same year, said unto them, Ye know nothing at all,

50 Nor consider that it is expedient for us, that one man should die for the people, and that the whole nation perish not.

51 And this spake he not of himself: but being high priest that year, he prophesied that Jesus should die for that nation;

52 And not for that nation only, but that also he should gather together in one the children of God that were scattered abroad.

Caiaphas the High Priest correctly prophesied that one should die for many condemning Jesus to death.

The prophecy was correct, but it came because of Caiaphas' position as High priest. But he, Caiaphas was not saved.

Conclusion

Every person in the world is somewhere in the story of Exodus. There are slaves, slave masters, priests of false religions, well to do and not so well to do Egyptian or world centred families. There are God's people and there are traders, remote shepherds and city centred businessmen.

Then there are Christians who, having accepted salvation, are somewhere on the road to the Promised Land. They could be scared of their past life taking them back into slavery, the Red Sea of water baptism is before them but they haven't stepped in yet. Then there's the complainers who cannot drink the water of the Word, it is too bitter for them. Mount Sinai is still a law for some, others have made golden calf worship out of Pentecost. They have become rich by holding worship in the right place but with a golden image that has replaced the one true God.

And there are people in the Promised Land who shouldn't be there. Claiming to be the owners and guardians of God's land, (that is the body of Christ) they stand as giants blocking God's people from taking over. Even when Christians have completed the Exodus journey they still have to fight their way in and take the land.

Everyone is somewhere in that story. And so is every denomination; every sect, every church. The Salvation Army are in Egypt trying to get people to leave. The Baptists have been at the Red Sea for centuries, and Pentecostal Churches have camped round Mount Sinai too long. While each has a place in the journey none are the Promised Land.

Salvation, Baptism, Pentecost are experiences each believer must go through, and that is the key. They are places to go through but not to stay! Some of those places have become denominations, lodges or resting places. And once people get comfortable they can forget the journey and stay there. Denominations are only lodges, places to stay overnight, and then move on. All too often the lodges want to hold the people there. They are more concerned with keeping their lodges full than with equipping Christians ready for their next stage and then encouraging them forward. We need God ordained people in all those places, but just to train, not to make disciples of themselves.

And there are church leaders claiming to have the authority to hold the Promised Land. They have been there for generations. They have an apostolic line of ownership. They claim to be the Body of Christ and the right to decide who can be ministers of God and who cannot. They reject the right of God's children to take their position as apostles, prophets, pastors, evangelists, teachers, miracle workers, elders, managers, helpers, in fact any calling. They even claim the right to decide who are believers and who are not. These are the giants in the land that make the children of God feel small.

Pentecost, as with all other places, is a point on the journey to the promised land. It is not the final destination.

We must press forward the mark of the high calling in Jesus Christ

PHILIPPIANS 3:13

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

14 I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

15 ¶ Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

Amen