

# Slow Down!

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Recorded on May 7, 2022

I have a question for you. What do you think? We've been through the spring Holy Days now, not completely—we still have Pentecost ahead of us—but we've been through the days of Unleavened Bread. A lot of lessons, a lot of symbolism embedded in that. I hope you are thinking and focusing on “meat in due season” because God has provided a tremendous amount of information for us to “chew” on. Even though some of it we have been through over and over again, we may read it a little too quickly because we're so familiar with the words and the stories, but if you *slow down* then you might pick up some connections that you may never have seen before.

There was a long journey from Egypt all the way to the border of the Promised Land. It was a long journey. It's covered from Exodus all the way to Deuteronomy. Genesis was the set up, but four fifths of the book of the Torah covered this journey from Egypt to the border of the Promised Land but, without going into the Promised Land. We have this huge volume of information. Stories to contemplate and pull understanding from and there may be some things in there we never thought of.

Let me give you an example. In Exodus 14:21, right in the middle of what we have just been studying.

**Exodus 14:21** *Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the LORD caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided.*

22) *So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.*

23) *And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. (NKJV)*

We know that Israel escaped through the Red Sea, we are very familiar with that story. But go over though, to 1 Corinthians 10. We're going to be dancing around in Corinthians a lot today.

**1 Corinthians 10:1** *Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea,*

2) *all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea. (NKJV)*

I have a question for you. If Paul hadn't related being baptized in the Red Sea, if he hadn't made that connection, would you have made that connection on your own? I never would. The connection was there. When you look at what was pictured by them going into the Red Sea and the death that was pictured and then coming out of the Red Sea out of Egypt—they escaped, freedom from slavery—there's a lot of symbolism there. I wouldn't have made that connection.

Another one is Numbers 21:5.

**Numbers 21:5** *And the people spoke against God and against Moses: "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread."*

6) *So the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people; and many of the people of Israel died.*

7) *Therefore the people came to Moses, and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD that He take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people.*

8) *Then the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent, and set it on a pole; and it shall be that everyone who is bitten, when he looks at it, shall live."*

9) *So Moses made a bronze serpent, and put it on a pole; and so it was, if a serpent had bitten anyone, when he looked at the bronze serpent, he lived.*

(NKJV)

Essentially God said, if you don't like the bread from heaven then maybe you need a dose of the serpent. If you don't like Christ, maybe you need a little bit of Satan and a little bit of the death that comes with that. That's some of the obvious connections you can make, but that's not the connection that Christ made when He was talking to Nicodemus. Look at John 3:14

**John 3:14** *And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, even so must the Son of Man be lifted up,*

15) *that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.*

16) *For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.* (NKJV)

If Christ hadn't made that connection between the bronze snake on the pole and His own crucifixion, would we have made that connection? In the desert people were dying from snake bites. They needed to be saved, they needed to be forgiven. They were given instructions what to do if they were bitten. All they had to do was look at the bronze snake raised up on the pole, just as Christ would be raised up on the pole and they would be saved. All they had to do was believe, look and be saved. If they didn't believe, they didn't look, they wouldn't be saved and they would die. That's kind of cool. Let's go back to 1 Corinthians 10 and read something else. This is the most impactful scripture that I've found in 1 Corinthians 10. It's where Paul said:

**1 Corinthians 10:11** *Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.* (NKJV)

These things happened—they were caused to happen as examples and then they were written down for our admonition.

12) *Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall.* (NKJV)

It's a good idea, as we go through this, to *slow down*. Let's look at the stories and let's make the connection. Let's ask "why?" One time I saw a guy take a pen out of his pocket and he had everybody in the room take out their own pens and told them all to concentrate on that pen. He gave them a minute. So, everybody was staring at their pens and looking at them and he let a whole minute go by and everybody was focused and concentrating on it. Then he finished and said, "What do you know about that pen?" Practically nothing? You stared at it for a minute, big deal.

Now I want you to become fascinated with the pen. Then everybody was going through this and looking at the clip and how that was made and turning it around and unscrewing it and pushing it—they were examining it because they were fascinated with the pen. That's what I want us to do with these stories. Don't just read them, become fascinated. Why is that included? It's a lot of information condensed. We need to ask "Why?" Why is that story included? What are the elements of that story? What can I learn from that story? What are the connections? Pick up some of the things—maybe a few that are more than Paul told us were direct connections or what Christ told us are direct connections.

Last January I recorded a sermon about Joseph and in that sermon, I was talking about how the dominoes were set up. How many things had to be set up to get Jacob and his family into Egypt. We went through to hit some highlights. Joseph had to be Jacob's favorite child, born of his favorite wife so that Jacob could give Joseph a special, "I'm better than everybody" tunic so Joseph would be treated as special his whole life and be hated by his brothers. So that Joseph would be eager to share his dreams of how he was going to dominate his brothers. So that his brothers would want to kill him and then Joseph sent out to check on his brothers and the brothers would take him and throw him in a pit, so that Reuben could intervene. So that they could then have a lunch break and contemplate their next move. Then the caravan would come by and Judah would think, here's a profit-making opportunity, let's just sell Joseph to them so then they could fake Joseph's death by covering his special coat in animal's blood and it goes on and on. It's this long string of one domino after domino that Yehovah orchestrated to get them into Egypt so they would become oppressed and need to come out.

One of the things I want us to really dig into, is the fact that God has orchestrated all this and Yehovah is still orchestrating everything. The Israelites are slaves in Egypt. They are oppressed, they are miserable and they are trapped. So, let's turn to Exodus 3:16.

**Exodus 3:16** *Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, "I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt;*

*17) and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey. "'*

18) *Then they will heed your voice; and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt; and you shall say to him, 'The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.'*

19) *But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand.*

20) *So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go.*

21) *And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed.*

22) *But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians."*

(NKJV)

You see in this, that this is before Moses went and talked to Pharaoh. God knew every step of the plan. He hadn't brought it about yet but he knew every step, everything He was going to do. He knew what everybody's response to everything was going to be. It was all written in advance. Notice the three days' journey into the wilderness because it's repeated a number of times. Exodus 8:27.

**Exodus 8:27** *We will go three days' journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the LORD our God as He will command us."* (NKJV)

I'm just going to read this one, Exodus 10:9. Moses is talking to Pharaoh.

**Exodus 10:9** *And Moses said, "We will go with our young and our old; with our sons and our daughters, with our flocks and our herds we will go, for we must hold a feast to the LORD."* (NKJV)

There is a journey here. We know that Pharaoh pictures Satan. We know that Egypt pictures being in bondage to sin. We can read that in Romans 6:3.

**Romans 6:3** *Or do you not know that as many of us as were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death?*

4) *Therefore we were buried with Him through baptism into death, that just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life.*

5) *For if we have been united together in the likeness of His death, certainly we also shall be in the likeness of His resurrection,*

6) *knowing this, that our old man was crucified with Him, that the body of sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves of sin.*

7) *For he who has died has been freed from sin.* (NKJV)

Verse 16.

*16) Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?*

*17) But God be thanked that though you were slaves of sin, yet you obeyed from the heart that form of doctrine to which you were delivered.*

*18) And having been set free from sin, you became slaves of righteousness.*  
(NKJV)

Now let's go back to the Exodus. Before the children of Israel could even get out of Egypt when they were headed out, Pharaoh changed his mind. He started chasing them. He was going to run them down. When a person decides to repent, decides to leave sin, sin chases them down, it doesn't just go away easily. Sin is going to give chase and we get many opportunities to choose between going back to Egypt or fleeing sin. So, the people are freaked out and thought they were all going to die and Moses said this, Exodus 14:13.

**Exodus 14:13** *And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD ... (NKJV)*

Sometimes the most difficult thing to do is to just do nothing. To not be afraid and to see the salvation that Yehovah is bringing about. God intervened, He opened up the Red Sea and made a way of escape. 1 Corinthians 10, I was reminded of this scripture; God makes a way of escape. I told you we would be in the chapter a lot—verse 13.

**1 Corinthians 10:13** *No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. (NKJV)*

God opened up the Red Sea, He opened up ways of escape for us as well. We have to go through them. The children of Israel had to take action. They had to start walking and that's what we have to do, we have to start walking—just keep moving forward. So, Pharaoh's army is wiped out, we read that soldier bodies are washed up on the shore and then there's the song of Moses and the song of Miriam and dancing and this big party and then they travel to what seems to be their destination. Three days into the wilderness—they get three days into the wilderness, Exodus 15:22.

**Exodus 15:22** *So Moses brought Israel from the Red Sea; then they went out into the Wilderness of Shur. And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water. (NKJV)*

So, they made it to their destination. Three days, we're ready for the party, ready for the feast, ready for the sacrifices—all of that. Verse 23.

*23) Now when they came to Marah, they could not drink the waters of Marah, for they were bitter. Therefore the name of it was called Marah.*

24) *And the people complained against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?"*  
(NKJV)

How big of a problem was this? You have a few million people; you have a few million animals. Let's say that every animal and every human needs about a quart of water. That's about a million gallons of water for a day. If everybody gets a quart, an average swimming pool holds about 25,000 gallons of water. So, you're talking about forty swimming pools full of water. This is a big problem. If they don't get water then their animals are going to die and if it goes too long, they too are going to die. Their kids are going to be uncomfortable—this is a big problem. It's not raining and they don't see any way this is going to get solved. But then they finally find water and it's poisoned.

25) *So he cried out to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a tree. When he cast it into the waters, the waters were made sweet. There He made a statute and an ordinance for them, and there He tested them ...* (NKJV)

The word for *tree* is 6086 *es*, I don't know if I'm pronouncing that correctly. It doesn't mean a big giant tree; it can mean many things. It can mean "a piece of wood or a stick". Over in Ezekiel 37 is where Ezekiel is told to take the stick and put Judah on it and take the other stick and put Joseph on it and put the sticks together and they will be made one stick, that's the same word. It can mean a "stick or a piece of lumber" or anything along those lines. With that in mind you can start connecting the dots on what this could possibly mean. Moses followed the instructions, he took the stick and threw it into the water and the water was transformed from poison to life sustaining, life giving water. You can connect whatever dots. Let's pick it up now in verse 26.

26) *and said, "If you diligently heed the voice of the LORD your God and do what is right in His sight, give ear to His commandments and keep all His statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you which I have brought on the Egyptians. For I am the LORD who heals you."* (NKJV)

Who else do we know Who is a Healer? Let's go to Matthew 8:16.

**Matthew 8:16** *When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick,*

17) *that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: "He Himself took our infirmities And bore our sicknesses."* (NKJV)

Why was the story of Marah included? What can we pick up out of Marah? They are going on three days journey. They are expecting this but then they realized they have a big logistics problem—they have no water. It is solved. How do we react today when our supplies change or are threatened or interrupted? How much are we worried or concerned about this? It is kind of the same thing. Exodus 15:27.

**Exodus 15:27** *Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees; so they camped there by the waters. (NKJV)*

There's no drama in this stop and it is just a few sentences, so why was that included? Why was that important? Think about it—sometimes we just need a rest from our journey. We have lots of trials, lots of threats and lots of things to worry about. We have things coming at us from every direction and sometimes it's nice to just have a break; to rest up. Then we have to continue the journey and that's what they did.

**Exodus 16:1** *And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt. (NKJV)*

They have been gone a month.

*2) Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. (NKJV)*

Why are they complaining? They are running out of food. Before, they were running out of water and now they're running out of food. They don't have a source of food. Mothers are worrying about feeding the children, they are maybe nagging dad a bit and dad is worrying about feeding the family and everyone is getting antsy because they have no food—they are running out of food. There's no way to replenish the food. Would you be worried? I think so. We just hear rumors of food shortages and it's the buzz; people are worried. There were no grocery stores out there. The ironic thing is they had a lot of silver and gold because they had sacked the Egyptians; they were carrying a lot of wealth, but you can't eat the gold, you can't eat the silver. So, they are wealthy but there's no food. This is a big deal, they are thinking things look hopeless. They are thinking, we have this wizard named Moses and his brother and they have this magic stick that brought all these plagues, opened up the Red Sea and then we come out here and what are we going to do? We're all going to starve to death. Let's go talk to this guy with the magic stick and his brother and see what they have to say.

*3) And the children of Israel said to them, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." (NKJV)*

There's a saying: *If you can't fix the problem, the next best thing is to fix the blame.*

So that's what they're doing.

*4) Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not."*

5) *And it shall be on the sixth day that they shall prepare what they bring in, and it shall be twice as much as they gather daily.*"

6) *Then Moses and Aaron said to all the children of Israel, "At evening you shall know that the LORD has brought you out of the land of Egypt.*

7) *And in the morning, you shall see the glory of the LORD; for He hears your complaints against the LORD. But what are we, that you complain against us?"*

8) *Also Moses said, "This shall be seen when the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening, and in the morning bread to the full; for the LORD hears your complaints which you make against Him. And what are we? Your complaints are not against us but against the LORD." (NKJV)*

So, Moses essentially says, "I'm not the wizard, I don't have a magic stick, this is Yehovah who is doing this."

9) *Then Moses spoke to Aaron, "Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, Come near before the LORD, for He has heard your complaints."*

10) *Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud.*

11) *And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,*

12) *I have heard the complaints of the children of Israel. Speak to them, saying, At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. And you shall know that I am the LORD your God." (NKJV)*

You will see, all through these travels, they keep blaming everything on Moses. Who is this Moses who brought us out of Egypt? God is letting them know, through this visual manifestation, that He is God, He is the One who is doing this. When you are complaining against Moses, you're complaining against Me. So, God gives them this manifestation in the cloud, He provides miracle food for them so that they know and understand, so they have the opportunity to understand.

13) *So it was that quail came up at evening and covered the camp, and in the morning the dew lay all around the camp.*

14) *And when the layer of dew lifted, there, on the surface of the wilderness, was a small round substance, as fine as frost on the ground.*

15) *So when the children of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "This is the bread which the LORD has given you to eat.*

16) *This is the thing which the LORD has commanded: 'Let every man gather it according to each one's need, one omer for each person, according to the number of persons; let every man take for those who are in his tent.' "*

17) *Then the children of Israel did so and gathered, some more, some less. (NKJV)*

Verse 19.



19) *And Moses said, "Let no one leave any of it till morning."*  
20) *Notwithstanding they did not heed Moses. But some of them left part of it until morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them.* (NKJV)

They have to test everything don't they? How does that relate to us? Do we believe or do we have to test things as well? Are we sometimes kind of like the Israelites? Verse 22.

22) *And so it was, on the sixth day, that they gathered twice as much bread, two omers for each one. And all the rulers of the congregation came and told Moses.*  
23) *Then he said to them, "This is what the LORD has said: 'Tomorrow is a Sabbath rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD. [This is interesting to me] Bake what you will bake today, and boil what you will boil; and lay up for yourselves all that remains, to be kept until morning.'"* (NKJV)

What they are laying up, to be kept until the morning, is not baked and it's not boiled, it's unprepared.

24) *So they laid it up till morning, as Moses commanded; and it did not stink, nor were there any worms in it.*  
25) *Then Moses said, "Eat that today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it in the field.*  
26) *Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, the Sabbath, there will be none."* (NKJV)

God gives us what we need as we need it day by day. The bread from heaven can't be stored beyond the limits that God gives it. I noticed in here, that some people choose to eat cold food on the Sabbath and that's fine, because they think that preparing food is forbidden so they eat cold food. A careful reading of that shows that some of the Manna was set aside from the Sabbath and it wasn't prepared yet—it wasn't ready to eat. So they had to prepare it if they were going to eat it on the Sabbath. I found that interesting. Verse 33.

33) *And Moses said to Aaron, "Take a pot and put an omer of manna in it, and lay it up before the LORD, to be kept for your generations."*  
34) *As the LORD commanded Moses, so Aaron laid it up before the Testimony, to be kept.* (NKJV)

This is mentioned in Hebrews 9:3.

**Hebrews 9:3** *and behind the second veil, the part of the tabernacle which is called the Holiest of All,*  
4) *which had the golden censer and the ark of the covenant overlaid on all sides with gold, in which were the golden pot that had the manna, Aaron's rod that budded, and the tablets of the covenant;* (NKJV)

What I found interesting about this is, that at the time that they get the Manna, they don't have an ark, they don't have the Ten Commandments yet, they don't have the covenant, they don't have "behind the veil"—they don't have any of that stuff. It just goes to show that Moses wasn't writing this every day as it happened. He's looking back and writing the story and then he's filling in where it was going to be put and so on. The first time I looked at that I said, how could they put it in there, it's not there.

Now let's go to the story about Rephidim, the story in Exodus 17. We're just kind of marching through this.

**Exodus 17:1** *Then all the congregation of the children of Israel set out on their journey from the Wilderness of Sin, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped in Rephidim; but there was no water for the people to drink.*

2) *Therefore the people contended with Moses, and said, "Give us water, that we may drink." So Moses said to them, "Why do you contend with me? Why do you tempt the LORD?"*

3) *And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, "Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?" (NKJV)*

You have to acknowledge that this was a real threat. They are dealing with real reality. They are thirsty, their animals are going to die if they don't get water.

4) *So Moses cried out to the LORD, saying, "What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me!"*

5) *And the LORD said to Moses, "Go on before the people, and take with you some of the elders of Israel. Also take in your hand your rod with which you struck the river, and go.*

6) *Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock in Horeb; and you shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink." And Moses did so in the sight of the elders of Israel. (NKJV)*

So, Moses struck the rock and enough water came out for a few million people and animals, to stock up. There's another story that took place at a different time when Moses was pressed to produce water. Let's go to Numbers 20:1. We'll read the story and link them together.

**Numbers 20:1** *Then the children of Israel, the whole congregation, came into the Wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh; and Miriam died there and was buried there.*

2) *Now there was no water for the congregation; so they gathered together against Moses and Aaron.*

3) *And the people contended with Moses and spoke, saying: "If only we had died when our brethren died before the LORD!"*

- 4) *Why have you brought up the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our animals should die here?*
- 5) *And why have you made us come up out of Egypt, to bring us to this evil place? It is not a place of grain or figs or vines or pomegranates; nor is there any water to drink."*
- 6) *So Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and they fell on their faces. And the glory of the LORD appeared to them.*
- 7) *Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,*
- 8) *Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals."*
- 9) *So Moses took the rod from before the LORD as He commanded him.*
- 10) *And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock; and he said to them, "Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?"*
- 11) *Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.*
- 12) *Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them." (NKJV)*

God said it and God meant it. If you turn to Deuteronomy 3:23.

**Deuteronomy 3:23** *Then I pleaded with the LORD at that time, saying:*

- 24) *O Lord GOD, You have begun to show Your servant Your greatness and Your mighty hand, for what god is there in heaven or on earth who can do anything like Your works and Your mighty deeds?*
- 25) *I pray, let me cross over and see the good land beyond the Jordan, those pleasant mountains, and Lebanon. '*
- 26) *But the LORD was angry with me on your account, and would not listen to me. So the LORD said to me: 'Enough of that! Speak no more to Me of this matter.*
- 27) *Go up to the top of Pisgah, and lift your eyes toward the west, the north, the south, and the east; behold it with your eyes, for you shall not cross over this Jordan. (NKJV)*

Deuteronomy 32, is where Yehovah told Moses to go up the mountain and He showed him all the land and then Moses died on the mountain. Why was this such a big deal? Why was this so unforgivable? I know Moses didn't follow God's instructions, that's a no-brainer. He was angry. He had hit the rock before except this time he did it twice. Moses didn't give God the glory. Moses said, must we bring water from the rock like it was Aaron and himself who were bringing water from the rock and then he hit it twice. The rock is a symbol for Christ. If you look at 1 Corinthians 10:2.

**1 Corinthians 10:2** *all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea,  
3) all ate the same spiritual food,  
4) and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. (NKJV)*

Now Christ was smitten for us. He was sacrificed once for us. Then He sat down at the right hand of the Father and He poured out the Holy Spirit as the promise of the Father. For us to receive more of God's spirit, all we have to do is ask. Christ doesn't have to be smitten again; Christ doesn't have to be sacrificed again. All we have to do is ask and believe. Turn to Hebrews 9:24. This was a big deal. You don't beat the Holy Spirit out of Christ.

**Hebrews 9:24** *For Christ has not entered the holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God for us;  
25) not that He should offer Himself often, as the high priest enters the Most Holy Place every year with blood of another—  
26) He then would have had to suffer often since the foundation of the world; but now, once at the end of the ages, He has appeared to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.  
27) And as it is appointed for men to die once, but after this the judgment,  
28) so Christ was offered once to bear the sins of many. To those who eagerly wait for Him He will appear a second time, apart from sin, for salvation. (NKJV)*

Go back to Hebrews 6, just a couple verses.

**Hebrews 6:4** *For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted the heavenly gift, and have become partakers of the Holy Spirit,  
5) and have tasted the good word of God and the powers of the age to come,  
6) if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame. (NKJV)*

This was a big deal. This was something that God didn't expect? Was He caught by surprise? Did He have this planned? No, this too was part of the plan. This shows that no matter who you are, even if you are Moses, no matter what good you've done in the past, no matter what good you're doing now, no matter what you've endured, no matter how long you've served—forty years in the wilderness—you're still held accountable. I'm still held accountable for my thoughts and my actions. Entering the Promised Land is what is at stake. This just drives that home.

Let's go back to Exodus and pick it up in chapter 17. After Rephidim, they got the rock, they got the water, everybody is cool.

**Exodus 17:8** *Now Amalek came and fought with Israel in Rephidim.*

9) *And Moses said to Joshua, "Choose us some men and go out, fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the rod of God in my hand."*

10) *So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. (NKJV)*

Why is Amalek attacking Israel? They are carrying with them the whole wealth of Egypt. They have all the silver and gold and a little rag-tag group of slaves and Amalek said this should be an easy kill.

11) *And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed.*

12) *But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.*

13) *So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword. (NKJV)*

One of the details—where did the swords come from? They had to come from the bodies of the Egyptians who were washed up on the shore because this isn't long after they left so that's how they had to get them. Then Moses is up there with the rod of God and his hands get tired so he's going to take a break and then he looks down and the people are getting beaten so he puts his hands back up and he's getting tired and the battle is going on. Aaron and Hur are holding up his hands and he sits down on a rock. Have you ever been so tired that you just wanted to sit down? You couldn't lift your hands anymore? You need someone to hold you up? You have people depending on you, their lives are at stake and yet you don't have it in you to even lift your hands up. You can't help them. Therefore, God had people right there to help him hold his hands up. We are in the same situation. We depend on each other to hold our hands up; there's a lot at stake. Yehovah provides support through the people around us and we depend on them. It's necessary. Let's look at verse 14.

14) *Then the LORD said to Moses, "Write this for a memorial in the book and recount it in the hearing of Joshua, that I will utterly blot out the remembrance of Amalek from under heaven."*

15) *And Moses built an altar and called its name, The-LORD-Is-My-Banner;*

16) *for he said, "Because the LORD has sworn: the LORD will have war with Amalek from generation to generation." (NKJV)*

The enemies of Yehovah will be utterly and permanently destroyed. Their names will be blotted out of the book, just like Amalek. Their remembrance will be gone. The gold and the silver that Amalek wanted, that was the gold and the silver that would be used to build the tabernacle—to build all of the elements; the altar, the laver and the candlestick and the table of show bread—everything in there, the ark of the covenant. This was the reason they sacked the Egyptians. It was because they were going to need all this raw

material to do exactly what Yehovah had in mind. There was no way that Amalek was going to run off with the materials for the building of the tabernacle. So Yehovah handled it.

After that, we have the story of Jethro coming to Moses with Moses' wife and sons. They meet Moses and Moses catches Jethro up on everything that had happened since they last saw each other. This is in Exodus 18:8.

**Exodus 18:8** *And Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, all the hardship that had come upon them on the way, and how the LORD had delivered them.*

9) *Then Jethro rejoiced for all the good which the LORD had done for Israel, whom He had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.*

10) *And Jethro said, "Blessed be the LORD, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh, and who has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. (NKJV)*

I locked onto this.

11) *Now I know that the LORD is greater than all the gods; for in the very thing in which they behaved proudly, He was above them." (NKJV)*

It sounds like Jethro had no problem with believing there were other gods, but he believed that Yehovah was the greatest God. Continuing in verse 13.

13) *And so it was, on the next day, that Moses sat to judge the people; and the people stood before Moses from morning until evening. (NKJV)*

Verse 17.

17) *So Moses' father-in-law said to him, "The thing that you do is not good.*

18) *Both you and these people who are with you will surely wear yourselves out. For this thing is too much for you; you are not able to perform it by yourself.*

19) *Listen now to my voice; I will give you counsel, and God will be with you: Stand before God for the people, so that you may bring the difficulties to God.*

20) *And you shall teach them the statutes and the laws, and show them the way in which they must walk and the work they must do.*

21) *Moreover you shall select from all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place such over them to be rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens. (NKJV)*

He gives the qualifications and good advice on how to set up a system of administration. The question is, why did this advice come from Jethro? Moses was talking directly with Yehovah. If Yehovah wanted it done this way, why didn't He just tell Moses to do it? Why did it come from Jethro, who believes that Yehovah may be the greatest God but not the only God? Why did it come from Jethro? What is God trying to

tell us here? I was thinking about that—why is that? I realized that good advice—truth, wisdom—can come from anywhere. It can come from places outside of the COG's. Misinformation and misunderstanding can come from inside the COG's. Truth is truth, wisdom is wisdom. No opinion or understanding should be accepted or rejected because of the source. That doesn't make any sense. Does the advice make sense? If it's a doctrinal issue, does it match with God's Word? The source is irrelevant whether it's good or whether it's bad. Good advice came from Jethro. God planned everything out piece by piece. When it comes to doctrinal issues, there's only one source—the Bible. When it comes to administrative issues if it doesn't make sense—what works, what doesn't work.

Then they arrive at the mountain in Exodus 19; the mountain of God. A mountain is symbolic of a kingdom. The laws come from the King, who came down in fire. Here's where we need to just "slow down" and look at every one of these things. Moses had to go up to the mountain—why? God talked to him there. How did He orchestrate all that? Why did He do that? The terms of the covenant are put out, they come from God's voice not God—why is that? They enter into a covenant. What are the elements of them entering into the covenant? What were all the steps? First of all, they had to hear it from God's voice, not Moses' voice and then they had to agree to it, then it had to be written down and then ratified—look at all of these things because every one of these details are so important.

The instructions for the tabernacle—full of symbolism. You have the altar, the laver, the candles—all of that. Super, super full of symbolism. I want to jump forward in the story and look at the golden calf; just an element of the golden calf. We know Moses went up and he came down and they are singing and laughing and he says, "We have trouble." He confronts Aaron, let's go to Exodus 32:24. This verse always puts a big smile on my face.

**Exodus 32:24** *And I said to them, 'Whoever has any gold, let them break it off. ' So, they gave it to me, and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.'* (NKJV)

I don't know why that hits me as funny, it just hits me as really, really funny. Look at verse 25.

*25) Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained [now we're going to get serious] (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies),*

*26) then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, "Whoever is on the LORD's side—come to me!" And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him.*

*27) And he said to them, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Let every man put his sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man his neighbor.'"*

28) *So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And about three thousand men of the people fell that day.*

29) *Then Moses said, "Consecrate yourselves today to the LORD, that He may bestow on you a blessing this day, for every man has opposed his son and his brother." (NKJV)*

The people were out of control. They were unrepentant. They were busted but they were unrepentant and 3000 were executed. Now I want to link this to a New Testament thing that Christ said, go to Luke 14:25.

**Luke 14:25** *Now great multitudes went with Him. And He turned and said to them,*

26) *If anyone comes to Me and does not hate his father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be My disciple.*

27) *And whoever does not bear his cross and come after Me cannot be My disciple. (NKJV)*

The word *hated* is a word that has been explained many times. It means "by comparison". Jacob preferred one wife over the other wife—so he preferred Rachel over Leah but he didn't really hate Leah. Go back to Exodus 32:10. In this section Moses intercedes for the children of Israel. He's talking to Yehovah and he pleads with Yehovah. He says, don't kill them all. Don't do it, You are just going to prove the Egyptians right, he uses all this logic and talks Yehovah into saving the people. Verse 14.

**Exodus 32:14** *So the LORD relented from the harm which He said He would do to His people. (NKJV)*

Now back to Hebrews 7:25—a quick scripture.

**Hebrews 7:25** *Therefore He is also able to save to the uttermost those who come to God through Him, since He always lives to make intercession for them. (NKJV)*

Moses had acted as their intercessor where Christ acts as our Intercessor. I'm sure we've all done things that we deserve to be executed for and Christ intercedes for us. Exodus 34; this is the story about Moses' radiant face. Moses came down from the mountain (I can see on my clock I'm not going to have time to read all the scripture I had intended so I'm going to summarize) and his face was shining. The people are taken aback because of this. To alleviate that he put a veil over his face and then spoke to them through the veil. So, God's Words come out of Moses through the veil to the people, when he goes in to speak to Yehovah the veil comes off, when he comes out, the veil goes on. What is this symbolic of? 2 Corinthians 3, the whole chapter has to do with this, from verse 1 all the way to the end, it's explaining the veil that Moses wore. We are going to pick it up in verse 12.



**2 Corinthians 3:12** *Therefore, since we have such hope, we use great boldness of speech—*

*13) unlike Moses, who put a veil over his face so that the children of Israel could not look steadily at the end of what was passing away.*

*14) But their minds were blinded. For until this day the same veil remains unlifted in the reading of the Old Testament, because the veil is taken away in Christ.*

*15) But even to this day, when Moses is read, a veil lies on their heart.*

*16) Nevertheless when one turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away.*

*17) Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty.*

*18) But we all, with unveiled face, beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from glory to glory, just as by the Spirit of the Lord. (NKJV)*

Pharaoh was a world leader with the biggest army and the most powerful. He was practicing population control. He was arrogant. He thought he knew best. People were beneath him, especially the Israelites. People were expendable. Pharaoh didn't want to lose control so he imposed hard labor, poverty, total control over his subjects. What's changed? Today, we have world powers, enslaving people, exercising control through media, false narratives, making the lives of the working people difficult. We have rumors of coming food shortages, more mandates, more scarcity. Sounds a lot like the four horsemen. All are distractions, from what's important. What will really save us? Is staying glued to the underground media going to make any difference? Knowing the truth, the real agenda behind the events, is that going to save us? As a rule, we don't participate in politics. Why is that? We are ambassadors for Christ. 2 Corinthians 5:20 is where that comes from.

**2 Corinthians 5:20** *Now then, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were pleading through us: we implore you on Christ's behalf, be reconciled to God.*

*21) For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. (NKJV)*

So as ambassadors, we are neutral. What goes on, goes on. A lot of you know my son Samuel and if you've ever heard me speak before you know I talk about Samuel a lot. One of the funny things he does is when I'm talking to him on the phone, he'll ask,

"How did your day go Dad?" I'll say, "Right now, I'm stuck in traffic."

And he'll say, "That's good." I will say, "No it's raining."

He says, "That's good." I say, "It's been a rough day."

He says, "That's good."

If I'm not feeling good—no matter what I say Sam is going to come back with, "That's good." Food shortages, mass vaccines, corrupt politicians, closed borders, importing immigrants, wasting tax dollars, misappropriation of funds, inflation, more taxes, more control, less freedom—that's good. And it is; turn to Romans 13 just as a reminder, verse 1. Paul, we know was under the Roman government. He endured a lot. He was beaten and shipwrecked and eventually executed by the government.

**Romans 13:1** *Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God.*

2) *Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves.*

3) *For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same.*

4) *For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger to execute wrath on him who practices evil.*

5) *Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience 'sake.*

6) *For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing.*

7) *Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor. (NKJV)*

**1 Timothy 2:1** *Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men,*

2) *for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. (NKJV)*

Pray; that's the prescription—pray for them. Daniel 4 was written by a globalist. It was written by a narcissist who had gone through an attitude adjustment. Nebuchadnezzar wrote this chapter.

**Daniel 4:17** *This decision is by the decree of the watchers, And the sentence by the word of the holy ones, In order that the living may know That the Most High rules in the kingdom of men, Gives it to whomever He will, And sets over it the lowest of men. ' (NKJV)*

At the end times, God will deliver the whole world from tyranny, deception, exploitation, manipulation, coercion, starvation, disease, slavery of every kind. The trumpet plagues in Revelation and the plagues of Exodus have the very same purpose. A lot of them are identical but they have the same purpose. People are talking about the "Great Reset". There is going to be a Reset. But the *great* Reset begins after the Trumpet plagues and

just after the seven last plagues. Turn to Revelation 20:1 and you can read about the great reset.

**Revelation 20:1** *Then I saw an angel coming down from heaven, having the key to the bottomless pit and a great chain in his hand.*

*2) He laid hold of the dragon, that serpent of old, who is the Devil and Satan, and bound him for a thousand years;*

*3) and he cast him into the bottomless pit, and shut him up, and set a seal on him, so that he should deceive the nations no more till the thousand years were finished. But after these things he must be released for a little while.*

*4) And I saw thrones, and they sat on them, and judgment was committed to them. Then I saw the souls of those who had been beheaded for their witness to Jesus and for the word of God, who had not worshiped the beast or his image, and had not received his mark on their foreheads or on their hands. And they lived and reigned with Christ for a thousand years. (NKJV)*

That's the real *Great Reset*. All the plans and all the schemes of the rich and the powerful are just like Pharaoh. They think they are in control but their house of cards is going to fall. We don't need to worry about that, or focus on that. Let's go back to 1 Corinthians 10, I read this earlier, I'm going to read it again. You should read it again too.

**1 Corinthians 10:11** *Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.*

*12) Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. (NKJV)*

Brethren, *slow down*. Let's take the time to really contemplate the meaning of all these powerful stories and all the details. Get into the minutia, let's hook the dots, pray for understanding. While I was preparing this, many times I would say, I wonder why that and then I would go pray about it and then say, now I get it. It's something to really dig into. Let's turn over to my last scripture which is Philippians 4:6. There was a time when we were going through a big trial with Samuel, where we had four or five doctors telling us he was going to die and we were under a lot of stress. It wasn't a one-day event, it played out over months and months. I clung to this scripture.

**Philippians 4:6** *Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God;*

*7) and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.*

*8) Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things.*

*9) The things which you learned and received and heard and saw in me, these do, and the God of peace will be with you. (NKJV)*

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Let's not get too caught up in the whirlwind of the world that's going on around us. There's really nothing we can do about it, we are ambassadors, we are neutral. We're observers and God is working something out. This is a set up; God is setting things up just exactly the way He wants them to be set up so He can execute the things He wants to execute and bring about in His plan with such precision that He has laid it all out for us. The big lesson from the story of Egypt is to trust God. He's got our back.

**Exodus 14:13** *And Moses said to the people, do not be afraid, Stand Still and see the salvation of Yehovah which He will accomplish for you today. (NKJV)*