

- EPOCH TWO - DELIVERANCE



GOOD NEWS & BAD NEWS

The story of Genesis helps us understanding our roots as part of the human race and the chosen race. If the Living God is who He says He is, the implications are massive. Implicit in an understanding of our ORIGINS is our need for DELIVER-ANCE. *The Good News means little if we are not acquainted with the Bad News*.

Through Adam and Eve we were created to live forever. That was changed when these parents rejected God's Word in exchange for the serpent's word. If we are to once again acquire eternal life, it will be done through *faith* in the One whom God has sent.

MY WORLDVIEW

- $\sqrt{}$ Do I believe that God is my Father?
- $\sqrt{100}$ Do I believe that I was born separated from God?

 $\sqrt{100}$ Do I believe that I am lost apart from God's intervention in my life?

 $\sqrt{}$ Do I believe that my Father cares enough about me to search for me and deliver me?



NOTE THE KEY PEOPLE AND EVENTS IN THE TIME-LINE

It is easy to think that God is not going to come through. It is clear from Scripture and from life experience that *all* men and women die. Whether Adam and Eve, Noah and his family, the people in the wilderness, Moses himself, or you and me - *one earthly fate awaits all men*.

But it becomes clear in the God Story that there is more to life than living and dying - there is reward and hope as well. This is the outcome of **faith**. There is meaning beyond our 80 or so years of life upon this earth. The Law and the prophets give the foundation for this understanding. Life can produce good things, but what good is life lived apart from God?

Israel carried Joseph's bones and buried them in the promised land (see Exodus 13:19 and Joshua 24:32). While Joseph may have been buried in an Egyptian coffin - his life and death are a picture of the deliverance on the horizon!

EXODUSExitDeliverance
from
BondageLaw
ExpositedTabernacle
Constructed

20:1-17	25:1-22
13-24	25-40
	20:1-17 13-24

"God's sovereign redemption." 12:51 Bondage is the Bad News. God's Law is the Good News. God is among us!

Sacrifice 1:4;2:13;7:37-38	Priests 9:23-24; 10:10,11 18-10		Ceremony 16:29-34 11-16	
1-7				
18:3-5;	ration 19:36-37 7-22		25:8-12 -27	
God's	Holiness	Revealed	! 11:44	

Warriors 1:2,3,19	Journey I Levites 3:12,13; 4:49	Purity	Worship 10:13,35,36	
1-2	3-4	5-6	7-10	
	to Moab 14:22-33	Events at 25:1-3; 26		
10	0-21	22-36		
"Goo	l's people as ti	hey walk!" 3	33:1	

Because of **unbelief** (Hebrews 3)

DAY EIGHT

DAY NINE (

The Lord God remembers His people in Egypt. He provides deliverance through Joseph and Moses, and has now brought His people out of Egypt with a "mighty hand."

The book of Exodus not only describes this process for the Jews, but also for all who call upon God to deliver us into eternal life. He leads Israel through the **fire** and the **cloud**.

Because this generation has grown up in Egypt and does not know the Lord, He gives them His **Law** at Mount Horeb to explain who He is. Yahweh then provides a meeting place called the Tabernacle, where His people can experience His presence.

The priesthood is established in Leviticus to help the Hebrews **draw close** to their Deliverer. Faith was God's desire for His chosen people, just as it is today.

 $\sqrt{}$ If you take the time to read and note each of these section passages in your bible, you will establish a solid, basic understanding of His "Torah" or Law. And you will also move deeper into how God has chosen to deliver mankind!

DAY TEN IO



IT IS NO WONDER WE WANDER

The best way to summarize the events and teaching of the book of NUMBERS is to consider chapter 14.

What was the complaint of the people, and what was their solution to their concerns?

What is the significance of Joshua and Caleb's place in the story?

What do we learn about Moses from the events of this chapter?

What was God's issue with the people and the situation?

You may also wish to read about Korah's rebellion in NUMBERS 26.

MY WORLDVIEW

It appears that all grumbling is evidence of a lack of faith (Hebrews 3).

- $\sqrt{}$ Would I consider myself a grumbler?
- $\sqrt{1}$ How do I avoid succumbing to negativity and cynicism?
- $\sqrt{}$ Do I have the same spiritual disposition as Moses?



READ NUMBERS 21:1-10

Why were the people upset?

What was God's response to their complaining?

Why was His response so harsh?

What does this incident have to do with what Jesus says in JOHN 3:14,15?

What happened in 2 KINGS 18:4 that relates to this story?

MY WORLDVIEW

 $\sqrt{}$ There are clear principles in these first five books of Moses which help us to live in a way that pleases our Father. He also opens the door to eternal life. Cool.



THE GRACE OF LAW God's Law is not antithetical to His grace - it is a *part* of His grace.

Read DEUTERONOMY 11:26-28.

What was the purpose of His Law?

What were the freeing upsides of following His Law?

The downsides of ignoring it?

GALATIANS 5 places the Law into the context of a person who has encountered the Son of God and found life in His Name.

 $\sqrt{}$ What is specifically explained about the purpose of the Law?



THE GREAT COMMANDMENTS

Read DEUTERONOMY 6:4-9. What do we learn about His intention for generations?

Read MATTHEW 22:36-40 and compare it to either list of the "ten commandments" from either EXODUS 20 or DEUTERONOMY 5. What similarities do you see?

Deuteronomy means "second law." What happened to the first set of tablets? Why?

MY WORLDVIEW

- $\sqrt{}$ What place do the commandments of God play in my life?
- $\sqrt{1}$ In the lives of those who lead my country?
- $\sqrt{}$ In the lives of my co-workers or fellow-students?



Read ROMANS 2:29. Paul was a dedicated Jew, yet Paul knew that it was not enough to be connected to God through any blood or social status. Jesus had revealed to him (and throughout all of scripture) that the Good News belonged to the Gentile as well as the Jew. *The Good News is for both the human and chosen races*.

READ ROMANS 11.

What is the *result* of the Jews *rejecting* the Messiah, the Son of God?

How should I feel about being a *wild branch* that has been "grafted in" to the true root?

How important is it to continue in His kindness, and what do you think this means?

What were Paul's feelings and conclusion about God's plan for the Jews and the Gentiles?

MY WORLDVIEW

Gratefulness is one of the true signs of spirituality.

- $\sqrt{}$ Would I consider myself a grateful person?
- $\sqrt{}$ Would grateful be a word others would use to describe me?

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We just read ROMANS 2:29. Now read COLOSSIANS 2:11. Circumcision was the outward sign of the covenant made with Abraham, and with the Hebrew people.

What is the "true circumcision?"

The Law is pretty poorly represented among most modern Gentile believers. Considering how much time was spent by the apostles explaining the link between what Moses said and what Jesus lived and taught, it is incredible we are so far off base. Read DEUTERONOMY 30. Was it possible to interact with the Law in such a way as to be right with God?

What do you think Jesus meant in MATTHEW 5:17 as He explains righteousness through these "beatitudes?"

MY WORLDVIEW

It is easy to live in a world where accountability is non-existent. $\sqrt{100}$ Do I feel accountable to my Creator for how I choose to live my life?



READ NUMBERS 16

Who was considered a "son of Levi?" Why were the people upset with Moses?

Why was this situation dangerous for the people? For the purposes of God?

Why was the result so harsh?

READ 1 CORINTHIANS 10:1-14

What insight do we receive as Paul recalls the events of the book of Numbers?

MY WORLDVIEW

- $\sqrt{\text{Am I a grumbler}}$?
- $\sqrt{}$ Do I think that there are situations that merit grumbling?



Read THE PASSAGES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE Why was "the land" so important to the Jews?

What is your sense for the type of leadership that Joshua provided?

READ ROMANS 8:37-39

Why is war and conquering so important to the Jews? To God?

READ JOHN 16:33

Why is trouble such a big part of our lives?

MY WORLDVIEW

- $\sqrt{\text{Am I someone who overcomes}}$?
- $\sqrt{}$ Do I view life like a war with a series of battles? (EPHESIANS 6:10-17)



THE BEAUTIFUL LAND: ISAIAH 9:1

Some basic geography provides a helpful backdrop for understanding the Promised Land. Note the location of the Sea in Galilee (top), where Jesus spent much of His public ministry. Locate Nazareth where He grew up - just west of that sea. Now trace the Jordan River, flowing out of the Sea of Galilee downward to the Dead Sea.

Look to the left and you will find Jerusalem, Bethlehem, where Jesus was born, and Hebron - where King David ruled. South is Masada, a site with amazing history. For our current purposes note the city of Jericho at the top of the Dead Sea. This is the city mentioned in the book of Joshua. The Living God led the children of Israel in their first *military* campaign to secure the Promised Land - *a land flowing with milk and honey* - as well as giants to overcome!



READ JOSHUA 1:5-9

What was the core of God's communication to Joshua?

READ JOSHUA 5:11-15

Why is this encounter significant, and where have you seen something like this before?

MY WORLDVIEW

- $\sqrt{}$ What are some examples of my personal courage?
- \sqrt{My} spiritual courage?

 $\sqrt{1}$ I feel I have experienced a "take my shoes off" moment when:

DAY SEVENTEEN



Climate for Testing

No Leader (1:1) No Persistance (1:27) No Knowledge (2:10) No Power (2:20-23) No Commitment (2:1-3)

1 - 2

for Compromise No Perspective (8:22-23) No Appreciation (8:33-35) No Loyalty (10:13) No Conscience (19:22-30) No Choice (20:3,18) No Understanding (21:3)

3 - 18

Climate

Cycles

Every man did what was right in his own eyes! 17:6

SIN - SERVITUDE - JUDGEMENT

Take the time to observe each of the references in the overview chart of the book of Judges.

 $\sqrt{}$ What were the problems? $\sqrt{}$ Why did the cycles perpetuate? Othniel, Ehud, Shagmar Deborah, Gideon, Abimelech Tola, Yair, Jepthah Ibzan, Elon, Abdon

> Samson Eli Samuel

Note the list of the Judges.

Samson is one of the most familiar, and Eli and Samuel will come into focus as we transition to the time of the Kings of Israel.

 $\sqrt{}$ With which judge are you most acquainted?

MY WORLDVIEW

 $\sqrt{1}$ In what areas am I susceptible to compromise?

 $\sqrt{1}$ In what areas have I found cycles in my own life that I just can't seem to shake?

RUTH	Ruth and		Story					
Resolve 1	Unselfishness		Reward					
1:15-17	2:11-12	3:9-11	4:11,22					
1	2	-3	4					
Under whose	e wings you have co	ome to take t	DA	Y	SEV	/EN	T E	ENŢ

The book of RUTH is a high point during the very dark days of the judges of Israel. Because Ruth is a Gentile, her faith in placing herself under the wings of the Living God is even more special and astonishing. *Ruth is mentioned in the lineage of Christ!*

READ AND NOTE THE REFERENCES LISTED IN THE OVERVIEW ABOVE What do you learn about love? Disappointment? Reward?

READ 1 JOHN 4

What was the Apostle John's (and Jesus') take on the subject of love?

MY WORLDVIEW

Finish this sentence. "I have found that love..."

 $\sqrt{100}$ Do I feel I have found refuge under His wings? In what ways?

 $\sqrt{1}$ In what areas do I still have need?

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DAY SEVENTEEN

The Fire & the Cloud!

EXODUS.] will direct you.
LEVITICUS	You belong to Me.
NUMBERS Will you	
DEUTERONOMY	l am with you.
JOSHUA	l will carry you.
JUDGESFaith will	ll fail/I Am faithful.
RUTH	I Am your refuge.

We have encountered the first eight books of the so-called *old testament*, including the five books of Moses (the Pentateuch). The above graphic walks through the spiritual unity woven throughout these books.

 $\sqrt{\text{Am I confident in my origins}}$?

 $\sqrt{}$ Where faith and science and anthropology come together?

 $\sqrt{}$ Do I feel responsive to and directable by God?

SPIRITUAL SITUATION CLARIFICATION

 $\sqrt{}$ My sense of belonging to Him is (warm) (lukewarm) (cold).

 $\sqrt{1}$ I feel more like I am (walking) or (wandering).

 \sqrt{I} (sense) or (do not sense) God is with me.

 $\sqrt{\rm I}$ am (confident) (not confident) He is able and interested in carrying me when I need to be carried.

 $\sqrt{\rm I}$ am (confident) (not confident) that God's faithfulness overrules the times my faith fails.