

# Unlocking The Mystery & Treasure Of Our Inheritance

## #26 Come Out Of Egypt

The study of the Plagues shows us interesting contrasts between the character and purpose of God for His people, and the resistance put up by Pharaoh (type of Satan) to thwart God's plan.

Consider: God's plan for us: Offer ourselves a living sacrifice, worship Him, serve Him, and partake of our spiritual inheritance.

What tactics does Satan use to keep us from spiritual maturity and growth?

### The Character and Purpose of Satan

Pharaoh manifests Satan's attitude and stubbornness regarding Israel leaving Egypt.

The Initial Resistance Exodus 5:1-3 Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, "This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: 'Let my people go, so that they may Hold A Feast To Me In The Desert.'" Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD and I will not let Israel go." Let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and Sacrifice unto the LORD our God;

God's Objective: God wants His people out of Egypt: type of bondage and the world

1. Satan's Strategy: Cast Doubt As To The Existence Of God.

a. Jesus pictured Satan as a bird flying in and stealing the seed before it could truly take root in a person's heart.

Matt. 13:4, 19 And as he sowed, some seed fell by the wayside; and the birds came and devoured them. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom, and does not understand *it*, then the wicked *one* comes and snatches away what was sown in his heart.

'Who is the LORD?' he says, 'I will not let Israel go.'

2. Satan's Strategy: Up The Workload! - "an oldie but a goody..."

Ex. 5:6-9 So the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their officers, saying, <sup>7</sup> "You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves.<sup>8</sup> And you shall lay on them the quota of bricks which they made before. You shall not reduce it.

For they are idle [lazy]; therefore they cry out, saying, 'Let us go *and sacrifice* to our God.' Let more work be laid on the men, so they keep working and pay no attention to lies."

a. When Israel wanted to go and sacrifice to God - make the work harder - keep them busy.

b. They will forget about taking time out for their God.

c. Satan's goal: Keep me in bondage to sin in my life. Let the flesh "work for God."

Don't offer myself as a living sacrifice. Satan loves to get us too busy with things in the world or "working for God" so we neglect our worship, prayer, and Bible study.

Busy Under Satan's Yoke = BUSY Busyness can be a sin. God doesn't call us to busyness.

He calls us to His priorities and His purposes.

### 3. Satan's 4 Compromises: *Serving God On Pharaoh's Terms*

#### I. *Small Compromise With A Twist!*

a. Pharaoh is Ready For A Compromise after pressure from the Lord, including turning the water into blood, frogs, lice and dung beetles.

Exodus 8:24-27 ...Swarms of dung beetles are in Egypt: Pharaoh Summoned Moses and Aaron and said, "Go, Sacrifice To Your God Here In The Land."

b. You can have your sacrifice, but it must be within this land.'

c. He has compromised his stand alright but it still has a subtle twist.

d. If Satan cannot stop you from becoming a Christian, he can make you a worldly one!

e. 'Sacrificing within the land:' Basically, have your religion if you want, but have it within Egypt... within his worldly system.

f. Many people have some form of godliness or belief without allowing it to impact or change their lives at all.

g. People that look particularly shiny and clean on Sundays but are still within the realms of Egypt for the remainder of the week! have a little bit of religion, but within Egypt!

h. Stay in your bondage and worship God. Not possible!

You cannot cling to the bondage and worship God whose "Son will set you free!"

Moses' Response: Ex. 8:26-27 But Moses said, It is not right to do so, for we would be sacrificing the abomination of the Egyptians to the LORD our God. And if we offer sacrifices that are detestable in their eyes, will they not stone us? We MUST take a three-day journey into the desert to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, as HE COMMANDS us."

a. Israel could not offer the sacrifices "in the land" because the land was under the control of Pharaoh. To offer in the land would have incurred the Egyptian death penalty (Ex. 8: 26).

Note: You cannot please Egypt and God at the same time.

II. Exodus 8:28 Pharaoh said, "I will let you go to offer sacrifices to the LORD your God in the wilderness, but You Must Not Go Very Far."

Certainly don't go so far that Pharaoh wouldn't be able to reel you back in.

a. Pharaoh attempted to position himself and control Israel: they would think they were freed, but he would have them within his easy reach. He grants partial release.

b. Many professing Christians remain within easy reach of Satan and do not totally refuse him. [A child fell out of bed one night. Her mother asked her why. "I went to sleep too close to where I got in." This is the sad condition of many Christians. Although the whole New Testament can be read through aloud in less than 24 hours, there are many who profess Christ who have never read it through once. They went to sleep too close to where they got in.]

"It is becoming more common to hear of Christians openly going to questionable movies; using crude language; engaging in social drinking; playing the lottery and other forms of gambling; and dressing in short shorts, tight jeans, and revealing tops.

Furthermore, sacrifice and devotion are lacking, with ball games, concerts, recreation, work, and school activities given priority over worship assemblies.

Because pulpits are silent, and elders and parents look the other way, young Christians are living lives that are barely different to those of their worldly classmates and peers.

Devotion is relegated to a superficial profession of faith, with little transformation of life."

"Many are willing to learn enough to seem religious, but not enough to radically change their lives. Matt. 6:24 makes no impression on them. No man can serve two masters: for either he will hate the one, and love the other; or else he will hold to the one, and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

"Many Bible study classes and teachers merely skim the surface. There is no study or digging into God's Word. Preachers are hired who know enough to soothe, and fired if they get deep enough to make anyone think or act."

"Borderline Christianity is a great tool for Satan. They are a stumbling block to everybody. He has no power at all for anything, but to make trouble. He is respected by no one, neither by the Christian or the worldly person. Lot is a perfect example of a "borderline believer" who pitched his tent close to Sodom and Gomorrah.

1. Lot pitched his tent toward Sodom. Then he moved into Sodom.

2. Sodom moved into Lot and his family.

3. He lost his influence with his family.

4. When Sodom fell, Lot lost everything. Satan ruined his life and testimony.

5. Abraham, the outsider, had a greater ministry to the world than Lot, the friend of the world.

c. God demands our all! Count all things loss for Christ and be totally dedicated in mind and body to God. [Matt. 22:37; Phil. 3:7-8; Rom. 12:1-2]

James 4:7 Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you.

[Ex. 9:1, 13 that they may serve Me - disease on livestock; plague of the boils; hail storm]

Note: After the plague of hail, listen to Pharaoh's words in Ex. 9:27-28 And Pharaoh sent, and called for Moses and Aaron, and said unto them, I have sinned this time: the LORD is righteous, and I and my people are wicked. Entreat the LORD (for it is enough) that there be no more mighty thunderings and hail; and I will let you go, and ye shall stay no longer.

1. He offered his sorrow to satisfy God.

2. Ex. 9:30 But as for thee and thy servants, I know that ye will not yet fear the LORD God. Moses points out the sorrow is not real.

3. Sorrow without change: II Cor. 7:10 For godly grief *and* the pain God is permitted to direct, produce a repentance that leads *and* contributes to salvation *and* deliverance from evil, and it never brings regret; but worldly grief (the hopeless sorrow that is characteristic of the pagan world) is deadly [breeding and ending in death].

It is the type of service many people offer. They cry, they moan, they bewail how sinful they are ... but they never change their lives.

III. Ex. 10:3 Thus saith the LORD God of the Hebrews, How long wilt thou refuse to humble thyself before me? let my people go, that they may serve me.

Ex. 10:8-11 Go, serve the LORD your God: but who are they that shall go? And Moses said, We will go with our young and with our old, with our sons and with our daughters, with our flocks and with our herds will we go; for we must hold a feast unto the LORD. And he said unto them, Let the LORD be so with you, as I will let you go, and your little ones: look to it; for evil is before you. Not so: go now ye that are men, and serve the LORD; for that ye did desire.

And they were driven out from Pharaoh's presence.

Go Now Ye That Are Men, And Serve The LORD; but not your little ones.

a. Pharaoh will keep the women and children. He retains control over the families.

IV. His Last Chance - The Hook That Draws Them Back!

Exodus 10:21-25 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward the sky so that darkness will spread over Egypt—darkness that can be felt."... Then Pharaoh summoned Moses and said, "Go, worship the LORD. Even your women and children may go with you;

Only Leave Your Flocks And Herds Behind." But Moses said, "You must allow us to have sacrifices and burnt offerings to present to the LORD our God."

a. This final compromise of Pharaoh came through great desperation on his part.

b. He would allow Israel to leave, even the women and children could go... but not their flocks.

c. Pharaoh knew he would have to hold onto something close to them which would cause them to keep coming back to Egypt!

What does Satan use to keep drawing you away from God and back to worldliness? Think!

It may be a particular weakness he loves to exploit. Is it a friend who hinders your walk with God? It may be a love of money and possessions, which was certainly Pharaoh's hook here.

Whatever it is, see it and judge it for what it is... a desperate last ploy of the enemy to maintain some kind of hold on you.

Consider: This compromise works as well as any in most of us.

"Go, serve the Lord; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back."

1. Man will consent to any terms rather than yield his life in absolute surrender to the will of God.

2. Satan knows this and will do ALL within his power to get us to compromise.

3. God reveals He is never satisfied without a complete surrender.

4. The rich young ruler would have gladly followed Jesus if he could on his own terms.

5. You cannot compromise with sin and conquer it at the same time.

Eph. 4:27 Neither give place to the devil.

6. If you compromise, a. you will have fleeting pleasures: Heb. 11:24-26

By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.

b. You will give up your hope of an incorruptible inheritance: I Peter 1:3-4

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, which according to his abundant mercy hath begotten us again unto a lively hope by the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, To an inheritance incorruptible, and undefiled, and that fadeth not away, reserved in heaven for you.

Egypt In Our Lives: Spiritual bondage and mediocrity of any type in my life.

Faithful, praying, Bible-reading, church-going, Spirit-filled believers can find themselves trapped in various forms of Egypt.

Born-again doesn't instantaneously remove all of our bondages and bandages.

You can be sure: You have an unavoidable, appointed time when God will call you out of Egypt.

We Are Called To Come Out Of Egypt

1. To come out of this world's slavery
2. To come out of this world's religion
3. To come out of our ways of trying to please God - Carnal - Flesh in control

We Are Called To: Offer Ourselves A Living Sacrifice, Serve & Worship Him.

We are Called To Go Into Our Promised Land: Inheritance in Christ - His Rest

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|------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1. His own Kingdom and Glory       | I Thess. 2:12 |
| 2. His Eternal Glory               | I Pet. 5:10   |
| 3. One Body                        | Col. 3:15     |
| 4. Peace                           | I Cor. 7:15   |
| 5. Liberty; Freedom                | Gal. 5:13     |
| 6. One Hope                        | Eph. 4:4      |
| 7. The marriage supper of the Lamb | Rev. 19:9     |

Truth: Being called INTO can only happen when we have been obedient to the call out.

Deut. 11:10-14 God told the Israelites: "The land which you go in to possess is not like the land of Egypt, from which you came out, where you sowed your seed and watered it with your foot laboriously as in a garden of vegetables. But the land which you enter to possess is a land of hills and valleys which drinks the water of the rain of the heavens, a land for which the Lord your God cares; the eyes of the Lord your God are always upon it from the beginning of the year to the end of the year. If you will diligently heed My commandments which I command you this day - To Love The Lord Your God And To Serve Him With All Your Heart And With Your Entire Being - I will give the rain for your land in its season, the early rain and the latter rain, that you may gather in your grain, your new wine, and your oil."

'Watered It With Your Foot' In Egypt the fields were irrigated by the Israelite slaves' use of large pumping wheels operated by their feet to pump water from the Nile for the gardens.

It can take much labor to make and maintain a garden for producing food, but these verses tell us: this labor is all in the past; that was to do with Egypt.

Egypt was all about slavery and bondage and working for and pleasing man.

Application: Working in our own strength to get water from the earth (which will always be polluted water!) instead of simply knowing and trusting God as the Source and Supply of His pure Water freely falling from Above.

The big difference between 'watering with your foot' and the rain is control - the illusion of man being in control versus the reality of God being in control.

In Egypt the slaves controlled when and how the crops were watered by their hard work.

In the Promised Land man's work is totally up to God - a very BIG difference!

He is in control and we simply trust and wait to receive the Rain in HIS time and season.

When our hearts and motivations (the internal) are fully surrendered to God, then, and only then, can what comes forth from us (the external) be the work of the Holy Spirit.

The Promised Land is the place of Freedom and REST from all of our labor;

the Place of God's provision and satisfaction instead of man's. Christ is the Source of all Life.

But the process of apprehending and realizing the reality of this in our personal experience can take years of transition, represented in the Bible as wandering in the wilderness even after having left Egypt.

Question: Was being obedient to "leave Egypt" a problem in the New Testament?

Gal.1:6-7 I am surprised *and* astonished that you are so quickly turning renegade *and* deserting Him Who invited *and* called you by the grace (unmerited favor) of Christ (the Messiah) [and that you are transferring your allegiance] to a different [even an opposition] gospel. Not that there is [or could be] any other [genuine Gospel], but there are [obviously] some who are troubling *and* disturbing *and* bewildering you with a different kind of teaching which they offer as a gospel] and want to pervert *and* distort the Gospel of Christ (the Messiah) [into something which it absolutely is not].

We were justified by grace through faith. We are sanctified by His grace through faith.

We are to stand in GRACE.

1. His Grace gives us His strength to be victorious soldiers.

II Tim. 2:1-4 So you, my son, be strong (strengthened inwardly) in the grace (spiritual blessing) that is [to be found only] in Christ Jesus. And the [instructions] which you have heard from me along with many witnesses, transmit *and* entrust [as a deposit] to reliable *and* faithful men who will be competent *and* qualified to teach others also. Take [with me] your share of the hardships *and* suffering [which you are called to endure] as a good (first-class) soldier of Christ Jesus.

No soldier when in service gets entangled in the enterprises of [civilian] life;

his aim is to satisfy *and* please the one who enlisted him.

2. Grace enables us to suffer without complaining and use our suffering for God's glory.

II Cor. 12:9-10 But He said to me, My grace (My favor and loving-kindness and mercy) is enough for you [sufficient against any danger and enables you to bear the trouble manfully]; for My strength and power are made perfect (fulfilled and completed) *and show themselves most effective* in [your] weakness. Therefore, I will all the more gladly glory in my weaknesses and infirmities, that the strength and power of Christ (the Messiah) may rest (yes, may pitch a tent over and dwell) upon me! <sup>10</sup> So for the sake of Christ, I am well pleased *and take pleasure* in infirmities, insults, hardships, persecutions, perplexities *and distresses*; for when I am weak [in human strength], then am I [truly] strong (able, powerful in divine strength).

When D. L. Moody was preaching in a certain city, a reporter wrote about him: "He butchers the King's English, he has a nasal tone and a high pitched, unpleasant voice, he is overweight, and generally rough in appearance. I see nothing in Mr. Moody to account for his marvelous success." Moody read the article, and when he read that statement, he exclaimed, "That's the secret!"

When I compromise with Satan, the world or my flesh, I Return To Egypt. Temptation Danger Gal. 3:1-3 O Foolish Galatians! = Spiritually Dull = unable to listen, receive or act on the Word O you poor *and silly and thoughtless and unreflecting and senseless Galatians!* Who has fascinated [hypnotized] *or bewitched or cast a spell over you, unto whom—right before your very eyes—Jesus Christ (the Messiah) was openly and graphically set forth and portrayed as crucified?* <sup>2</sup> Let me ask you this one question: Did you receive the [Holy] Spirit as the result of obeying the Law *and doing its works*, or was it by hearing [the message of the Gospel] and believing [it]? [Was it from observing a law of rituals or from a message of faith?] <sup>3</sup> Are you so foolish *and so senseless and so silly?* Having begun [your new life spiritually] with the Spirit, are you now reaching perfection [maturity; spiritual growth] [by dependence] on the flesh?

Most believers are living with energy and effort apart from the Holy Spirit and are now an agreeable victim of a false form of sanctification. The enemy is able to draw their focus away from Jesus Christ. If I turn away from living by God's grace, I must depend on my own power and resources. This leads to failure and disappointment. I have "Fallen From Grace" [Gal. 5:4]. I moved out of the sphere of grace into the sphere of the flesh, rules, labor, performance, and rituals. Trying to serve God in my own strength, performance treadmill, but works of flesh are so evident in my life. I'll TRY HARDER! Sin's bondage has me imprisoned and in bondage! I have ceased to depend on God's resources, my spiritual riches, and now depend upon those of the flesh.

Problem: Trying to grow in Christ by adding works to my faith.

We are carnal and under the power of our flesh! Sanctification in me can only be achieved by the Holy Spirit. He must have a willing, clean vessel to use.

Question: Why do we trade the power of the Holy Spirit for our good works?

God calls us out of Egypt to offer ourselves a living sacrifice, serve and worship Him.