

SERMON ON EXODUS 14:10-31

- I. Text: Exodus 14:10-31
- II. Major Objective: Supportive
- III. Central Idea: God's presence and power are promised to those who follow His leadership.
- IV. Subject: Following God
- V. Thesis and Goal:
 1. Proposition: The natural course for the obedient child of God is a life devoted to following Him in all places and at all times.
 2. Specific Objective: To give encouragement and edification to those who strive to conduct their lives according to God's leadership.
- VI. Introduction: The life of the Christian is the life of a pilgrim. The Apostle Peter says that we are pilgrims and sojourners; we are strangers in this world, our true citizenship being in heaven. Jesus prayed that his followers might be in the world but not of the world. We are to be in the world, discharging our duties as such, but at the same time realizing that we are to look upon this world as a thing passing away and not to be held on to. We are to set our affections on things above where Christ is. He is our life, and our thoughts, affections, and ambitions are to be centered in Him.

This is graphically illustrated in the experience of Israel as God led them out of Egypt into the Promised Land. To them Egypt was the place of bondage and oppression, the place of the world as opposed to Canaan,

the place of God's blessings and perfect will. They had believed Moses and took their flight from Egypt in obedience to God. From Egypt to Canaan was not one step. The trip following God is a Victorious Life. (Exodus 14:13-30) was not accomplished in one night. It was a step by

step following of God. Neither is it one step from hell to heaven. Our lives as followers of Christ are to be lived day by day, step by step. Like Israel, our path is not an easy one, but we must follow God if we are to be assured of reaching our ultimate best in this life.

1. He gives us victory by encouraging us. (Exodus 14:13-15)
In these verse of Scripture we see Israel as they face extreme difficulty; we see them cry to God; we behold God's deliverance, making their cries turn to praises. "The battle is the Lord's...He hath delivered you into my hand."

Let us look to them as "our ensamples" and see how much is involved in following God. 2. He gives us victory by removing the obstacles which block our progress. (Exodus 14:16-22)

VII. Body: He gives us victory by triumphing over our foes. (Exodus 14:23-31)

I. Following God is a Crisis Life. (Exodus 14:10-12)

III--Just as God defeated those who would bind the Israelites, the Spirit fights against our fleshly desires that hold us back. It is never promised to the Christian that there will be no times of trial and testing. We often find the path of God's will blocked by difficulty.

III. Following God is a Character Changing Life.

1. The crisis comes from the powers of the ungodly world. (Exodus 14:31) "the Egyptians marched after them."

(Exodus 14:10a) character of Israel before and after their deliverance and notice the change. As we follow God we grow more like Christ. Ill--Our Egyptian army may be some besetting sin, some weakness of the flesh.

2. The crisis comes from our own fearfulness of circumstances. (Exodus 14:10b)

EXODUS 18:13-23

1. Our fear of God is established. (Exodus 14:31a)

2. Our faith in God is strengthened. (Exodus 14:31b)

3. Our faith in God's servants is increased.

(Exodus 14:31c)

VIII. Conclusion: It took forty years for the children of Israel to get to the Promised Land. Many of them died

outside Canaan because of unbelief. Even Moses was kept back from the Land because of his inconsistency in

following God. Many times we get ahead of God and try to cut our own paths, but the result is always the same.

Our Christian progress and growth is halted. The path in which God leads us may not always seem to us the best. Someone has said that God opens His hand to us only one finger at a time. We cannot see the full plan of God for

our lives; we are to walk by faith, not sight. As Christians, our position in this world is that of pilgrims and strangers. God is in the process of delivering us.

If we are to enjoy the fullest blessings of life in Christ we must follow God step by step as His will dictates.

(3) His occasional decisions and edicts and his general laws and principles of rectitude. (Murphy)

Vs. 18- (1) Thou shalt surely wear away--from decay and exhaustion. (Barnes)

(2) To be kept standing all day waiting for judgement is, of course, wearing to the health. But "delay of judgement" is a most formidable evil to the whole community, threatening its vital interests, social and economical. (MacGregor)

(3) Wear away: the word usually means to fall and fade as a leaf. (Cambridge)

Vs. 19- (1) Jethro means that he should not proceed without Divine concurrence. (Murphy)

Preaching 36

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H-1