

Sermon Outline - Sun, Jun 21, 2020
The Journey Before Jubilee – My People Let Pharaoh Go

Review from last week - God frees the Israelites from 430 years of captivity Egypt. God takes them physically out of Egypt but before they can enter the new land, God has to get the Egypt out of them. Last week we looked at the story of how the Israelites melt down their gold to make a statue of a cow or bull to worship. We are reminded about how they used gold acquired from a system that oppressed them to make an image of God based on human power symbols and how often we idolize the wrong symbols as a proxy for God. In the end Moses makes them drink the gold – ingest it, poop it out and literally get that way of thinking out of their system.

Exegesis

- This week we begin by looking at the story of the manna and quail
- It is about 6 weeks in - food supplies are getting low ☹folks complain – we might die out here - we should have stayed in Egypt
- Moses & Aaron go to God. God promises to provide and test Israelites ability to follow
- God says – I will send you manna (bread) in the morning and quail (meat) in the evening.
 - o Only take what you need each day
 - o Take double portion before the Sabbath so that you won't work on the Sabbath.
- Some try to take extra – it would melt away or rot and attract bugs
- There were folks who didn't get the extra portion on Friday so they were out of luck when the Sabbath came

Key Points

1. The Israelites were constantly expecting God to fail them in part because of the trauma they experienced in Egypt. In Egypt the Pharaoh was a sort of God and after having been manipulated by Pharaoh they struggle to trust God. [Let's go back to the abuse we know rather than go into the unknown to potential new abuse.]
2. In this practice they are learning to trust God to give them their daily bread. When they tried to take extra and hoard it invited literal mess into their lives.
3. God establishes the principle of Sabbath rest. God gives them extra not so they can push forward but so they can slow down and rest.

Finally God says – don't forget these lessons. Feed this bread to your children in the future so they will remember how I took care of you. We too must remember the stories of how God has taken care of us and the legacy on which we build.

Core Questions

1. What stands in the way of us trusting God to provide your daily bread? Is there trauma in your past that makes it hard to trust God?
2. When are you slowing down to take Sabbath so that God can restore you?
3. How do we hold the story individually and collectively so that we can understand where God has brought us from an