

SCRIPTURE REFERENCE NOTES

WOMEN IN THE WORD

Fellowship Bible Church

Our Position in Christ Revealed

Lesson 10 - The Wilderness and God's provision

April 16, 2019

1. The way to the promised land is not easy

This was Israel's place to trust God.

This life (our wilderness) is not easy

This is our place to trust God.

1 Peter 4:12 Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you.

Romans 5:2-5. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. More than that, we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

At the foundation of trusting God is knowing the heart of God and our position in Christ.

We must first know the heart of God, then we must know our position in Christ before we can fully trust God's plan in the midst of the wilderness.

Being a child of God does not mean you will not have trouble, but it does mean that you will NEVER be alone in your difficulty.

2. God makes a way when there doesn't seem to be a way.

Crossing the Red Sea - He did it because they were His people

1 Corinthians 10:13 No temptation (test) has overtaken you that is not common to man. God is faithful, and he will not let you be tempted beyond your ability, but

with the temptation he will also provide the way of escape, that you may be able to endure it.

3. God leads constantly

Pillar of Cloud - the Word of God

Deuteronomy 31:8 It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

4. God fights for us

Defeating the enemy.

Joshua 23:10 One of your men puts to flight a thousand, for the LORD your God is He who fights for you, just as He promised you."

Satan is a defeated foe. Rev. 12:7-9

5. God provides in miraculous ways

Water from a rock

Manna

Quail etc...

Phil. 4:19 And my God will supply every need of yours according to his riches in glory in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 81:10 I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt. Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

Ro. 8:32 He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

6. We can choose to trust God or "die" in the wilderness

In order to be able to enter the land, they had to believe God. We too can enter rest when we trust God in the midst of our trial. It's like an oasis in the desert.
- Ps 23

Colossians 3:2 If then you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth. For you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. When Christ who is your life appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

We can wrongly accept worldly wisdom as right because it makes sense to our worldly minds, but it's heavenly wisdom that gives us heavenly peace.

James 3:13-18 Who is wise and understanding among you? Let them show it by their good life, by deeds done in the humility that comes from wisdom. But if you harbor bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not boast about it or deny the truth. Such “wisdom” does not come down from heaven but is earthly, unspiritual, demonic. For where you have envy and selfish ambition, there you find disorder and every evil practice.

But the wisdom that comes from heaven is first of all pure; then peace-loving, considerate, submissive, full of mercy and good fruit, impartial and sincere. Peacemakers who sow in peace reap a harvest of righteousness.

The story of their journey through the wilderness shows that many of them never overcame their slave mentality, the mind-set they brought with them from Egypt. Their thinking—and thus their attitudes and conduct—constantly reverted to the way it had been molded in Egypt.

So often we blame others or our circumstances...

But actually faith in Christ's life given to me is what enables me to live Christ-like.

Hebrews 3:17-19 For who were those who heard and yet rebelled? Was it not all those who left Egypt led by Moses? 17 And with whom was he provoked for forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose bodies fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did he swear that they would not enter his rest, but to those who were disobedient? 19 So we see that they were unable to enter because of unbelief.

“Those who sinned” were those who did not believe God.

The same people who came out of Egypt with great joy, exulting in their new-found liberty. They yearned for a settled and free life in a land that was their own. But, instead of knowing the joy and plenty of the Promised Land, they chose to live a life of homeless wandering in a barren land and to die and perhaps be buried in an unmarked grave because their God was not big enough in their minds. Chosen to be the beneficiaries of God's great blessings in a rich land, they instead lived poor and hungry in the wilderness, discontented and often at war because of their lack of faith.

Not believing what God has done for you has great consequences - Not trusting God for each need in the wilderness brings a type of death, a wandering and hopelessness.

Hebrews 4:1-2. Therefore, since a promise remains of entering His rest, let us fear lest any of you seem to have come short of it. For indeed the gospel was preached to us as well as to them; but the word which they heard did not profit them, not being mixed with faith in those who heard it.

There is saving faith
Then there is living faith
The source of saving faith is Jesus Christ
The source of living faith is also Jesus Christ
The result of saving faith is eternal heaven
The result of living faith is rest

7. God or idols?

1 Corinthians 10:1-22

Exodus 32

The golden calf - we too build our idols

Let us worship at the altar of God where...
We are the bride of Christ
We are a child of God
We have abundant life
We are joint heirs with Christ
We have received the mind of Christ
We are holy and blameless
We are one with Christ
We are given the ministry of reconciliation

These are the things above that we are to set our minds on. Colossians 3:2