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I. Text

#### A. Deut 11:8-21 NKJV

"Therefore you shall keep every commandment which I command you today, that you may **be strong**, and go in and **possess the land** which you cross over to possess, and that you may **prolong** *your* **days** in the land which the LORD swore to give your fathers, to them and their descendants, 'a land flowing with milk and honey.' For the land which you go to possess *is* not like the land of Egypt from which you have come, where you sowed your seed and watered *it* by foot, as a vegetable garden; but the land which you cross over to possess *is* a land of hills and valleys, which drinks water from the rain of heaven, a land for which the LORD your God cares; the eyes of the LORD your God *are* always on it, from the beginning of the year to the very end of the year."

#### SKIP to vs 18

"Therefore you shall lay up these words of mine in your heart and in your soul, and bind them as a sign on your hand, and they shall be as frontlets between your eyes. You shall teach them to your children, speaking of them when you sit in your house, when you walk by the way, when you lie down, and when you rise up. And you shall write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land of which the LORD swore to your fathers to give them, **like the days of the heavens above the earth**."

B. Previous Session – The Voice of Heaven

#### II. Staying in the flow of heaven

A. Although God had promised Israel days of heaven on earth, there were times that they stepped out of heaven's flow.

NOTE: Choices, mindsets, and actions caused them to miss what God had planned for them. His plan is not automatic. His plan always included our cooperation. If you want to stay in the flow of heaven, cooperate with His plan.

- 1. The flow of heaven on earth followed Israel from the time God declared them to be His covenant people.
  - **a.** It was the flow of heaven that gave them distinction during the plagues of Egypt.



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- **b.** It was the flow of heaven that parted the red sea, allowing them to escape from their enemies.
- **c.** It was the provisional flow of heaven that brough manna daily for them to eat and water from the rock.
- **d.** There were times that God had to remind them that they were getting out of the flow.
- 2. You have compassed this mountain long enough.

**Deut 2:3 KJV** "Ye have compassed this mountain long enough: turn you northward."

**Berean Study Bible** "You have been wandering around this hill country long enough; turn to the north."

- a. Compass = to encircle or go around. Note: The issue here, is that Israel is wandering around in circles, but they are getting nowhere.
- **b.** How many people along their journey of faith are wandering around in circles?
  - Going to church going through the motion of prayer going through other traditional religious motions but getting nowhere. NO advancement, progress, or growth. No further along today than when they started.
  - God is all about advancement, growth, and maturity.
  - Staying in the flow of heaven will be a flow of advancement.
- 3. When God is on the move and we do not stay in step to move with Him, we get left behind.

Note: Whenever God is on the move forward and we stay behind in a season where we are not supposed to be, we have allowed ourselves to be left out of the flow of heaven.

- **a.** The Cloud by day and fire by night.
  - It was always moving advancing.
  - IF Israel had opted to stay behind while the fire and cloud were going forward, the blessing flow of heaven would have left them.



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- **b.** There are some people who are not in the flow of heaven anymore because they didn't keep moving with God!
- c. The first generation of Israelites:
  - Deut 1:8 NKJV "See, I have set the land before you; go in and possess the land which the LORD swore to your fathers—to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob—to give to them and their descendants after them."
    - Deut 1:26-33 NKJV "Nevertheless you would not go up, but rebelled against the command of the LORD your God; and you complained in your tents, and said, 'Because the LORD hates us, He has brought us out of the land of Egypt to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us. Where can we go up? Our brethren have discouraged our hearts, saying, 'The people are greater and taller than we; the cities are great and fortified up to heaven; moreover we have seen the sons of the Anakim there.' Then I said to you, 'Do not be terrified, or afraid of them. The LORD your God, who goes before you, He will fight for you, according to all He did for you in Egypt before your eves, and in the wilderness where you saw how the LORD your God carried you, as a man carries his son, in all the way that you went **until you came to this place.**' Yet, for all that, you did not believe the LORD your God, who went in the way **before you** to search out a place for you to pitch your tents, to show you the way you should go, in the fire by night and in the cloud by day."
      - "The Lord who goes before you"
      - **NLT** The Lord who is going ahead of you.
      - **CEV** The Lord who will lead the way.
      - *ISV* The Lord your God is the one who will be going ahead of you.
  - Note: When the Lord goes ahead to prepare the way for us, and we fail to MOVE in that His direction His blessing, provision, protection, etc., moves on and we get left behind out of the flow.
  - The only way to STAY in the FLOW of His blessing, protection, provision is to stay in step with Him – moving when He moves – going where He goes – following everywhere He leads.
- 4. When Israel refused to go on to possess the promised land, they were refusing to stay in step with God.



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- **a.** Refusing to move forward was opting to stay behind out of the flow of heaven.
- **b.** The flow of heaven was moving into the promised land and the first city would be Jericho.
  - Forty years later, when the next generation went into Jerico, Rahab the harlot told the spies, that God had already showed up forty years prior.
  - Josh 2:8-11 HCSB "Before the men fell asleep, she went up on the roof and said to them, 'I know that the LORD has given you this land and that the terror of you has fallen on us, and everyone who lives in the land is panicking because of you. For we have heard how the LORD dried up the waters of the Red Sea before you when you came out of Egypt, and what you did to Sihon and Og, the two Amorite kings you completely destroyed across the Jordan. When we heard this, we lost heart, and everyone's courage failed because of you, for the LORD your God is God in heaven above and on earth below'."
  - The flow of heaven had already MOVED in and invaded Jerico years before when they first heard about Israel.
  - It took Israel 40 years to catch up with God!
- c. While God was already in position in Jerico to give Israel the victory, they were stalled out in the desert – left behind – without the flow of heaven.
  - If they had moved with God *they would not have died prematurely.*
  - If they had stayed in step They would have entered the promised land and possessed everything in the flow of heaven.
  - Refusing to stay in step was refusing to stay in heavens flow.
  - The flow of the desert caught up with them, disease, famine, poverty, unprotected, premature death until they all died.
  - Caleb and Joshua stayed protected in the flow of heaven because their heart *moved ahead with God*.

# 5. How many people have lost out because they didn't stay in step with God and got out of the flow of heaven for their life?

**Luke 19:41-44 NKJV** "Now as He drew near, He saw the city and wept over it, saying, 'If you had known, even you, especially in this your day, the things *that make* for your peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. For days will come upon you when your enemies will build an



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embankment around you, surround you and close you in on every side, and level you, and your children within you, to the ground; and they will not leave in you one stone upon another, because you did not know the time of your visitation'."

*Note:* Here God – the flow of heaven – showed up – and they refused to get in step with it. It was going to be costly.

- a. It is possible to have been in step with God for a season and fail to stay in step with Him for the next. *If/when this occurs, we have stepped out of the flow.*
- **b.** REMEDY Get back in the flow by getting back in step.
- B. Stay in step with God to stay in His flow for your life.
  - Acts 3:19-21 NKJV "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord, and that He may send Jesus Christ, who was preached to you before, whom heaven must receive until the times of restoration of all things, which God has spoken by the mouth of all His holy prophets since the world began."
    - **a.** Times of refreshing = refreshing to cool again cool off recover from the effects of heat -to recover breath to revive to refresh oneself.
    - b. There will be times of refreshing -recovery from the effects of the circumstances of life recovery from the battles of life you will be refreshed and revived like a breath of fresh air.
    - **c. QUALIFICATION: if you repent** = repent *turn around course correct get back in step with God to get in step with God is to step in the flow of heaven the flow of heaven includes refreshing.*
    - **d.** If I stay in step with the flow of heaven, I will always have my time of refreshing.
      - No matter how heated the battle is, I will be refreshed/revived. No matter what comes my way – I will be strengthened.
      - No matter how terrible things are I will receive the flow of heaven's refreshing.
      - This is why Paul could say, I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Paul stayed in heaven's flow of refreshing because He stayed in step with God.
  - 2. How do I stay in the flow of heaven?



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- **a.** Do not allow your relationship with Him to become stalled out.
- **b.** Discern every season. *It's probably not a coincidence*.
- **c.** Honor His leadings by paying attention, showing up, showing interest. *Always be interested in what God is doing.*
- **d.** When God begins to move in your life -move toward Him.
  - James 4:8 NKJV "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."
  - John 6:44 NKJV "No one can come to Me unless the Father who sent Me draws him; and I will raise him up at the last day."
  - Note: Yes, as we draw near to God, He draws near to us. However, the initial leading/drawing begins with God. It isn't that I just suddenly decided to seek the things of God, God actually was drawing me, setting me up, enticing me with small impressions. FOLLOWING those leadings is to give HIM permission to come close.
  - When God comes close the flow of heaven comes close.
  - When we STAY close to HIM the flow of heaven stays close.