

The Journey Begins

Exodus Chapter 13

Delivered in one night, but a lifetime journey begins.

Exd 13:1 **1) Sanctify the Firstborn** vs 1 - 16

Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

Exd 13:2 "Sanctify to Me every firstborn, the first offspring of every womb among the sons of Israel, both of man and beast; it belongs to Me."

- *God is announcing to the Children of Israel that the firstborn belongs to the Lord. Firstborn of their homes and of their fields (Man and Beast)*
- *Sanctify (qdash) = to be set apart, to be consecrated to God.*
- *Set apart for 3 reasons:*
 - 1) *As a reminder that Israel is God's first born (Exodus 4:22+23) "And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel [is] my son, [even] my firstborn: And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, [even] thy firstborn."*
 - 2) *The firstborn was thought to be the best or at least the most prized*
 - 3) *To be a reminder that God redeemed His first born Israel*
- *How do you Sanctify your Firstborn*

1) By Being Faithful Yourself

Exd 13:3 Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you went out from Egypt, from the house of slavery; for by a powerful hand the LORD brought you out from this place. And nothing leavened shall be eaten.

- *WHAT - Remember the Feast of Unleavened Bread*
- *Leaven is a symbol of sin. After the blood-deliverance a 7 day period of purging out leaven/sin.*
- *It is very important to note that the purging is after the blood-deliverance not before. We come to Christ as we are. Then after receiving His forgiveness and deliverance through His blood then and only then can we walk in purity.*

Exd 13:4 "On this day in the month of Abib, you are about to go forth.

- *WHEN - In the first month.*

Exd 13:5 "It shall be when the LORD brings you to the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Hivite and the Jebusite, which He swore to your fathers to give you, a land flowing with milk and honey, that you shall observe this rite in this month.

- *WHERE - When you are where the Lord brings you.*
- *It is so good to see that God is aware beforehand who our enemies are. He know how we are to conquer are enemies. We know our warfare is against principalities and powers.*
- *The beginning of a victorious battle is remembering how mighty our Lord has been and is.*

Exd 13:6 "For seven days you shall eat unleavened bread, and on the seventh day there shall be a feast to the LORD.

- *HOW - for 7 days - the 14th to the 21st of the first month there shall be no leaven eaten.*

Exd 13:7 "Unleavened bread shall be eaten throughout the seven days; and nothing leavened shall be seen among you, nor shall any leaven be seen among you in all your borders.

2) By Telling Your Children

Exd 13:8 "You shall tell your son on that day, saying, 'It is because of what the LORD did for me when I came out of Egypt.'

Exd 13:9 "And it shall serve as a sign to you on your hand, and as a reminder on your forehead, that the law of the LORD may be in your mouth; for with a powerful hand the LORD brought you out of Egypt.

- Notice how the father personalizes what the Lord did - "DID FOR ME" not what the Lord does.
- WHY - As a Reminder Sign that the Lord brought them out of Egypt with a powerful hand and that they would tell their sons what the Lord had done.
- Gods purpose is that this great deliverance would be continually before them. SIGN IN YOUR HAND - All that you do REMINDER ON YOUR FOREHEAD - All that you think
- The Jews eventually took this to mean the wearing of phylacteries. These were small boxes holding parchments with scriptures; these boxes were tied to the hand and forehead.
 - Jesus condemned this practice in the Pharisees (Matthew 23:5) because their phylactery boxes were made bigger to show more spirituality.
 - The Antichrist will imitate this sign on the hand and forehead with a mark. (Revelation 13:16)
- Year after year they perform and act out the Passover and Feast of Unleavened Bread. They didn't just tell them a story they acted it out. They show what they believe. James 2:18 "But someone will say, "You have faith; I have deeds." Show me your faith without deeds, and I will show you my faith by what I do."

Exd 13:10 "Therefore, you shall keep this ordinance at its appointed time from year to year.

3) Set Apart all Firstborn by Redeeming Him

Exd 13:11 "Now when the LORD brings you to the land of the Canaanite, as He swore to you and to your fathers, and gives it to you,

Exd 13:12 you shall devote to the LORD the first offspring of every womb, and the first offspring of every beast that you own; the males belong to the LORD.

Exd 13:13 "But every first offspring of a donkey you shall redeem with a lamb, but if you do not redeem {it,} then you shall break its neck; and every firstborn of man among your sons you shall redeem.

- To Devote - All 1st born males are the Lords
- Animals
 - Clean animals are sacrificed to the Lord
 - Unclean (as the case of the donkey) shall be redeemed with a lamb. If not you break its neck.
- Man's Sons - to be redeemed with a sacrifice lamb or money.
 - 2 Reasons
 - 1 The heart of a man is that the Lord receives the first fruit always.
 - 2 The Lord wanted Israel to have the Passover Deliverance before their eyes continually.

Exd 13:14 "And it shall be when your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What is this?' then you shall say to him, 'With a powerful hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, from the house of slavery.

- Notice the testimony is emphasizing the POWERFUL HAND OF THE LORD. So should our testimonies. Too often our testimonies glorify how wicked we were. Wicked is Wicked. We were all in such condition.
- BUT the Lord is mighty! Able to deliver from all bondage and slavery. He does so with a mighty hand.

Exd 13:15 'It came about, when Pharaoh was stubborn about letting us go, that the LORD killed every firstborn in the land of Egypt, both the firstborn of man and the firstborn of beast. Therefore, I sacrifice to the LORD the males, the first offspring of every womb, but every firstborn of my sons I redeem.'

Exd 13:16 "So it shall serve as a sign on your hand and as phylacteries on your forehead, for with a powerful hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt."

- Again, a sign that God's Word guides all you do (HANDS) and all you think (FOREHEAD)

Exd 13:17 **2) Marching with the Lord** vs 17 - 22

Now when Pharaoh had let the people go, God did not lead them by the way of the land of the Philistines, even though it was near; for God said, "The people might change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt."

- *The Coastal Route leaving Egypt was the common route out of Egypt. It was called "Via Maris" or "the Way of the Sea"*

Perceived As Better Route

*Common Route
Well Known
Good Roads
Shortest Way
Good Trade Route for Supplies*

Not Good Route

*Egyptian Military Outposts along Route
Land of the Philistine Warriors
God Didn't want them There.
Israel wasn't ready for Battles
Unknown Dangers averted*

1 Corinthians 10:13 "No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it."

- *The Lord kept them from war so they would not greatly fear and change their minds and return to Egypt.*

Exd 13:18 Hence God led the people around by the way of the wilderness to the Red Sea; and the sons of Israel went up in martial array from the land of Egypt.

- *The Lord directed their exodus. Deut 8:1-6 tells that God leads where He wants, so Israel/We can learn what He wants us to.*
- *The scriptures use a word here "Israel went up in martial array" The KJV uses "harnessed" The Hebrew is "chamush" which means in controlled march as an army going to battle.*
- *What an interesting parallel in that when man trains a man for the army what they do first in boot camp is march and march and march. God did the same. Possibly this really does build a disciplined army.*
- *They marched some 100 miles to the Red Sea.*

Exd 13:19 Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, "God will surely take care of you, and you shall carry my bones from here with you."

- *Moses took the bones of Joseph in fulfillment of his request from Genesis 50:25-26 "And Joseph took an oath of the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you, and ye shall carry up my bones from hence. So Joseph died, [being] an hundred and ten years old: and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt."*

Exd 13:20 Then they set out from Succoth and camped in Etham on the edge of the wilderness.

Exd 13:21 The LORD was going before them in a pillar of cloud by day to lead them on the way, and in a pillar of fire by night to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.

Exd 13:22 He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.

- *The Pillars guiding them was necessary due to the large number of people marching or camping. The Pillar was standing so tall that the whole camp could see when they would stop or move.*
- *"THE LORD WENT BEFORE THEM" What a marvelous blessing. 24 Hour acknowledgement of His Presence.*
- *Hebrews 13:5 "for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee."*
- *Proverbs 18:24 "A man [that hath] friends must shew himself friendly: and there is a friend [that] sticketh closer than a brother."*
- *John 14:16 "And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter, that he may abide with you for ever;"*

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