

DRAW NEAR

Ex. 5:1 ¶ And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness.

Ex. 5:2 And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.

Ex. 5:3 ¶ And they said, The God of the Hebrews hath met with us: let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest he fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword.

Ex. 5:4 And the king of Egypt said unto them, Wherefore do ye, Moses and Aaron, let the people from their works? get you unto your burdens.

Ex. 5:5 And Pharaoh said, Behold, the people of the land now are many, and ye make them rest from their burdens.

Ex. 5:6 And Pharaoh commanded the same day the taskmasters of the people, and their officers, saying,

Ex. 5:7 Ye shall no more give the people straw to make brick, as heretofore: let them go and gather straw for themselves.

Ex. 5:8 And the tale of the bricks, which they did make heretofore, ye shall lay upon them; ye shall not diminish ought thereof: for they be idle; therefore they cry, saying, Let us go and sacrifice to our God.

Ex. 5:9 Let there more work be laid upon the men, that they may labour therein; and let them not regard vain words.

I. In this passage of scripture we find Israel living in slavery in Egypt

A. The **Israelites** are a type and shadow of the The People of God

1. The Born Again Believer

a. But while living in this world ... still living as slaves

B. **Pharaoh:**

1. Type & shadow of the devil who has one goal in mind

a. Keeping God's people in slavery to him ...

(1) "get you unto your burdens"

(2) making bricks

b. Thus keeping God' people out of their destiny

(1) never discovering their true calling

(2) never fulfilling their God given purpose

2. All in attempt to keep God's people from fulfilling

(1) vs 1 "that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness."

(2) vs 3 "let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God;"

(a) The Feast is no longer observing a Day, rather our Feast is the death, burial & resurrection of Jesus Christ

(b) Whom we are called to Worship and offer the Sacrifice of Praise unto

(1) Heb 13:15 "By him therefore let us offer the sacrifice of praise to God continually, that is, the fruit of *our* lips giving thanks to his name."

C. **Taskmasters:**

1. Type & shadow of demonic spirits assigned by Pharaoh / the devil

a. to keep God's people in bondage Serving their burdens ...making bricks

D. **Moses:**

1. Type & Shadow of the Prophet / servant of God, sent by the Lord to declare

a. The will of God and your liberty that Jesus Christ purchased for you on Calvary's Cross declaring to Pharaoh / the devil / the taskmasters / demonic spirits

(1) "let my people go"

II. **Making Bricks:**

A. Have you ever stopped and asked your self the question:

1. Am I fulfilling my God given destiny & purpose

a. or am I going thru life making bricks?

B. **Bricks** ... can be a number of things:

1. Bricks can be the sin stops us from faithfully serving God

2. The habit & addictions that keeps us in chains

3. The lust of the flesh that keep stops us from faithfully serving God

4. It can be the sickness that attempts to enslave your life

C. "**Let my people go**" is the message that Jesus Christ declared on behalf of all mankind:

1. In LK 4:18 we discover part of Jesus mission statement for his life:

a. "to set at **liberty them that are bruised**",

(1) **Def Liberty:** freedom

(2) **Def Bruised:** crushed / Dwell

(a) this Liberty / Freedom is available thru the Blood that Jesus Christ shed

on Calvary's cross

(b) the **empty tomb from which Jesus has resurrected**

(1) Declares to Pharaoh / the devilto the Taskmasters / demonic spirits
"let my people go"

(2) Because Jesus has brought freedom to all those who have been
bruised & crushed by the consequences of

(a) Sin habit addictions lust of the flesh sickness & disease
poverty ... divorce ... rejection & abandonment

(b) In other words you do not have to go thru life anymore making
bricks for the devil

2. When we accept Jesus Christ as our Savior& surrender to His will & make
Him Lord over our life

a. When we become Born Again, we become the Temple of God according
to 1 Cor 6:19

b. and the result of the surrendering to the Spirit of God that dwells in you
thru the New Birth is discovered in:

(1) 2 Cor 3:17 Now the Lord is that Spirit: and where the Spirit of
the Lord is, there is **liberty**.

(a) **Def Liberty**: freedom

(1) Jn 8:36 "If the Son (Jesus) therefore shall make you free, ye shall
Be free indeed"

(2) Have you been born again? Is Jesus living in your heart? Are you
The Temple of the Holy Ghost?

(3) if so, the Liberty on the inside of you wants to also manifest on
The outside ... In every area of your life

III. When The Lord spoke to Moses about delivering the children of Israel from
bondage, The Lord also instructed Moses as follows:

A. Ex 3:12 "When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall
serve God upon this mountain"

1. **Moses** brought Israel to the Mountain of **Mt Sinai**

a. Where Israel received the Law / The Old Testament Covenant of the Word
of God

(1) Whereby they had to learn to live by the Law on tablets of stone

B. **Jesus** has also brought you to a mountain when you become Born Again
according to:

a. Heb 12:22 "But ye are come unto mount Sion, and unto the city of the living

God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to an innumerable company of angels,
Heb. 12:23 To the general assembly and church of the firstborn, which are
written in heaven, and to God the Judge of all, and to the spirits of just men
made perfect,

Heb. 12:24 And to Jesus the mediator of the new covenant, and to the blood
of sprinkling,..."

- (1) **Mt Zion** is where the Born Again church meets in the Spirit realm
- (2) surrounded by an innumerable company angels as we worship in Spirit
and in Truth
- (2) Where we receive the New Testament Covenant of the Word of God
 - (1) That is no longer written on tablets of stone ... and external law to
observe thru religious duty
 - (2) Rather according to 2Cor. 3:2 Ye are our epistle written in our hearts,
known and read of all men:
2Cor. 3:3 Forasmuch as ye are manifestly declared to be the epistle of
Christ ministered by us, written not with ink, but with the Spirit of the living
God; not in tables of stone, but in fleshy tables of the heart.
 - (a) The Holy Spirit desires to take the written word of God off from the ink
of the pages of the Bible
 - (b) and write the Word of God upon the tablets of our heart and renew
Your mind, and rid us of living and thinking like a slave unto
The devil, lust of flesh & circumstances we face
 - (1) we are to experience the true liberty Jesus came to bring us by
serving God from the depths of our heart where the Spirit and Word of
God dwells:
 - (2) instead of the external observance of law, rules, feast / holy days

IV. Heb. 10:22 "Let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith,"

A. **Def: Draw Near:** Worship

1. Drawing near to God is not speaking of a physical location
 - a. Rather it is speaking of the spiritual location of our heart
 - (1) Because to Worship does not just mean sing a song
 - (2) To Worship & Draw Near is not limited to a place we go on Sunday
mornings & Wednesday nights
 - (a) To draw near is speaking of living a life of worship
 - (b) living a life of surrender
 - (c) living a life of service unto God
 - (d) living a life as a living sacrifice unto God every hour & every day of our
life

b. To Draw Near to God means:

- (1) we put nothing and no-one before The Lord Jesus Christ in our life
 - (A) in other words Drawing Near means we tare down the idols in our life
 - (1) an idol is what ever or whoever we put before God
 - (2) an idol is whatever influences us to disobey the truths & principles Of the Word of God
 - (3) An idol is the excuses we have for not being faithful unto God, Leading of Holy Spirit, and the Word of God
 - (A) and that idol will become your Pharaoh and enslave you
 - (B) causing you to go thru life serving your burdens
 - (C) going thru life making bricks

B. But when we Draw Near / live a life of Worship we invite not just the word of God into our life

1. But we also invite the **Presence of God** into our life

a. we allow God to bring restoration into our life for His original plan for all mankind as seen in the book of Genesis that was lost when Adam and Eve fell into sin in the Garden of Eden

- (1) Gen. 3:8 And they heard the voice of the LORD God walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God amongst the trees of the garden.
Gen. 3:9 ¶ And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?

C. Adam & all mankind hides from two things when they fell in sin:

1. #1 **THE PRESENCE**

a. "THEY HID THEMSELVES FROM THE PRESENCE OF THE LORD"

2. The absence of God's presence in their life was so noticeable that they made fig leaves for a covering

a. **Fig Leaves:** are a type and shadow of the spirit of religion

b. **Fig Leaves:** are a type and shadow of self righteousness & excuses

- (1) But Fig leaves ... the spirit of religion self righteousness does not deliver mankind from the spirit of fear:

(a) Gen 3:8 and Adam and his wife **hid themselves from the presence** of the LORD God

3. Are you hiding from God's presence?

a. Are you wearing a fig leaf

- (1) Hiding behind religion

- (2) hiding behind a self righteous spirit or excuses
- (3) hoping your fig leaf hides your sin, habit & true spiritual condition
- a. or are you drawing near to God with a full assurance of faith

D. #2 The second thing Adam & Eve & all mankind hides from in the midst of sin is: **THE VOICE OF GOD**

1. Gen 3:8 “And they **heard the voice of the LORD God** walking in the garden in the cool of the day: and Adam and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the LORD God”
 - a. The voice of God is key to bringing the Presence of God into our life
 - b. God does not just want us reading lifeless words of ink on the printed pages of the bible
 - (1) The Spirit of God wants to breath life upon the Word of God as we read, study & hear the scriptures
 - (2) Opening our eyes to revelation knowledge of the Word of God
 - (3) Writing the Word of God upon the tables of our heart & renewing our mind
 - (4) Enabling us to hear the Voice of God thru the Holy Spirit' Voice & Scripture
 - (a) bringing fulfillment to: Rom. 10:17 So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God. (Rhema / Voice of God)

E. Are you hiding from the presence of God
Are you hiding from the Voice of God

V. The answer to both of those questions depends upon our response to the invitation to Draw Near unto God:

A. Will we choose to draw near? or:

1. Like Adam & Eve hide behind our fig leaf
2. Or even like Israel: Choose to stand afar off in or relationship with God:
 - a. Ex. 20:18 ¶ And all the people saw the thunderings, and the lightnings, and the noise of the trumpet, and the mountain smoking: and when the people saw it, they removed, and stood afar off.
Ex. 20:21 And the people stood afar off, and Moses drew near unto the thick darkness where God was.
 - (1) Israel choose to “**stood afar off**”
 - (a) This type of life keeps you in the wilderness instead of entering into God’s will & destiny for you life
 - (b) Choosing to stand afar off in your relationship with God:

(1) Enables Pharaoh & his taskmasters to keep you a slave, going thru life making bricks & wearing fig leaves

B. But accepting the invitation to Draw near from God brings you into the Liberty & Freedom Jesus came to give you

1. James 4:8 “Draw nigh to God, and he will draw nigh to you.”
 - a. Drawing near to God brings His presence into you life
 - b. Drawing near to God releases the Voice of God into your life

C. Invitation:

1. Time to quit making bricks in life ... Time to stop trying to worship and serve God from afar off
2. Quit running from the Presence of God & running from the Voice of God’
 - a. From the Truths and principles written in the scripture
 - b. To the voice of the Holy Spirit:
 - (1) We are told not to grieve nor quench the Holy Spirit in 1 Thess 5:19
3. Time to take of the Fig Leaves
 - a. Self righteousness
 - b. spirit of religion
 - c. Time to lay aside our idols and excuses
 - (1) and come as you are even if it is **naked and afraid / just as you are**
Come to Jesus ... Run towards his voice / run to God's presence
 - (2) instead of hiding in fear behind the trees in your life, as Adam & Eve did in the garden
 - (a) Draw near instead to the Tree of Life
 - (b) Draw near instead to Calvary’s Cross
 - (c) Draw near instead to the Voice of God
 - (d) Draw near instead to the Presence of God
 4. God called out to Adam & Eve in the Garden even after they fell in sin:
 - a. Gen. 3:9 ¶ And the LORD God called unto Adam, and said unto him, Where art thou?
 - (1) “Where art thou?”
 - (2) Where are you in your relationship with God
 - (A) are you saved / born again
 - (B) are you drawing near to God & living a life of worship
 - (C) or are you standing afar off from God's presence
 - (C) are you wearing fig leaves and hiding from The Voice of a God that Is calling out to you to come and eat of the Tree of Life / Calvary's Cross

