

LIFE – GOD’S PERSPECTIVE 2

Background:

The Journey of Life - God’s perspective

Deuteronomy the book – a second reading of the law or a second law, as earlier books (exodus, Leviticus, numbers) had given the law but this was needed to prepare them for a settled life.

A 40-year journey had ended and they were being prepared for the life ahead.....

Deuteronomy 8:7 For the LORD thy **God bringeth thee into a good land**, a land of brooks of water, of fountains and depths that spring out of valleys and hills;

Deuteronomy 8:8 A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees, and pomegranates; a land of oil olive, and honey;

Deuteronomy 8:9 A land wherein thou shalt eat bread without scarceness, thou shalt not lack any *thing* in it; a land whose stones *are* iron, and out of whose hills thou mayest dig brass

- Let God bring us....
- Put our logic aside...don’t try to bless yourself, don’t cut corners....., be patient, let God do it.
- Proverbs – there is a way that seems right to man but the end is the way of death.
- Take the right steps, let God do it
- For Israel, they had to fight, and lost battles when they fought without God’s presence.
- Young people.... marriage, - DO NOT BE UNEQUALLY YOKED WITH UNBELIEVERS – 2 CORINTHIANS 6:14
- Favour of the Lord.... needed through life as we have to deal with strangers non-Christians.
- We also see here the goodness of God, the nature of God to love his children, to give them the best.
- However, we are not to love God for what we can get from him but for who he is – SEE 2 CORINTHIANS 5:15
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Deuteronomy 8:11 Beware that thou forget not the LORD thy God, in not keeping his commandments, and his judgments, and his statutes, which I command thee this day:

Deuteronomy 8:12 Left *when* thou **hast eaten and art full, and hast built goodly houses**, and dwelt *therein*;

Deuteronomy 8:13 And *when* **thy herds and thy flocks multiply**, and **thy silver and thy gold is multiplied**, and all that thou hast is multiplied;

Deuteronomy 8:14 Then **thine heart be lifted up**, and thou forget the LORD thy God, which brought thee forth out of the land of Egypt, from the house of bondage;

Deuteronomy 8:15 Who led thee through that great and terrible wilderness, *wherein were* fiery serpents, and scorpions, and drought, where *there was* no water; who brought thee forth water out of the rock of flint;

Deuteronomy 8:16 Who fed thee in the wilderness with manna, which thy fathers knew not, that he might humble thee, and that he might prove thee, to do thee good at thy latter end;

Deuteronomy 8:17 And thou say in thine heart, My power and the might of *mine* hand hath gotten me this wealth.

- Again
- The blessing is overwhelming.
- This comes after the passage of time....
- This is not prosperity gospel.....was a bit hesitant,
- Because it comes sometime after the initial walk with God and signs of his power, we may forget God and Gods hand in it.
- House....so necessary but so hard to get, takes time, effort, discipline, patience.... don't be tempted to cut corners.
- **Never ever say...."my hand has got me this wealth" !**
- Start small. Acknowledge God's hand in everything, every success of your life.

Deuteronomy 8:18 But thou **shalt remember the LORD thy God**: for *it is he that giveth thee power to get wealth*, that he may establish his covenant which he swore unto thy fathers, as *it is* this day.

Deuteronomy 8:19 And it shall be, **if thou do at all forget the LORD thy God**, and walk after other gods, and serve them, and worship them, I testify against you this day **that ye shall surely perish**.

Deuteronomy 8:20 As the nations which the LORD destroyeth before your face, so shall ye perish; because ye would not be obedient unto the voice of the LORD your God.

- Do not forget God.
- Do not turn away to serve other Gods.... money, leaving the faith, traditions...
- As God destroys your enemies, God can destroy you too for disobedience.

Hebrews – warning

Hebrews 10:26 For if we sin wilfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins,

Hebrews 10:27 But a certain fearful looking for of judgment and fiery indignation, which shall devour the adversaries.

Hebrews 10:28 He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses:

Hebrews 10:29 Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden underfoot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite unto the Spirit of grace?

Hebrews 6:4 For *it is* impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost,

Hebrews 6:5 And have tasted the good word of God, and the powers of the world to come,

Hebrews 6:6 If they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put *him* to an open shame.

In revelation warnings are given to the Church.

WE LIVE IN A TIME WHERE THERE CHURCH IS TAKING SIN FOR GRANTED – COUNTING ON GRACE – GOD FORBID!! WE ARE TO DIE TO SIN AND LIVE LIVES THAT GLORIFY AND PLEASE GOD. – FOR HIS PLEASURE WE WERE CREATED – REVELATION 4:11.

Romans 6:1 What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound?

Romans 6:2 God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?

What happened next to ISRAEL?

- The conquest
- The kings – ISRAEL DEMANDS A KING – 1 Samuel 8:1-6. – “Like all the nations” – NOT GOD’S MODEL, MAN’S IDEA.

1 Samuel 8:1 And it came to pass, when Samuel was old, that he made his sons judges over Israel.

1 Samuel 8:2 Now the name of his firstborn was Joel; and the name of his second, Abiah: *they were* judges in Beersheba.

1 Samuel 8:3 And his sons walked not in his ways, but turned aside after lucre, and took bribes, and perverted judgment.

1 Samuel 8:4 Then all the elders of Israel gathered themselves together, and came to Samuel unto Ramah,

1 Samuel 8:5 And said unto him, Behold, thou art old, and thy sons walk not in thy ways: **now make us a king to judge us like all the nations.**

1 Samuel 8:6 But the thing displeased Samuel, when they said, Give us a king to judge us. And Samuel prayed unto the LORD.

1 Samuel 8:7 And the LORD said unto Samuel, Hearken unto the voice of the people in all that they say unto thee: for they have not rejected thee, but they have rejected me, that I should not reign over them.

- Saul
- David (After God's own heart) and Solomon(after the pleasures of life).
- Solomon introduces idolatry to ISRAEL –

1 Kings 11:1 But king Solomon loved many strange women, together with the daughter of Pharaoh, women of the Moabites, Ammonites, Edomites, Zidonians, *and* Hittites;

1 Kings 11:2 Of the nations *concerning* which the LORD said unto the children of Israel, Ye shall not go in to them, neither shall they come in unto you: *for* surely they will turn away your heart after their gods: Solomon clave unto these in love.

1 Kings 11:3 And he had seven hundred wives, princesses, and three hundred concubines: and his wives turned away his heart.

1 Kings 11:4 For it came to pass, when Solomon was old, *that* his wives turned away his heart after other gods: and his heart was not perfect with the LORD his God, as *was* the heart of David his father.

1 Kings 11:5 For Solomon went after Ashtoreth the goddess of the Zidonians, and after Milcom the abomination of the Ammonites.

1 Kings 11:6 And Solomon did evil in the sight of the LORD, and went not fully after the LORD, as *did* David his father.

1 Kings 11:7 Then did Solomon build an high place for Chemosh, the abomination of Moab, in the hill that *is* before Jerusalem, and for Molech, the abomination of the children of Ammon.

1 Kings 11:8 And likewise did he for all his strange wives, which burnt incense and sacrificed unto their gods.

1 Kings 11:9 And the LORD was angry with Solomon, because his heart was turned from the LORD God of Israel, which had appeared unto him twice,

1 Kings 11:10 And had commanded him concerning this thing, that he should not go after other gods: but he kept not that which the LORD commanded.

- The kings and the dividing of the nation – civil war.
- But through DAVID, the lineage of Christ had begun.

What type of Church should we be?? – blameless/spotless.

- Matthew 5:13 Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savour, wherewith shall it be salted? it is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men.
- Matthew 5:14 Ye are the light of the world. A city that is set on an hill cannot be hid.
- Matthew 5:15 Neither do men light a candle, and put it under a bushel, but on a candlestick; and it giveth light unto all that are in the house.
- Matthew 5:16 Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven.

SALT

- Preserves from rot,
- used to preserve meat in ancient times.
- Acts slowly
- Can lose its saltiness – when we become as the world....

LIGHT

- Attracts attention by nature
- Drives away darkness – DON'T FEAR!
- Cannot be hidden

A STORY I WAS TOLD

One Church in a foreign African country known for corruption chose to emphasise holiness, righteousness and perfection in its teachings and lifestyle.

Word of this soon spread across the society it was located in.

Society including non-Christians realised the wisdom of seeking employees from this church as they knew these employees would be faithful!

Would it not be a good testimony for Calvary Chapel?

AS WE GO THROUGH 2019, AS GOD GIVES US LIFE, MAY WE SEEK TO LOOK AT THE JOURNEY OF LIFE THROUGH GOD'S RATHER THAN MAN'S PERSPECTIVE THAT WE WILL SEE THE GOODNESS OF GOD IN THE LAND OF THE LIVING.