

Life-Study of Exodus Summary - Messages 177-181

A Companion of God

The evil situation among the children of Israel provided an opportunity for Moses to be manifested as a **companion of God**. Despite such a situation, Moses was willing to make **propitiation** in behalf of a people who were stiff-necked and idolatrous. Moses sought to propitiate God by **conversing with Him intimately**. Moses sought to make propitiation for the people even at the **risk of his eternal destiny**. Moses made propitiation for the people **according to God's heart**. Moses caused the people to mourn and to cleanse themselves. The outcome of Moses' making propitiation for the people was that they gave up their self-beautification.

Moses' Stay with God

To understand Exodus 34, we need to understand two matters. First, we need to realize that in the Old Testament there are **types, figures, and shadows** of the divine and spiritual things revealed in the New Testament. Second, as we come to chapter 34 with this understanding, we also need to see that in this chapter we have **a full recovery of the broken covenant**. After God had been appeased, it was necessary for the broken covenant to be recovered. It was necessary for Moses to come up to the mountaintop to meet with the Lord. The meeting involved Moses going up and God going down. The Lord's charge to Moses in verse 3 indicates that we all need a time to contact the Lord **alone**. When it is time to meet with the Lord alone, we should be free even from our necessities, and we should not speak too much.

In verse 18, we see that God's intention was to command His people to **enjoy Him** – to **feast** with Him and **rest** in Him. This is contrary to our natural desire to want always to do something for God. This principle applies to us today. If we feast with the Lord every day and rest with Him during the day, everything will be all right in our daily living. **Every day we need to feast and rest**. To keep the **feast of unleavened bread** we must desire to **maintain** fellowship with God, and **clear away** all the leaven from our lives. The **feast of weeks of Pentecost** is the full issue of **resurrection life**. Then at the end of the day we shall have a time of **ingathering**, a time of harvest to **swell with God in the full enjoyment of Christ**. If we care for the enjoyment of the Lord, the enemies will be kept away from us.

For us to feast with the Lord, **five conditions** must be fulfilled. First, is to redeem the firstling of a donkey with a lamb. This signifies that **our natural man** must be **replaced** with Christ so that we may live a sanctified life for God. Second, not offering the blood of the Lord's sacrifice with leavened bread indicates that **we should not mix Christ's redemption with our sinful life**. Third we should not allow the sacrifice of the feast of the Passover to remain until the morning. This signifies that we should **enjoy the riches of Christ today**. Then, we must bring the first of the firstfruits to the house of God. This signifies bringing the **topmost experience of Christ** to the church meetings for God's satisfaction. Finally, not boiling a kid in its mother's milk typifies that **we should not seethe young believers with the milk of the word**.

If we consider Exodus 34 in the light of our spiritual experience, we shall see that **the key here is the enjoyment of the Lord**. We need **God's infusion**; God's desire is to infuse Himself into our being. The shining we experience today is not in the law; it is in the **enjoyment of Christ**. We do not need to have a veil, and we do not need to fear a termination of the glory. We can keep our face unveiled before both God and man. The Lord's speaking about the enjoyment of Him, **His speaking about feasting and resting and the conditions for enjoying Him infuses us with God and causes us to shine**. Praise the Lord! (Life-Study of Exodus – Messages 177-181).