

## Life-Study of Exodus Summaries – Messages 61-66

### MESSAGE 61–63 – The Negative Aspect of the Giving of the Law and of its Function

From the time of the **fall**, man's **condition** determines whether or not God's contact with him will be in the "day" or in the "night." On God's side there is no night, for God is light. In giving us the holy Word, the **Bible**, God did not intend for there to be a "night" side as well as a "day" side. Whenever we come to the Bible, we must drop everything related to our **negative background**. For the house of Jacob at the **bottom** of the mountain, the giving of the law was in the "night." But for Moses on the **mountaintop**, it was in the "day." God's people should always meet together in the "day" of His Word. If we all come to the Bible in the "day," we shall be brought together at Mount Horeb. From the very beginning, it was not God's intention to give man commandments to keep or to have man do things for Him. **God's eternal intention is to work Himself into us.** God's intention was not just to rescue the people from persecution in Egypt; it was to bring them to **Himself** on the mountain of God. In the Bible we can find out what God says to us and what He wants us to do. However, the primary matter is that we stay with God through the Word. What we are not able to do ourselves, **God desires to do in us.** This is God's economy both in the Old Testament and in the New. The law on the negative side functions to expose our sinfulness, to subdue us as sinners, and to guard God's chosen people and bring them to Christ. May we see that God's intention is that we be on the mountaintop experiencing His infusion. (Life-Study of Exodus, 61-63).

### MESSAGE 64 – Apart from the Living God the Law Becoming Killing Letters

the law has a **threefold** function: to **testify** of God, to **expose** us, and to **subdue** us. The law is so high that it not only exposes us, but also subdues us. We are exposed and subdued by the law as the word of God in that it is **spiritual, holy, just, and good**. The law was intended to **result** in life, however it is not able to **give** life of itself. The intent of the law is to result in life. If we keep it, we shall have life. The law **brings** us to the Lord as the source of life. Whenever the law is **separated** from the living God as the source of life, it becomes the condemning and killing element to sinful people; the law becomes letters which kill us. We all need a new heart, new spirit, and the Spirit of God that we may keep all of God's commandments and not separate ourselves from God. (Life-Study of Exodus, 64).

### MESSAGE 65 – The Veil over the Glory of the Ministry of Condemnation and Death

The shining on Moses' face was the glory of a ministry which had been **given by God** and established by Him. However, Moses' ministry of glory became a ministry of **condemnation and death** because the people were in **darkness** and because their **hearts were hardened**. The principle is the same in reading the Bible. If our heart is hard and turned away from the Lord, in our experience even the glorious ministry of the New Testament will become a ministry of **condemnation and death** to us. But if our heart is right, we shall receive **great blessing**. (Life-Study of Exodus, 65).

### MESSAGE 66 – The Ordinances of the Law Concerning the Worship of God

The law in the Old Testament not only includes the Ten Commandments, but also includes many **ordinances**. In the worship of God we should give **no place** to **riches**, no place to **gold** and **silver** to make them **idols**. God has prepared the **cross** for us to worship Him, and we should simply receive it, saying "Amen" with thanksgiving to God for His work of preparation. The cross of Christ has no steps; it is on our level. We must **reject** every man-made way to the cross. The proper worship of God must include the **burnt offering** and the **peace offering**, something of Christ offered to God for His enjoyment and satisfaction and something of Christ which we enjoy with God. When we come together to worship God, we must drop every other name and exalt the **Lord's name**. The result of the proper worship is His **visitation** and **blessing!** (Life-Study of Exodus, 65).