

# *Resurrection Life of Jesus Church*

## UNLEASHING THE POWER OF GOD

RLJ-1471

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### PART 3: BOND SLAVE OF JESUS CHRIST

#### **THE MINDSET**

As slaves in Egypt, the descendants of Abraham were not a nation, but a collection of 12 tribes. They had little in the way of spiritual instruction except what had been given to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. The only Scriptures available to them were the books of Genesis, Job and Enoch.

They followed the sacrificial rituals instituted by Abraham by circumcising their male infants and were careful not to marry outside the 12 tribes. They worshiped the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob but there was no personal relationship with God. As a result, their faith in God was shallow and this made them spiritually weak.

The tribal leaders argued with Moses when he surprised them with the message that they were going to be set free because they were comfortable. **Exodus 14:10-12**

#### **BUILDING A NATION**

It would take supernatural miracles to transform slaves into a nation. The project of moving the children of Israel out of Egypt was planned before creation by Elohim (God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit). Jesus was in charge of this project with holy angels at His command.

Satan was given access to Moses and the children of Israel in order to tempt and to try to turn them against God. There was an intense spiritual battle that was revealed thousands of years later. **Zechariah 3:1-2**

There were to be many trials and obstacles that would have been impossible for Moses and the people to overcome in the flesh had they not relied upon God's supernatural provisions.

Before God could deliver the children of Israel, He had to prepare a leader first, and that preparation took 80 years. **Hebrews 11:23-29**

#### **BITTER WATERS**

Jesus was the part of the Godhead that headed up this project and I will use His name in our discussion of shaping the nation of Israel. Now, Jesus knew that the waters at Marah were bitter and unsuitable for consumption. He could have given orders for angels to purify the waters but that would not have succeeded in teaching Moses and the people a lesson. It was for this reason that Jesus purposely led Moses and the people straight to the waters at Marah. **Exodus 15:22-24**



The ten plagues laid upon the Egyptians and the parting of the Red Sea had not yet instilled faith in the children of Israel. They gave no thought to the promise given to Abraham of a future redeemer who would pay for the sins of mankind. They were only concerned with food, clothing and a comfortable life for their families.

Moses was forced to call out to Jesus, who responded with an order to throw a tree into the water to remove its bitterness. Imagine the obedience it took for Moses to follow these instructions, knowing that in the natural, a tree would not take away the water's bitterness.

Nevertheless, Jesus wanted Moses to participate with a token act and then had angels instantly convert the water from bitter to sweet. **verses 25**

Jesus then gave a mini teaching that none of the diseases which afflicted the Egyptians would be placed on the children of Israel if they made the decision to walk in obedience. **verse 26**

## **FROM THE PHYSICAL WORLD TO THE SPIRIT WORLD**

The food supplies carried from Egypt were depleted after 65 days. The children of Israel had consumed their farm animals and all the food supplies were gone. This was in accordance with God's plan since He wanted to strip the people of their independence and force them to depend upon the Lord instead of themselves. In reality, they had become slaves to Jesus, who intended to clean up their idolatry and sin in order to bring them into the Promised Land and bless them. **Exodus 16:1-3**

***Jesus never looks for independent people; He is looking for people who want to become dependent upon Him. Matthew 19:27-30***

Jesus had food that would supply the people with all the bread they needed. It was a supernatural program, where bread was manufactured in the spirit world and brought into the physical world. **Exodus 16:4-5**

Jesus supplied the meat from the physical world, but it was brought to the camp by supernatural power. **verses 7-26**

There will always be rebels that ignore clear instructions. **verses 27-30**

## **WATER**

Water became an important issue after the departure from Egypt and arrival into the wilderness. Each person would approximately need half a gallon of water per day for drinking and making food. The average gasoline tanker truck in the U.S. carries 10,000 gallons, meaning it would have taken 300 tanker trucks to supply the necessary water for the Israelites each day.

Jesus never told Moses beforehand how He was going to supply food and water in the wilderness; the only thing Moses could do was to cry out to God. **Exodus 17:1-7**

## **SUMMARY**

The concept of being a slave to the Lord Jesus Christ is not a subject clearly preached by many ministers. Instead, they have elevated man and reduced God to something like an ATM machine, where Christians can receive their blessings without giving anything back to the Lord.

The Greek word for slave in Greek is “doulos,” but when the translators of the King James Bible translated “doulos” into English, they used the word “servant,” which in 1611 also had the meaning of being a slave. However, in today’s English, there is a difference between a servant and a slave.

After the people of Israel entered the Promised Land, they copied the customs of the people around them and began to possess slaves. This was not God’s perfect will, and He instructed the Israelites that a slave could not be held indefinitely, there was a time limit before he had to be released from bondage.

A newly freed slave did not have the means to provide for themselves after being a slave for so many years and they would often choose to become a “bond slave.” The newly freed slave would then be taken before a judge to make this decision legal and one of his ears would be pierced as evidence of his choice. The benefits to the bond slave were that he would be treated nicely by the master and have food and lodging as long as he lived. **Exodus 21:6**

It is interesting that the apostle Paul stated that he and Timothy were slaves of Jesus. **Philippians 1:1**

The apostles James, Peter and Jude also made similar statements and identified themselves as bond slaves of Jesus Christ. **James 1:1; 2 Peter 1:1; Jude 1**

Jesus released them as slaves and stated that they were His friends, but the apostles still identified themselves as bond slaves, allowing Jesus to be in control of their lives. **John 15:14-15**

A slave is a person who is not free to go and do as he pleases, but is compelled to do what his master tells him to do. A slave is not paid wages but is given food and lodging and needs to be responsive to the master’s slightest bidding.

Unbelievers are slaves of Satan but those who have been born again are the slaves of Jesus Christ. It is not your will, but God the Father’s plan for your life that should receive priority and action. **Luke 9:57-62**

## **Are you willing to be a bond servant of Jesus?**

Jesus never changes; He will be the same today and tomorrow. **Hebrews 13:8**

***Remember, it’s not so important how you begin your life after salvation, but how you finish it!***

***Do you have an ear to hear with?***