

February 3/Day 34

Exodus 13

Verse 1

- Sanctify means to set apart. When something or someone is set apart it is for a purpose, not just for the sake of being apart or different as some would teach. There is always a purpose for which a person is set apart.
- Who is to be set apart in this passage?
- Are you a firstborn? I am. Have you ever claimed this verse for your firstborn? I have.
- Do you remember what happened to the firstborn of Egypt?

Verses 3-10

- What does God want the sons of Israel to remember? Has God ever delivered you from bondage? Have you remembered?
- How many people-groups are in the land of promise at this time?
- How is the land described?
- What are they to tell their sons in remembrance?
- Observe verse 9 and remember this for later when we see the mezuzahs and phylacteries and the priestly attire.
- Remember, the law has not yet been given, yet they are told it will be in their mouth. Remember this, too, when we get to Deuteronomy.

Verses 11-16

- The firstborn of the womb are to be devoted to the LORD.
- The Scriptures will expound on redemption later, but to redeem something means to buy it back. If you are buying it back, then it implies it was yours to begin with.
- A donkey is an unclean animal, so it is to be redeemed, or paid for, by a lamb. A donkey is a pack animal and would be an important possession, so if it wasn't redeemed, the loss of the animal would be due to the disobedience of the owner and would be a loss to the owner.
- What were they to say when their sons ask about this custom?
- Who redeems the firstborn sons?
- A phylactery was a little leather box, with Scripture texts inside, which were tied to the foreheads of Jewish men as a reminder (on the forehead where the brain is) to keep the law.

Verses 17-22

- So, apparently, the Philistines were warring when the sons of Israel came out and instead of crossing their land, God took them around the long way.
- Whose bones did they carry with them? Do you remember Genesis 50:24-26? "Joseph said to his brothers, 'I am about to die, but God will surely take care of you and bring you up

from this land to the land which He promised on oath to Abraham, to Isaac and to Jacob.’ Then Joseph made the sons of Israel swear, saying, ‘God will surely take care of you, and you shall carry my bones up from here.’ So Joseph died at the age of one hundred and ten years; and he was embalmed and placed in a coffin in Egypt.”

- How was God guiding them? Do you remember the picture of God cutting covenant with Abraham? Do you remember the flaming torch and the smoking oven?

Exodus 14

Verses 1-4

- Pi-hahiroth is on the eastern border of Egypt. The name literally means “to pass away” or “to be exhausted” in the sense of the end of the land.
- Migdol is a fortified city. This usually means it is guarded by a fortress or castle. It is usually walled in and probably raised or had a tower or lookout. Migdol means “Watchtower”.
- Baal-zephon would have been Mt. Zephon, offered to the Lord of the Mt, Ba’al, the Canaanite storm-god (we will see more of him later). This mountain was directionally important and was associated with going north.
- To camp between these places and the sea would literally shut them in, so there was no way of escape when pursued from behind.
- What would Pharaoh say about this?
- What would God cause Pharaoh to do? Why would He do this?
- Who would know He is LORD?
- How would this desperate situation strengthen the faith of the Israelites?

Verses 5-9

- Who is the king of Egypt?
- What did Pharaoh and his men start thinking of in regard to the servitude of the Israelites?
- How many select chariots did Pharaoh take? What do you think this distinction means?
- How many other chariots did he take?
- How many officers?
- Do you remember how many men from the Israelites went out of Egypt?
- If Pharaoh overtook the Israelites at Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon, they were literally hemmed in with no way out.

Verses 10-12

- How did the Israelites feel when they saw the Egyptians?
- What did they do when they felt this way? What is our example?
- What did they complain to Moses? Excitement turned to fear, they spoke from a place of fear. We would do well to remember, like Abraham, these people were being led by God away from the only home they had ever known to a place with which they were unfamiliar. How would you feel?

Verses 13-14

- What did Moses say for them to do?
- Were they to do anything to deliver themselves from this enemy?
- What promise did God make in regard to seeing the Egyptians?
- What were they to do while the LORD fought on their behalf?

Verses 15-18

- How would the Israelites cross the Red Sea?
- Who would cause the Egyptians to chase after them?
- Who would know He is the LORD?

Verses 19-20

- Who had been going before the camp of Israel? Where did he move? Why?
- Where did the pillar of cloud move? Why?

Verses 21-25

- How were the waters divided?
- Notice the time reference, “At the morning watch...” Do you remember what the name Migdol means?
- Can you just picture verses 24-25?
- Who confused the army of the Egyptians? Note there were armies in the beginning; as well as chariots, and horsemen, and soldiers.
- What did this cause the Egyptians to say about the LORD?
- Do you believe the LORD is fighting for you?

Verses 26-29

- At daybreak, when the Egyptians were in the midst of the waters, what did the waters do?
- What happened to ALL of the Egyptians who chased after the Israelites?

Verses 30-31

- How did experiencing these fearful events cause the Israelites to esteem God?

Exodus 15

Verse 1a

- Notice Moses and all of Israel praised God through song for His deliverance. What is our example here?

Verses 1b-18

- Notice the Philistines are mentioned here. Remember, they were warring, so God took the Israelites around the long way, yet they heard news of what God had done. (Remember, Moses wrote this book later, in hindsight, by inspiration and instruction from God.)
- Did you see Edom mentioned here? Edomites are descendants of Esau, Jacob/Israel's brother.
- Did you see Moab mentioned here? The Moabites are descendants of Lot, Abraham's nephew.
- We will see more lovingkindness and redemption as we go along. Lovingkindness is a covenant word.

Verse 19

- Have you ever walked on the seashore and the sand moved from under your feet? How hard is it to walk on the seashore? How important is strong footing when moving everything you own; wagons and livestock?

Verse 20

- Miriam is a version of Mary which means "bitter".
- Who is her brother? So this means who else is her brother?
- What does the first phrase say about her? Remember, a prophet speaks for God. Some people believe there is no longer any such thing as a prophet or the gift of prophecy. If a prophet speaks for God, are there still prophets among us? Some people will say women can not be a prophet, though we see examples in Philip's daughters.
- A timbrel is a tambourine. All the women used tambourines and danced.

Verse 21

- It appears Miriam is honoring God with her song and dance.

Verses 22-26

- How far had the children of Israel gone into the wilderness with no water? Do you know how many days it is possible to go without water before you die? Take a guess.
- Marah is also a derivative of Mary, which means "bitter".
- The people grumbled? We don't use this word very often anymore, what does it mean?
- After Moses cried to the LORD, the LORD gave him fresh water and a beautiful picture. What did he throw into the waters to cause them to become sweet? Can you think of a tree which has quenched your thirst and has caused your life to become sweet?

- John 4:14, "But whoever drinks of the water that I will give him shall never thirst; but the water that I will give him will become in him a well of water springing up to eternal life."

Verse 27

- In Elim there were twelve springs of water and seventy date palms, so can you guess the meaning of the name, "Elim". Yep, it means "oasis".
- He leads me beside still waters. Psalm 23

See you tomorrow.