

SERMON OUTLINE

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What Israel Learned Along the Way May 24, 2009

I. Introduction

- A. Lessons we learn in life - As we look back on it
- B. Spiritual lessons intertwined are invaluable

II. An Interesting Analogy: Israel Wandering vs. Our Journey

- A. Slavery in Egypt = Slavery to Sin
- B. Release from Egypt = Release from sin by blood (1 Cor 5:7)
- C. The land of promise = Heaven (Hebrews 3:16-4:1)
- D. Their journey in the wilderness = Our journey to heaven

III. What Israel Learned in the Wilderness

A. They Had to Make a Choice

- 1. Exodus 19:3-6 - The first thing God does - covenant
- 2. The people answer: Exodus 19:7-8 - we will do it!
- 3. Joshua 24:14-15 - which God/gods will you serve?
- 4. On what do we depend? (It IS something) - Romans 6:16

B. Their Choice Would Always Be Tested

- 1. The edge of the land of promise - Numbers 13:1-2, 17-20
- 2. Why send out the spies? Discovery: Numbers 13:27-29
- 3. What kind of news were they expecting? Galatians 5:16-18

C. God Is Always True

- 1. Joshua and Caleb's report (Numbers 14:6-9)
- 2. Why the glory of the Lord at the tent (Numbers 14:10)?
 - a. For them: God provides!!! The same for us

D. Life Is a Walk of Faith

- 1. Joshua and Caleb's report (Numbers 14:9) - Faithless Rxns
 - a. Rxn 1: Rebel against God - I'll handle this MY way
 - b. Rxn 2: Fear of enemy - I'll never win
- 2. Hebrews 4:1-2 - not united by faith: Hear it, know it, live it?

IV. Our Challenges in Our Wilderness

A. Total Dependence on God's Strength (Challenge Board)

- 1. Last week's lesson - "Ever feel like you're holding back, not breaking through?"
- 2. It doesn't mean we do nothing - BUT a way of thinking

B. Don't become disheartened by the foe or personal failures