

Session 3

WONDERS

“Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will perform wonders among you.”

Joshua 3:5

I. THE EXODUS FROM EGYPT

As we continue to rediscover God’s covenant love for us, let us look deeper into the story of Joshua as they journey closer to the Promised Land and to a life of holiness. Our understanding of holiness changes over time, and our response to this call changes over our own set of beliefs and perspectives similar to what the Israelites experienced during the Exodus. Along the way, we may have picked up wrong ideas about our identities that we forget what it truly is to be holy. God freed the Israelites from the slavery of Egypt and promised them to bring to the Promised Land led by Moses. This act of moving from one place to another is not simply a physical movement of the body but it is a deep and rich spiritual journey with God.

II. STUCK IN THE WILDERNESS

The wilderness literally was where the Israelites experienced hunger, thirst, and exhaustion. The journey through the wilderness tested the Israelites physically, mentally and spiritually. Some wanted to return to Egypt because it seemed that they would never reach the Promised Land. The wilderness analogically is where we experience hardship, longing and doubt... the defeated Christian Life. We experience a lot of this same thing in our own ways. The struggles that we face - Fear, Doubt & Cynicism; Comfort & Complacency; Selfishness & Sinfulness - tempt us to give up by returning to old ways or by just not moving forward.

III. WONDERS IN THE WILDERNESS & THE PROMISED LAND

Just like the Israelites, we may fall to sin over and over again, but God always gives us an opportunity to re-dedicate ourselves. To re-sanctify ourselves. Crossing the river Jordan signifies baptism. A crossing from the wilderness, into the promised land. A crossing from sin and death, to life everlasting into our promised land. Into Heaven, where Jesus (as God) is from, is and reigns forever...the victorious Christian Life. The promised land for us is the Kingdom of God here on earth and into Eternal Life. We don’t have to wait until we’re in heaven to experience this abundance that God has promised us. In fact, we shouldn’t wait for Heaven. Jesus wants us to experience Him here and now, he wants us to live with Him, in preparation of entering the place where He intends us to live forever.

Discussion Questions

1. What’s your personal wilderness? Fear, Doubt & Cynicism; Comfort & Complacency; Selfishness & Sinfulness?
2. What wonders have you experienced in your life? Are you experiencing signs of the promised land?

