



BISHOP FELTON HAWKINS

KINGDOM COMMUNITY IN THE CRADLE

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Exodus 12:33-41

33 And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.

34 And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders.

35 And the children of Israel did according to the word of Moses; and they borrowed of the Egyptians jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment:

36 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they lent unto them such things as they required. And they spoiled the Egyptians.

Exodus 12:33-41

37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.

38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.

39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual.

Exodus 12:33-41

40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.

41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

- The children of Israel left Egypt with a leader, economy, a ritual- the Passover, and a mixed multitude of people. There were those who were not Israelites but wanted to leave Egypt and live among the people of Israel.
- There were 600,000 men not including children and women. The people as a whole probably totaled 3 million people, some of which were not Israelites.
- This is the genesis of the wilderness process of development, test, and challenges necessary to shape them into an independent community.
- This community is one that is in its infancy and vulnerable to its enemies without being under the protection of God.
- During this time God provided for them a cloud by day, fire by night, and manna from heaven.

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- As a baby community you will see major immaturity as they are moving from Egypt and navigating through the wilderness.
 - In our immaturity, the pull of Egypt, our past is relentless in trying to drag us back into the slavery mentality.

What does it mean to have a slavery mentality?

- Co-dependent
- Enslaved by the task masters that keep you from being independent
- Its irresponsibility
- A sense of entitlement
- Complaining and playing the victim
- Excuses, it's always someone's fault

Exodus 14:10-15

10 And when Pharaoh drew nigh, the children of Israel lifted up their eyes, and, behold, the Egyptians marched after them; and they were sore afraid: and the children of Israel cried out unto the LORD .

11 And they said unto Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness? wherefore hast thou dealt thus with us, to carry us forth out of Egypt?

12 Is not this the word that we did tell thee in Egypt, saying, Let us alone, that we may serve the Egyptians? For it had been better for us to serve the Egyptians, than that we should die in the wilderness.

Exodus 14:10-15

13 And Moses said unto the people, Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day: for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.

14 The LORD shall fight for you, and ye shall hold your peace.

15 And the LORD said unto Moses, Wherefore criest thou unto me? speak unto the children of Israel, that they go forward:

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- In the early days of community, it is easily an immature place to give up, complain, and give into the temptation to give up.
 - The key for leadership is the capacity to take the wounds and pains that come from both your enemies and those that say they love you.
 - Leadership has to be committed to the assignment given to them by God and refuse to become a pawn in the hand of the people they lead.
 - Immature people have to be taught the importance of submission to leadership, the importance of being committed to the practices of the new community, and the fact that God will fight for them when they cannot fight for themselves.
 - They must realize the power of the testimony.

Matthew 26:17-19

17 Now the first day of the feast of unleavened bread the disciples came to Jesus, saying unto him, Where wilt thou that we prepare for thee to eat the passover?

18 And he said, **Go into the city to such a man, and say unto him, The Master saith, My time is at hand; I will keep the passover at thy house with my disciples.**

19 And the disciples did as Jesus had appointed them; and they made ready the passover.

- This is why Jesus was submitted to his natural parents.
- He submitted to the law of Moses.
- He submitted to the scripture in the areas he was to fulfill.
- This is why he suffered with us.
- He became the Passover lamb.
- He is our liberation.
- He declared such when he stood in the temple quoting Isaiah (Isaiah 61:1-2):

Luke 4:18-19

18 The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised,
19 To preach the acceptable year of the Lord.