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GOD'S MANIFESTATION TO ISRAEL



THE PURPOSE OF THE BIBLE

The bible is a book collectively written by many people manipulated by the spirit of God. I say manipulated because most of them never had a true understanding of the things they had written down. The Prophets prophesied, but they only saw things in relation to Israel after the flesh. All the men of old, name them, from Moses, Joshua unto Elijah, never had a true revelation of the plan of God to save all men and deliver them from their fallen states back into His glorious presence. They knew within themselves that a great salvation was to be revealed. They searched for the answers but it wasn't given unto them. We, who hear this voice of truth coming from His presence in this hour, stand before that great salvation that many searched for and never found.

1Peter1:9-12 Receiving the end of your faith, *even* the salvation of *your* souls. 10 Of which salvation the prophets have enquired and searched diligently, who prophesied of the grace *that should come* unto you: 11 Searching what, or what manner of time the Spirit of Christ which was in them did signify, when it testified beforehand the sufferings of Christ, and the glory that should follow. 12 Unto whom it was revealed, that not unto themselves, but unto us they did minister the things, which are now reported unto you by them that have preached the gospel unto you with the Holy Ghost sent down from heaven; which things the angels desire to look into.

This does not mean that they are condemned for ever, not at all. It simply means that without us they are not complete. When I say us, I mean those of us who have a revelation of the truth and walk in it.

Hebrews 11:39-40 And these all, having obtained a good report through faith, received not the promise: 40 God having provided some better thing for us, that they without us should not be made perfect.

The bible is a book that reveals God's unfolding plan for the salvation of mankind. The unfolding plan was climaxed at the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every thing from the book of Genesis to Revelations is centered on the grace and salvation of God in Christ Jesus. From the Mention of the name of God in the Garden of Eden, with Cain and Abel, With Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joseph, Moses, Israel, until His perfect and complete unveiling in Firstly Jesus then the Church on the day of Pentecost, it was all an unfolding of His redemption plan for all men.

The unfolding plan serves to educate us and equip us thoroughly in the faith of our Lord Jesus. The Bible is a launching pad into God's kingdom and awareness unto life.

GOD'S REVELATION OF HIMSELF TO ISRAEL

The bible mentions men of old who walked with God, men like Adam, Abel, Enoch, Noah etc. We know from the bible passages that these were some of the men of faith who we look at today as witnesses in the faith. Details of their relationships with God are very remote. The first Bible Character with a detailed walk with God is Abraham. God called Him out from among His people with promises of blessing, glory and honor. Abram kept the word of the Lord and did reap in due season even though he did not see the ultimate plan of God. The Ultimate plan of God was that through His seed all the nations of the earth were to be blessed. Abraham's walk with God was the beginning of a master plan that took thousands of years to unfold.

God gave promises to Abraham and mentioned that His seed or descendants will be taken into captivity by the Egyptians for many years, after which they will be delivered by the hand of God. God promised that at the appointed time, He would rise up to deliver them with a strong hand from the land of their oppressors after a period of hard servitude and bondage. [**GENESIS 15:13-14**].

Many years after the prediction of God to Abraham in a dream, God fulfilled that prophesy. The set time for visitation had come for

the Children of Israel, the time when they were to be delivered from the hard and long servitude they had been subjected to in the land of Egypt. Egypt by now had forgotten the saving hand of Joseph the dreamer. They had forgotten how He single handedly preserved Egypt during a period of harsh famine. They did not remember how He led them into ruling the world by converting Egypt into the Paradise of this world. They became threatened by the descendants of Abraham because they were a strong race that multiplied rapidly. To put a check on them, they subjected them to slavery and tried to break their spirit as a nation. The hard servitude and bondage caused the Israelites to groan and suffer causing God to arise to fulfill the word he spoke to Abraham many years before.

The early chapters of Exodus reveal how God fulfilled the promise He made to Abraham concerning His seed. After 400 years of hardship inflicted on the seed of Abraham according to the flesh, God arose as He said He would, He is not a man who lie, His yes is Yes and His no is no. He arose and manifested Himself to the world in a way that man had never known. The Lord chose a vessel that will carry out this task on His behalf, His name was Moses. [**EXODUS 3:7-10**]

God went on to deliver the Children of Israel with a show of power and might that had never been seen before on this natural realm. Through the hand of Moses, the Egyptians were plagued with locusts, boils, bloodied waters, drought, blisters, frogs, hail, darkness and death (**EXODUS 7 - EXODUS 13**). The stone hearted Egyptians were plagued so grievously because they refused to let God's people go voluntarily.

They did succumb eventually to the power of God; they had their hardened hearts broken with the show of utter brute force unleashed on them through the hand of Moses. While escaping from Pharaoh and the Egyptians, the mighty Red Sea was parted and the Children of Israel worked on the sea bed to cross over to the wilderness. The Egyptian Army led by Pharaoh, tried to pursue the Israelites through the Red Sea bed but were all swallowed up by the Red Sea. It was a show of awesomeness that had not been seen before then and after then. Once on the other side of the river (THE RED SEA), we

remember how Miriam and the children of Israel burst out in singing and praise unto the Lord for this extraordinary deliverance He wrought for them (**EXODUS 15:1-18**). It was to be the beginning of forty years of wandering in the wilderness. Throughout these forty Years, God sustained them in a miraculous way. It was the presence of His glory in their midst that sustained them as they passed through the extremely harsh wilderness conditions.

There are uncountable lessons to learn from the deliverance of the Children of Israel from the Hand of Pharaoh and the Egyptians and their wanderings through the wilderness. This book will however be limited to a study on a structure called the Tabernacle. The mountable Structure was with them throughout their wandering in the wilderness and eventually evolved into something else in the Promised Land.

Three months after the Children of Israel left the land of Egypt, God appeared before the Children of Israel on Mount Sinai, to give them His Covenant and ordinances. To be continually prosperous and at peace in the Promised land to which they were headed, the Israelites had to keep their covenant with God. The Lord appeared on Mount Sinai with terrible splendor and power; His presence caused the mountain covered with smoke, fire and the clouds of His glory, to vibrate and to quake. This was the first time God manifested Himself to a whole nation and cause them to hear His voice. Among all the nations of the earth, Israel was the privileged nation that had license to see and Hear God on the physical realm. The Lord had appeared in different forms to their Fathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob; He appeared to Moses in a burning bush, now He was appearing to the whole Nation in full glory. [**EXODUS 19:10-25**]

The Lord God went on to give the ten commands and His ordinances to the Children of Israel, we can read this from **Exodus Chapter 20 – Chapter 23**. In doing this He spoke from Heaven to a whole nation for the first time. In **Exodus Chapter 24** the Lord told Moses to come up unto Himself on the Mountain so that Moses could receive the Tables of stones with the law and commandments inscribed on them.

GOD'S DESIRE TO DWELL WITH HIS PEOPLE

Moses was called into God's presence and swallowed by the Clouds of God's glorious presence for 40 days and 40 nights. Notice closely that God's glory appeared as a consuming fire to the children of Israel but appeared as a cloud to Moses. [**EXODUS 24: 12 - 18**]

After all the Show of splendor and Majesty the Lord Starts by speaking on a subject that a man would least expected. He started up by speaking to Moses on a subject that is uppermost in His Heart. The creator of the heavens and the earth, the I am that I am, the one who split the red sea in two asks Moses for something that in the eyes of man looks very lowly. He asked Moses to tell the Israelites to make a Tabernacle that He may dwell with them. Oh what a God we have, a God whom will look on lowly men and desire to dwell with them. **This was the thing uppermost in the heart of God, His desire was and remains dwelling with the people called by His Name and He demonstrates this by starting off with this subject in His discussion with Moses.**

Exodus 25:1-9

25:1 Then the LORD spoke to Moses, saying: 2 "Speak to the children of Israel, that they bring Me an offering. From everyone who gives it willingly with his heart you shall take My offering. 3 And this is the offering which you shall take from them: gold, silver, and bronze; 4 blue, purple, and scarlet thread, fine linen, and goats' hair; 5 ram skins dyed red, badger skins, and acacia wood; 6 oil for the light, and spices for the anointing oil and for the sweet incense; 7 onyx stones, and stones to be set in the ephod and in the breastplate. 8 And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them. 9 According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it.

Just take some time out and imagine the God of the whole heaven and the whole earth coming down to dwell with man. We know in our heart of hearts that God really didn't need man to build a

dwelling place for Him. In fact the Lord could have simply commanded a tabernacle into existence. The Lord had greater things in mind when He asked Moses for this particular favor; His thoughts were directed towards greater things like fellowshiping with mankind, and manifesting His infinite love to men. His thoughts were also pointed towards showing man the way to His salvation.

The thoughts of God are much higher and nobler than the thoughts of Men; the Lord reveals a very humble and lowly trait in Him by this very act. It is a revelation of love that we see here, the creator of the heavens and earth stooping low to identify with an ordinary mortal man.

No wonder Jesus spoke of Himself and the Father coming to dwell with us and fellowship with us if we obey His word. This fellowship is to be desired more than gold, silver and all the glories of the world. This promise is the greatest of all promises because if God dwells with us we have all things.

John 14:22-24

23 Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him.

In the book of revelations the Lord reveals through His angel that the ultimate promise given to we who are of the faith in Jesus, is that He will dwell with us and be a Father and God to us. When we experience this fellowship in light, we are healed in every aspect of our beings, Body, soul and spirit. The fellowshiping in the true reality of His presence is a balm that will heal emotionally distressed people, and will cause all fears that torment the mind of men to fade away.

The promise is not in gaining this world but it is in gaining the God of the whole heavens and the whole earth. The book of revelations confirms this, because it says the ultimate promise is that He will dwell with us and us with Him.

Revelations 21:3-5 And I heard a loud voice from heaven saying, "Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will dwell with them, and they shall be His people. God Himself will be with them and be their God. 4 And God will wipe away every tear from their eyes; there shall be no more death, nor sorrow, nor crying. There shall be no more pain, for the former things have passed away." 5 Then He who sat on the throne said, "Behold, I make all things new." And He said to me, "Write, for these words are true and faithful."

This promise of God dwelling with us is the hope for all mankind; this is the place of total victory and blessings in God. His goodness and very presence is the key to man's salvation from the wasting under the face of the sun.

God's association and dwelling with men, along with the blessings and benefits associated with it, had one condition though. Read **Exodus 19:3-6** and **Deuteronomy 7:12-15**.

Deuteronomy 7:12-15

12 "Then it shall come to pass, because you listen to these judgments, and keep and do them, that the LORD your God will keep with you the covenant and the mercy which He swore to your fathers. 13 And He will love you and bless you and multiply you; He will also bless the fruit of your womb and the fruit of your land, your grain and your new wine and your oil, the increase of your cattle and the offspring of your flock, in the land of which He swore to your fathers to give you. 14 You shall be blessed above all peoples; there shall not be a male or female barren among you or among your livestock. 15 And the LORD will take away from you all sickness, and will afflict you with none of the terrible diseases of Egypt which you have known, but will lay them on all those who hate you.

The condition is obedience and faithfulness to His covenant, all this included the Ten Commandments and the various laws and the various ordinances in the Tabernacle. So to enjoy the fullness of

God's blessing they had to fulfill the laws of God. This condition remains today, Christ has been revealed to cause us to fulfill these promises of God to the fullness [**Matthew 5:17**].

As long as Israel obeyed the Lord and observed with all diligence the covenant God revealed to them, they were supposed to be victorious in all things, be it in the fields, in war, in health, in peace, in honor and every good thing. They were supposed to become a model city, whose beauty the world will stand in awe of. All nations of the earth were supposed to look at Israel and call them blessed. [**Exodus 19:3-6**]. It was a city created to show the righteousness of God before all the Nations.

So we discover that the appearance of Christ on the scene was the final unfolding point of God's great work of salvation for all men. It is the final point because in Him the law is fulfilled.