

## Sermon – Making the Next Move; Step #2

### Exodus 12-13

Preached at Cloverdale Baptist Church, 7/24/22

**Background:** Last week we covered the first step to freedom in God's plan in the Passover story. God's plan for our future and closer relationship to Him comes through the feasts and the first one is Passover. The next step is Unleavened Bread. We will again use the story of the Exodus of the Children of Israel from bondage as our example for how God will bring CBC into a new season.

**Our story continues...**

#### Exodus 12

**<sup>17</sup> And ye shall observe the feast of unleavened bread; for in this selfsame day have I brought your armies out of the land of Egypt: therefore shall ye observe this day in your generations by an ordinance for ever. <sup>18</sup> In the first month, on the fourteenth day of the month at even, ye shall eat unleavened bread, until the one and twentieth day of the month at even. <sup>19</sup> Seven days shall there be no leaven found in your houses: for whosoever eateth that which is leavened, even that soul shall be cut off from the congregation of Israel, whether he be a stranger, or born in the land. <sup>28</sup> And the children of Israel went away, and did as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron, so did they.**

God has just announced the next step. Leaven often represents sin in the Bible. God instructs His people to prepare to leave quickly after Passover and only eat unleavened bread. Symbolically, sin had to be dealt with and not included in the breakthrough and next move. God's plan is for them to leave on this specific date and do so quickly and without sin. His plan is also that they obey or else they won't be free.

This is how God delivers Israel. I believe He will deliver us the same way. Jesus is following the same plan that God had for Israel. Since I'm a follower of Jesus, I'm under the same plan.

- It all starts and ends with Jesus and I submit to you CBC this is not only the same recovery plan for CBC, it is the same step each of us must take.....we have to bury the past.
- He is the same God yesterday, today, and forever.

**<sup>29</sup> And it came to pass, that at midnight the Lord smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle. <sup>30</sup> And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead. <sup>31</sup> And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the Lord, as ye have said. <sup>32</sup> Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also. <sup>33</sup> 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. <sup>34</sup> And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders. <sup>35</sup> 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: <sup>36</sup> 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.

God deals with the problem that has been holding them back all these years. The problem is moved out of the way and Pharaoh releases Israel and sets them free to start a new season. They waited all these years but when God starts to move, things start to happen fast.

Not only are they set free, they are given the provisions they will need for this journey. They didn't have it when they started, but what was once a problem is starting to give them what they need for the next move. They don't start out broke or empty.

Notice also it is God's plan that they not stick around or delay in Egypt. When God starts to move on their behalf, He wants them to quickly leave that place of bondage and suffering and defeat, and heartbreak, and loss, and disappointment. They cannot stay there and get to their new season.

So, God's plan for His people in this next step is to:

- Move the problem that is keeping them down out of the way.
- Release them from the current season to start the journey on the next season.
- To start to move them from something bad to something better.
- To provide them with the provisions they need to make it through the journey.
- To have His people worship.
- Break the enemies grip with a strong hand....to bring them out on purpose.
- To have them leave very quickly after Passover.

I submit that this plan is our plan because Jesus was on time for this appointment. He showed up on time for us.

How do I know?

- Because last week we saw that Jesus died on the exact same day as Passover. The time of day was 3:00 pm.
- This week I can tell you that the next appointment starts at 6:00 pm. Jesus was buried in the tomb on the same day that the Children of Israel left Egypt.
- Because in Luke 23:50-56 Joseph of Arimathea begged for the body of Jesus and made the initial preparation but didn't have time to finish, he had to do it quickly before 6 pm, which is why in Luke 24, the women come back with spices to finish the work.
- Because in John 19:31-42 describes how the Jews wanted the bodies removed before the next special appointment so they asked Pilate to break their legs because they wanted to finish the burial quickly. But they didn't break Jesus' bones because in Exodus 12 no bone of the lamb was to be broken.

- Because what is happening in the Exodus is being practiced and fulfilled by Jesus in his death and burial.
- This applies to us because Jesus followed the plan and I'm a follower of Jesus.

If He did it for Israel and did it for Jesus, He wants us to experience the same results.

<sup>37</sup> And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children. <sup>38</sup> And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle. <sup>42</sup> It is a night to be much observed unto the Lord for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the Lord to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.

They took everything with them so they would not have an excuse to ever go back to that place for anything.

**Exodus 13 And the Lord spake unto Moses, saying, <sup>3</sup> And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the Lord brought you out from this place: <sup>5</sup> And it shall be when the Lord shall bring thee into the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, which he sware unto thy fathers to give thee, a land flowing with milk and honey, that thou shalt keep this service in this month. <sup>8</sup> And thou shalt shew thy son in that day, saying, This is done because of that which the Lord did unto me when I came forth out of Egypt.**

It ain't over yet; we are just getting started.

Part of the plan is for God to reveal to Israel the rest of the plan. God wants them to know where all this is headed. He also wants them to know that it is going to happen through His strength. He is the one true God who will bring them into a better place. This is a promise from God. That's the plan.

How do I know that their plan is our plan? Because their God is our God. If we follow His plan, we will get their same results. God is about to do something great in this place....that's the plan.

**<sup>17</sup> And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not through the way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near; for God said, Lest peradventure the people repent when they see war, and they return to Egypt: <sup>18</sup> But God led the people about, through the way of the wilderness of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt.**

**<sup>19</sup> And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him: for he had straitly sworn the children of Israel, saying, God will surely visit you; and ye shall carry up my bones away hence with you.**

**<sup>20</sup> And they took their journey from Succoth, and encamped in Etham, in the edge of the wilderness.**

**<sup>21</sup> And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of a cloud, to lead them the way; and by night in a pillar of fire, to give them light; to go by day and night: <sup>22</sup> He took not away the pillar of the cloud by day, nor the pillar of fire by night, from before the people.**



God had an exit plan for Israel. A spiritual trip tik. There was a shorter way to go, but it would have been harder so He gives them a different route because God doesn't want them ever go back to where He just brought them from. God's plan is that they don't go back to visit last season.

His plan includes them leaving like an army ready for battle.

But how do we know that God has a plan for CBC and for you? How do we know for sure that this plan is for us? How do we know for sure that what is happening for will happen for us?

Because they took Joseph's bones with them. So what?

- When they took his bones, his tomb was empty. They moved the bones and took them to the Promised Land. God's plan was that his bones were not going to stay there.
- When they buried Jesus, they put him in Joseph's tomb. But we know that God's plan for Jesus was that he wasn't going to stay in the tomb. Joseph's tomb is still empty.
- I don't know about you, but this plan is my plan.
  - One day my tomb will be empty, when I die, I'm not staying here. I'm following Christ to where He is.
  - If He did for Israel, He'll do it for me; if He did for Joseph in Egypt, He'll do it for you; if He did it for Lazarus, He'll do it again; if He did it for the thief who followed this same step and repented, He will do it for CBC.
- I know this is my plan because I recognize how He brought me from the dead and revived me again. From dead dreams to new hope, from sadness to joy, from sin to holiness, from mistakes to miracles, from a caterpillar to a butterfly, from broke to blessed, from no church to this church.
- Somebody knows what I'm talking about; I had a spiritual address change. Someone remembered the old me and went looking for me expecting me to still be like that. Still living at 129 Heartbreak Ridge, or the 100 block of No Hope Drive, or No Where Fast Cul-de-sac, Tore Up from the Floor Up Blvd., Despair Avenue, Lonely Lane, Sad Street, Angry Drive, Road Rage Highway.
  - But I tell you won't find me there today. If you look for me there, I'll be gone. I know someone might expect me to be stuck in my last season, but God has moved me to a new and better season.
- And I believe in just a little while you may come here expecting the old CBC; but God is about to make a move.
- Anybody know about people expecting you to still be down, still be sick, still be sad; but when they catch up to you, they can't find that in you anymore.
- It might have been here before, prejudice, arguing, hatred, discontent....but in a little while, according to God's plan....it won't be here anymore. We are on the move.

How do we follow this second step today?

After you take that first step, Passover, where you cry out to God because you recognize you need Him and you accept His life and give Him yours, then you can make the second step (Unleavened Bread), where you change your mind about try to do things your way and in your own strength. You leave



behind the fear, hate, anger, doubt, and you take that faith step of repentance, and you change direction and follow Jesus Christ.

There is a difference between knowing you need God and need to change, and actually changing direction. If you only feel bad about sin and getting caught, but don't change your mind about sin, then you are still stuck in Egypt, still suck in sin, still stuck in the world....and you will miss the plan that God has for your life.

CBC, it is time to take the next step with Jesus. We are not alone....just follow the cloud. Let Him lead you. He wants to lead you to success. Just like His presence was in the cloud with Israel to lead them, His plan is to lead us into a new season. Let's follow the cloud!

Bury self. Can't do this for CBC. Do this for the glory of God. If CBC becomes more important, then we miss the Father. Just follow the cloud.