

Bethel Bible Series

A Destiny Insured

Week 8

Welcome & Announcements

Opening - What important lessons did the Israelites need to learn during their 40 years in the desert?

Prayer Requests and Opening Prayer

Review of Last Week

Review of Last Week - *An Emerging Nation on the Way to its Homeland*

God used the Israelites' exodus experiences to build the new nation

What did God ask of the Israelites as they migrated? = TRUST IN THE LORD

Crisis and Trials

Examples: Egyptians chasing, Bitter water, No food, No water

What happened whenever the Israelites faced a crisis? = God intervened

What was God's intention when He intervened in a crisis? = Build trust

God, a constant presence in Israel's midst = Exodus 40

Organization

Examples: Delegation, Census, Levite duties, Making & Breaking Camp Orders, Communications

Why was organization critical? = Needed to manage large group, no prior structure

Jethro's advice to Moses to delegate responsibility = Exodus 18

God equips people for specific tasks = Exodus 31

Law & Legislation

Three Types of Law: Civil (evolves), Ceremonial (evolves), Moral (never changes)

Why were laws critical? = Only had Egyptian law before, had nothing to direct them

The Ten Commandments = Exodus 20

Civil Law for nomads = Exodus 21-23

An eye for an eye code = Exodus 21

Instructions to build a tabernacle = Exodus 25-27

Inauguration of the priesthood = Exodus 28-29

Rigid Discipline

Examples: Idolatry, Religious Abuse, Blasphemy, Jealousy, Mutiny

Why was rigid discipline critical? = Build strong example as God's chosen people

The Golden Calf = Exodus 32

Visiting the Iniquity of the fathers upon the children = Exodus 34

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Lesson - A Destiny Insured

A Destiny Insured

What was the purpose of Selection, Separation & Unity (Studies 4, 5, 6)?

Genesis 12:2-3 = To prepare Israel to be blessed to be a blessing

Were these enough to insure that Israel's destiny would be fulfilled?

Numbers 14:11 = Didn't insure that the Israelites would remain within the covenant

Deuteronomy (*Second Law*) - Moses reminds the wilderness generation of their Destiny from God

Manuscript and its message = After Egypt - The destiny still stands

Deuteronomy 7:12-15 = If you obey the Lord, He will keep His covenant & bless you

Deuteronomy 28:9-10 = All peoples on earth will see you are His people

Manuscript tied to anchor = The destiny must be insured – contingent on obedience

Deuteronomy 30:15-18 = Obey & God will bless, Disobey & God will destroy

Anchor lodged in sand = Insuring factors were critical at infancy stage

Deuteronomy 7:6-11 = You were chosen by God because of His love

Lightning streaks = Divine Intervention developed confidence & trust

Question 1 = Infant Israel needed to see God to build confidence, trust, faith

Do miraculous elements have any direct relationship to Israel's needs in this period of its history?

Exodus 4:1-8 = Staff became snake, Hand turned leprous to convince Moses was from God

Joshua 3:7-10, 15-17 = Jordan stopped flowing to convince that Joshua was from God

When does God use "direct" divine intervention? = When His plan calls for it

Genesis 2:21-22 = Formed woman out of man to give a partner

Genesis 9:12-13 = Rainbow given as sign of covenant

Genesis 12:1-3 = God calls Abram and gives promise

Exodus 14:21-22 = Israel crossed Red Sea on dry ground

John 2:11 = Jesus' first miracle, turned water into wine

Why doesn't God use "direct" divine intervention every day? = *Moses & Prophets* was name for *Scriptures*

Luke 16:27-31 = God has already revealed Himself to us; trust His Word

Should we expect God to reveal Himself to us through divine intervention?

Mark 8:11-12 = Not all generations receive signs; God give signs when He sees the need

Is God's activity limited to things that we can understand?

Isaiah 55:9 = My ways and thoughts are higher than yours

Should we be concerned with HOW or WHY miracles happen? = Why (Cargo)

Scales of justice = Civil & Moral Law prevented chaos & destruction

Question 2 = Civil & moral laws are essential for a nation

Could Israel have existed in its nomad days without the types of laws in Exodus 21-23?

Exodus 18:13, 17-20 = Moses handled disputes all day; teach them laws & how to live

Exodus 32:7-9 = Without laws, Israel quickly turned from God (golden calf)

Why were laws critical for insuring the destiny?

Exodus 19:3-6 = Obey me, you'll be a kingdom of priests, holy nation

Deuteronomy 4:5-8 = Israel respected for such righteous laws - others blessed through Israel

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Separated figures = Visual Aids perpetuated ideas of separation & obedience

Question 3 = Nazirites were separated within a separate people, a reminder of call to be separate

What purpose might the Nazirites have accomplished in Israel's camp?

Numbers 6:1-5 = Abstain from wine & grapes, hair & beard uncut (visually separate)

Question 4a

What purpose did the tassels accomplish for Israel?

Numbers 15:37-41 = Tassels were reminders to obey God's commands

The Great Shema (Taught to Jewish kids)

Deuteronomy 6:4-9 = Talk of commands, tie on hands & foreheads, write on doors & gates

Wine chalice & bread = Memorial Feasts reminded of past, present & future

Question 4b

What purpose did the memorial feasts accomplish for Israel?

Exodus 12:24-27 = Passover festival reminds how God saved Israel

Leviticus 23:41-43 = Feast of booths to remind that Israel lived in booths during exodus

Tent = The Tabernacle was a constant reminder of God's presence (also tent of meeting, ark, temple)

Question 5 = God was actually present in the tabernacle (*Tabernacle* means *dwelling place*)

What did the tabernacle and the tent of the tabernacle mean to the Hebrews?

Exodus 25:8, 22 = Make a tabernacle for me and I will dwell among you

Exodus 40:36-38 = God's cloud stayed above the tabernacle

John 1:14 = *The Word became flesh and dwelt among us*

Greek word translated as *dwelt* is actually *tabernacled*

Mace = Leaders were provided who had proper credentials

Why was great leadership critical for insuring the destiny? = Lead in faith

Numbers 16:3, 8-11 = Korah & others tried to take over, sinned against God

What was a key component for great leadership?

Numbers 12:5-8 = Strong faith, in a right relationship with God

What made Israel's leaders great?

Exodus 4:10-12 = God would tell Moses what to say & how

Joshua 4:14 = *The Lord exalted Joshua in the sight of all Israel*

Judges 6:14-16 = God told Gideon, *I will be with you & will conquer*

2 Samuel 7:8-9, 16 = God raised David, gave him victories, established his kingdom

Jeremiah 1:6-8 = God would be with Jeremiah, tell him what to say, protect him

How did God prepare His leaders?

Exodus 2:10, 15 = Moses raised in Pharaoh's house, lived 40 yrs with priest of Midian

Exodus 33:11 = Joshua helped Moses many years & was with Moses when he spoke with God

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Land scene = The land was to be conquered to fulfill the destiny

Question 6 = The land was for the nation to grow to be a blessing

What is meant by the story in Joshua 5:13-15?

Joshua 5:13-15 = The promised land is holy ground

How were the Israelites to receive the promised land?

Deuteronomy 7:22-24 = God will drive out the nations before them

Deuteronomy 7:16 = They were to destroy all the peoples God gives to them

All rocks attached to manuscript = Insuring factors were meant to help insure the destiny

How do these insuring factors relate to us as Christians today?

Divine Intervention

Civil & Moral Law

Visual Aids

Memorial Feasts

The Tabernacle

Leaders

The Promised Land

Summary - *A Destiny Insured*

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Manuscript tied to anchor = The destiny must be insured

Anchor lodged in sand = Insuring factors were critical at infancy stage

Lightning streaks = Divine Intervention developed confidence & trust

Scales of justice = Civil & Moral Law prevented chaos & destruction

Separated figures = Visual Aids perpetuated ideas of separation & obedience

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Closing Prayer

Distribute Materials = Hand out Study 8 and Assignment 9

Next Week - *Empowered for a Destiny*