



Double Portion:

Title:

## SCRIPTURES

- Exodus 38:21-40:38
- Genesis 1:1-3:24
- Matthew 25:14-30

## INSANE CHRISTIANITY

- Job Well Done
- Let's Do a Test
- Door #1 or Door #2?

*“The definition of insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.” Most people attribute those words to Albert Einstein, which may or may not be true. But, what is certainly true, are the words themselves, no matter who gets the credit for coining them. Now, if we take those words and use them to analyze the actions of God's people at times, I believe we just might discover they suffer from a type of spiritual insanity.*

*We don't have time to recall every occasion for which this diagnosis is appropriate, but we should identify the inaugural decision that started us down this path. And as we come to an end of our journey through Exodus, we should make honorable mention, from it, of a significant example. Then, we can have some fun connecting the dots between that first occasion and what we see here at the very end of Exodus: the Tabernacle is complete; and*

*Moses, by way of the people's obedience, had delivered exactly what Yahweh ordered. Next, put the whole thing into operation to test its function. Then what? Move to the next assignment— "Then God said..."*

*It really is uncanny. It's the exact pattern every time: assignment—obedience—next assignment. Or, assignment—disobedience—consequences. You'd think God's people would recognize the pattern. If you don't follow directions, it goes very badly. In other words, to think it would go well for you, despite your decision to disobey God is insane, at least according to Einstein, or whoever!*

*It's like a merry-go-round, but they are not in an amusement park, and they are not sitting on wooden horses, and the ride won't end in three minutes. Instead, they are in the wilderness and the ride will be like going around the mountain over and over again, and not for three minutes, but for forty years. Yes, insanity has a price.*

*And if I might indulge you with one more perspective, let's call our ride, the glory-go-round. We have the glory of God available to us, and then in some act of, let's call it insanity, we go our own way. And, in the midst of our disobedience, we still expect to maintain God's glory. Are you tracking with me? As a consequence for our*

*actions we get knocked onto our inglorious butts, just like we see in the Bible every time! Assignment—disobedience—consequences.*

*The real question remains; if you see that this is what happens without fail, why would you think you can disobey God and get away with it? It seems so obvious now. “Insanity is doing the same thing over and over again and expecting different results.” For our purposes, let’s just call this “Insane Christianity.”*

#### **THEME: MAIN SCRIPTURE(S) THAT HAS INSPIRED MESSAGE**

**“Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.** So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.”

Genesis 1:31 NKJV

**“Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.** And on the seventh day **God ended His work which He had done**, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. **Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it, because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.**” Genesis 2:1-3 NKJV

**“Thus all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished.** And **the children of Israel did according to all that the Lord had commanded Moses**; so they did.” Exodus 39:32 NKJV

**“According to all that the Lord had commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did all the work. Then Moses looked over all the work, and indeed they had done it; as the Lord had commanded, just so they had done it. And Moses blessed them.”**  
Exodus 39:42-43 NKJV

### **OUTCOME: MAIN TAKEAWAY(S) I AM HOPING FOR PEOPLE**

“His Lord said to him, **‘Well done, good and faithful servant;** you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things. Enter into the joy of your Lord.’” Matthew 25:23 NKJV

““But his Lord answered and said to him, **‘You wicked and lazy servant, you knew** that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed.” Matthew 25:26 NKJV

## Let’s Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. In most years in the Torah reading cycle, this last last portion of Exodus is combined with our previous reading (Exodus 35:1-38:20). This is one of the rarer years during which they are separated. Please see last week’s teaching called [Plundered with a Purpose](#) to learn from what is usually paired with this portion. This week we begin with an audit of how the contributions for the Tabernacle were used. Then the reading goes on to explain

the completion of the Tabernacle and its assembly. It concludes with the famous image of the glory of the LORD entering the completed structure.

## **Exodus 38**

2. **Materials of the Tabernacle:** A complete inventory in detail of all the gold, silver, and bronze it took to build the tabernacle is recounted.
  - a) “All the gold that was used in all the work of the holy place, that is, the gold of the offering, **was twenty-nine talents and seven hundred and thirty shekels [2,193 pounds]**, according to the shekel of the sanctuary. And the silver from those who were numbered of the congregation was **one hundred talents and one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five shekels [7,544 pounds]**, according to the shekel of the sanctuary: The offering of bronze **was seventy talents and two thousand four hundred shekels [5,667 pounds]**.” Exodus 38:24-25, 29 NKJV
  - b) Modern-day cost to build the Holy place, the Most Holy Place, and all the furnishings: approaching \$100,000,000.00
    - 1) \$67,000,000.00 in Gold
    - 2) \$3,000,000.00 in Silver
    - 3) \$250,000.00 in Bronze

## **Exodus 39**

3. **Making the Garments of the Priesthood:** all the different aspects are described. They used blue, purple and scarlet thread to make the holy garments.
- a) **Making the Ephod:** described in detail with the onyx stone enclosed in a setting of gold with the names for the sons of Israel on it.
  - b) **Making the Breastplate:** described in details with the four rows of stones, three stones in each row—twelve stones according to the names of the sons of Israel.
    - 1) The breastplate with its 12 different stones also will be engraved with the names of sons of Israel on them, one per stone. And as the stones are laid out in four rows with each type of stone in a particular position, you can use the birth order of Israel's sons to align which stone represents which tribe! (See Exodus 28:17-21)
  - c) These are the stones with their respective tribes (Read from left to right as that is the direction you read in the Hebrew language):
    - 1) **Row One:** #3 Levi—emerald | #2 Simeon—topaz | #1 Reuben—sardius
    - 2) **Row Two:** #6 Naphtali—diamond | #5 Dan—sapphire | #4 Judah—turquoise
    - 3) **Row Three:** #9 Issachar—amethyst | #8 Asher—agate | #7 Gad—jacinth
    - 4) **Row Four:** #12 Benjamin—jasper | #11 Joseph—onyx | #10 Zebulun—beryl
  - d) **Making the Other Priestly Garments:** the robe, tunic, turban, sash, with their designs are described in detail.

e) They made the plate of the holy crown of pure gold, and wrote on it an inscription like the engraving of a signet: HOLINESS TO THE LORD.

4. **The Work Completed:** Thus all the work of the tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished. And the children of Israel did according to all that the Lord had commanded Moses.

5. Then Moses looked over all the work, and indeed they had done it; as the Lord had commanded, just so they had done it. And Moses blessed them.

#### **Exodus 40**

6. **The Tabernacle Erected and Arranged:** On the first day of the first month you shall set up the tabernacle of the tent of meeting.

a) Put in it the ark of the Testimony, and partition off the ark with the veil.

b) Bring in the table and arrange the things that are to be set in order on it.

c) Bring in the lampstand and light its lamps.

d) Set the altar of gold for the incense before the ark of the Testimony

e) Put up the screen for the door of the tabernacle.

f) Set the altar of the burnt offering

- g) Set the laver between the tabernacle of meeting and the altar, and put water in it.
  - h) Set up the court all around, and hang up the screen at the court gate.
  - i) Take the anointing oil, and anoint the tabernacle and all that is in it.
  - j) Then you shall bring Aaron and his sons to the door of the tabernacle of meeting and wash them with water.
  - k) Put the holy garments on Aaron, and anoint him and consecrate him, that he may minister to Me as priest.
  - l) Bring his sons and clothe them with tunics.
  - m) Anoint them that they may minister to Me as priests; for their anointing shall **surely be an everlasting priesthood** throughout their generations.
7. And it came to pass in the first month of the second year, on the first *day* of the month, *that* the tabernacle was raised up. And Moses took the Testimony and put *it* into the ark. And he brought the ark into the tabernacle, hung up the veil of the covering, and partitioned off the ark of the Testimony, as the Lord had commanded Moses.
8. Moses put everything else in place and finished the work.
9. **The Cloud and the Glory:** Yahweh's glory filled the tabernacle. Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle,



the children of Israel would go onward in all their journeys. As long as the cloud remained they did not journey for the cloud of the Lord was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.

## JOB WELL DONE

### 1. **This is what it should look like.**

#### A. **It is finished and it is very good!**

##### (1) The Role Model of Creation

(a) You cannot have a better role model than the Creator Himself. This is what it looks like. In the beginning He set out to create everything by His own commands—“Let there be...” When He was finished, He took a look and it was all very good! Then He sealed it with His blessing over it!

1. **“In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth.** The earth was without form, and void; and darkness was on the face of the deep. And the Spirit of God was hovering over the face of the waters.”

Genesis 1:1-2 NKJV

2. “Then **God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good.** So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.” Genesis 1:31 NKJV
3. “**Thus the heavens and the earth, and all the host of them, were finished.** And on the seventh day God ended His work which He had done, and He rested on the seventh day from all His work which He had done. **Then God blessed the seventh day and sanctified it,** because in it He rested from all His work which God had created and made.” Genesis 2:1-3 NKJV

(2) A great example of a job well done—the creation of the Tabernacle

(a) When the Tabernacle was finished because the people had done everything as commanded by Yahweh through Moses, Moses looked and saw it was a job well done, and then he placed his blessing over them.

1. “Thus all the work of the **tabernacle of the tent of meeting was finished.** And **the children of Israel did according to all that the Lord had commanded Moses;** so they did.” Exodus 39:32 NKJV
2. “**According to all that the Lord had commanded Moses, so the children of Israel did all the work.**”

Then **Moses looked over all the work, and indeed they had done it;** as the Lord had commanded, just so they had done it. **And Moses blessed them."**

Exodus 39:42-43 NKJV

## **B. The Principle Theme: The Blessing of Faithfulness**

(1) Well done GOOD and FAITHFUL servant!

(a) When the Master gives you an assignment and you complete that assignment as the Master intended, you will be placed in charge of many things in the Master's organization! If you instead abdicate your calling and do your own thing, bad things await!

1. "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, '**Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more** talents besides them.' His Lord said to him, '**Well done, good and faithful servant;** you were faithful over a few things, I will make you **ruler over many things**. Enter into the joy of your Lord.' He also who had received two talents came and said, '**Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more** talents besides them.' His Lord said to him, '**Well done, good and faithful servant;** you have been faithful over a few things, **I will make you ruler over**

**many things.** Enter into the joy of your Lord.'"

Matthew 25:20-23 NKJV

2. ""Then he who had received the one talent came and said, 'Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown, and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.' "But his Lord answered and said to him, '**You wicked and lazy servant,** you knew that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. ...And **cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness.** There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'" Matthew 25:24-26, 30 NKJV

- (2) What does a faithful servant look like and what responsibilities and privileges is he allotted?
  - (a) And maybe just as critical is this question. What does an evil servant look like and what is his fait? This theme of becoming a ruler in the Master's organization was a prevailing topic in Y'shua's messages. And there is no better depiction of this than in His sole sermon about the end of the age and what that servant should look

like when He returns. Who is that servant? And what will he be doing?

1. **“Who then is a faithful and wise servant, whom his master made ruler over his household, to give them food in due season? Blessed is that servant whom his master, when he comes, will find so doing.**

Assuredly, I say to you that **he will make him ruler over all his goods. But if that evil servant says in his heart, ‘My master is delaying his coming,’** and begins to beat his fellow servants, and to eat and drink with the drunkards, the master of that servant will come on a day when he is not looking for him and at an hour that he is not aware of, **and will cut him in two and appoint him his portion with the hypocrites.**

There shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth.”

Matthew 24:45-51 NKJV

2. Note: Who is the faithful and wise servant? And what will he be doing when Y’shua returns? An expansion on this topic is not the subject matter of this sermon, but it is critical to know the answers to these questions. You can study this topic in every detail here: [I Am Joseph](#)

## Summary: JOB WELL DONE

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LET'S DO A TEST

## 2. Prophetic Moments

### A. After a major creative task...done, now what? God commanded...

- (1) Creation

(a) This is a prevailing pattern in Scripture. Job complete, now what. Be constantly on the lookout for what is next. God did all the lifting in Creation, but then something prophetic takes place. He gives His servants some instructions. Right from the beginning He gave mankind an opportunity to be either... a good, faithful and wise servant, or wicked and evil. From which tree will you choose to eat?

1. “Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, saying, **“Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.”**”

Genesis 2:15-17 NKJV

(2) The Tabernacle

(a) The Tabernacle is finished, now what? Okay, you have all the parts in place and you did an excellent job following every detailed instruction. But then you have to put it to the test! It’s time to actually assemble the Tabernacle and put it into operation. It’s a “hear AND doing thing.” *“Be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves.”* James 1:22 NKJV



1. “Thus Moses did; according to all that the Lord had commanded him, so he did. And it came to pass in the first month of the second year, on the first day of the month, that **the tabernacle was raised up.**”

Exodus 40:16-17 NKJV

2. ...So Moses finished the work. (Exodus 40:18-33)

**B. The Christian assignment...the prophetic connection between the Upper Room Discourse and the Parable of the Talents. What type of servant are you?**

(1) The Parable of the Talents—The Goods!

- (a) There was a man who was going to leave his servants with “his goods” and go away for a while. It becomes clear that they are not to be idle while he is gone. They have work to do. But, what also begins to emerge about their assignment is that these servants of his are not simply to hold onto what he gave them. They seem to have an understanding that they are to present to their master something more than what he left them. Well, at least some of them understand this.

1. “For the kingdom of heaven is like **a man traveling to a far country, who called his own servants and delivered his goods to them.** And to one he gave five talents, to another two, and to another one, to each

according to his own ability; and immediately he went on a journey. **Then he who had received the five talents** went and traded with them, and **made another five talents**. And likewise he who had **received two gained two more also**. But **he who had received one** went and dug in the ground, and **hid his Lord's money**. After a long time the Lord of those servants came and settled accounts with them."

Matthew 25:14-19 NKJV

## (2) The Upper Room Discourse—The Goods!

- (a) After Y'shua presented this parable, we quickly find ourselves dining with the "Master" at His last meal before He goes away. It's the preparation for the Passover. And He is about to leave His servants with His goods! *"He called his own servants and delivered his goods to them."* Can you picture this scene? It's depicted in all four Gospels, but it's in John's Gospel chapters 13-17 (the Upper Room Discourse), from which we extract the greatest details. I recommend you read all five chapters, but I've included here some key outtakes, so you can get a glimpse into the instructions His servants are given before He goes away. Picture yourself at the table (you'll see why this is true in a

moment) receiving these instructions. They are the secret to whether or not you will be judged as the good, wise and faithful servant when He returns. Here are My goods; I'm going away; Now what?

1. You have seen what I can do, and now I am going away so you will do even more!
  - a) “Most assuredly, I say to you, he who believes in Me, the works that I do he will do also; and **greater works than these he will do, because I go to My Father.**” John 14:12 NKJV
2. Yes, I am going away, and in the natural, no one will be able to see Me, but you will still know I am there because My life will be in you!
  - a) ““A little while longer and **the world will see Me no more, but you will see Me.** Because I live, you will live also.” John 14:19 NKJV
3. It may seem hard to understand when I say that My life is in you, but this is what will happen. I am leaving and the Holy Spirit will come and dwell in you. And then I am coming back. Do you remember the story I just told you about the Master who goes away and leaves his servants with a job to do? And the faithful ones are the ones who return MORE than

they were given? That is the “greater works” concept I am talking about here! I am going away like the master in that parable, and then I am coming back! And just like in that parable, in which it seems that the servants have no communication with their master while he is gone, think as such. But it’s not because I am leaving you high and dry; rather because I have left you with all the instructions you need, and your deep spiritual connection with Me will empower you to fulfill those instructions as good, faithful and wise servants! That is how you will be capable of returning to Me multiples of the good I left with you.

- a) “These things I have spoken to you while being present with you. **But the Helper, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in My name,** He will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all things that I said to you. Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid. **You have heard Me say to you, ‘I am going away and coming back to you.’** If you loved Me, you would rejoice

because I said, **'I am going to the Father,'** for My Father is greater than I. "And now I have told you before it comes, that when it does come to pass, you may believe. **I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming,** and he has nothing in Me. But that the world may know that I love the Father, and as the Father gave Me commandment, so I do. Arise, let us go from here."

John 14:25-31 NKJV

4. The Holy Spirit will be My voice for you while I am away. If you are attentive, you will know exactly what to do while I am gone. One thing for sure is that you cannot sit around and produce nothing, as you will have no legitimate excuse when I come back to collect!

- a) "But **when the Helper comes,** whom I shall send to you from the Father, **the Spirit of truth** who proceeds from the Father, **He will testify of Me.** And you also will bear witness, because you have been with Me from the beginning." John 15:26-27  
NKJV

5. Just like in the parable, the servants received their "goods" with no questions asked. They did not

inquire why their master was leaving, but that is okay because the faithful ones would recall all his previous instructions while he was gone. Trust Me, it's actually because I am leaving that you will be empowered to do so much more. It may not seem that way at first, but you will understand soon enough. Well, at least those of you who are paying attention!

a) **“But these things I have told you, that when the time comes, you may remember that I told you of them.** And these things I did not say to you at the beginning, because I was with you. **“But now I go away to Him who sent Me, and none of you asks Me, ‘Where are You going?’** But because I have said these things to you, sorrow has filled your heart. **Nevertheless I tell you the truth. It is to your advantage that I go away;** for if I do not go away, the Helper will not come to you; but **if I depart, I will send Him to you.”** John 16:4-7 NKJV

6. Here is the greatest advantage of Me leaving. I can only teach you so much in the natural, as your human minds can only comprehend limited information comparably. When I leave, the revelation of the depth of what I already taught you will explode

because it will come by way of spiritual understanding. I know you cannot even comprehend this idea, but you will when you encounter the Holy Spirit who will open your mind to all truth! The Spirit will take all that is in My mind and make it available to your mind. And once you put it all into action, that is when I can return! The real question on the table is, (literally on the table): will you do it or not? In other words, are you the wise or evil servant?

- a) **“I still have many things to say to you, but you cannot bear them now. However, when He, the Spirit of truth, has come, He will guide you into all truth; for He will not speak on His own authority, but whatever He hears He will speak; and He will tell you things to come. He will glorify Me, for He will take of what is Mine and declare it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine. Therefore I said that He will take of Mine and declare it to you. “A little while, and you will not see Me; and again a little while, and you will see Me, because I go to the Father.””** John 16:12-16 NKJV

7. I can't wait to see you again. I know it's tough to see Me go; it's not easy for Me either—trust Me!
- a) “Therefore **you now have sorrow; but I will see you again** and your heart will rejoice, and your joy no one will take from you.” John 16:22 NKJV
8. And here is what it means that you, yes you, the one reading this right now, must picture yourself as having been at the table that night. It is because understanding why I must go away; and the critical importance of the Parable of the Talents; and how adhering to those instructions will help you become My wise and faithful servants; was not just instructions for those who were present at the table with Me that night (My first-century disciples), but also for everyone who would believe in Me because of them! That's you!
- a) “**I pray for them. I do not pray for the world but for those whom You have given Me**, for they are Yours.” John 17:9 NKJV
- b) “I do not pray for these alone, **but also for those who will believe in Me through their word;**” John 17:20 NKJV



## Summary: LET'S DO A TEST

### 2. Prophetic Moments

#### A. After a major creative task...done, now what? God commanded...

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read all five chapters, but I've included here some key outtakes, so you can get a glimpse into the instructions His servants are given before He goes away. Picture yourself at the table (you'll see why this is true in a moment) receiving these instructions. They are the secret to whether or not you will be judged as the good, wise and faithful servant when He returns. Here are My goods; I'm going away; Now what?

1. You have seen what I can do, and now I am going away so you will do even more!
2. Yes, I am going away, and in the natural, no one will be able to see Me, but you will still know I am there because My life will be in you!
3. It may seem hard to understand when I say that My life is in you, but this is what will happen. I am leaving and the Holy Spirit will come and dwell in you. And then I am coming back. Do you remember the story I just told you about the Master who goes away and leaves his servants with a job to do? And the faithful ones are the ones who return MORE than they were given? That is the "greater works" concept I am talking about here! I am going away like the master in that parable, and then I am coming back!

And just like in that parable, in which it seems that the servants have no communication with their master while he is gone, think as such. But it's not because I am leaving you high and dry; rather because I have left you with all the instructions you need, and your deep spiritual connection with Me will empower you to fulfill those instructions as good, faithful and wise servants! That is how you will be capable of returning to Me multiples of the good I left with you.

4. The Holy Spirit will be My voice for you while I am away. If you are attentive, you will know exactly what to do while I am gone. One thing for sure is that you cannot sit around and produce nothing, as you will have no legitimate excuse when I come back to collect!
5. Just like in the parable, the servants received their "goods" with no questions asked. They did not inquire why their master was leaving, but that is okay because the faithful ones would recall all his previous instructions while he was gone. Trust Me, it's actually because I am leaving that you will be empowered to do so much more. It may not seem that way at first,

but you will understand soon enough. Well, at least those of you who are paying attention!

6. Here is the greatest advantage of Me leaving. I can only teach you so much in the natural, as your human minds can only comprehend limited information comparably. When I leave, the revelation of the depth of what I already taught you will explode because it will come by way of spiritual understanding. I know you cannot even comprehend this idea, but you will when you encounter the Holy Spirit who will open your mind to all truth! The Spirit will take all that is in My mind and make it available to your mind. And once you put it all into action, that is when I can return! The real question on the table is, (literally on the table): will you do it or not? In other words, are you the wise or evil servant?
7. I can't wait to see you again. I know it's tough to see Me go; it's not easy for Me either—trust Me!
8. And here is what it means that you, yes you, the one reading this right now, must picture yourself as having been at the table that night. It is because understanding why I must go away; and the critical importance of the Parable of the Talents; and how

adhering to those instructions will help you become My wise and faithful servants; was not just instructions for those who were present at the table with Me that night (My first-century disciples), but also for everyone who would believe in Me because of them! That's you!

DOOR #1 OR DOOR #2?

**3. Which door will you choose? What type of servant are you?**

**A. What you choose makes all the difference**

(1) Door # 1 (*assignment—obedience—next assignment*)

(a) Now, let's go back and revisit the Parable of the Talents and see what it looks like for servants who pay attention. The faithful servants were those who knew their master's desires and what was required of them while their master was gone! If you are faithful with what he leaves with you, he will give you a much greater role in his organization!

1. "So he who had received five talents came and brought five other talents, saying, '**Lord, you delivered to me five talents; look, I have gained five more talents besides them.**' His Lord said to him, '**Well done, good and faithful servant; you were**

**faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.** Enter into the joy of your Lord.’ He also who had received two talents came and said, **‘Lord, you delivered to me two talents; look, I have gained two more talents besides them.’** His Lord said to him, **‘Well done, good and faithful servant; you have been faithful over a few things, I will make you ruler over many things.** Enter into the joy of your Lord.’”

Matthew 25:20-23 NKJV

(2) Door # 2 (*assignment—disobedience—consequences*)

(a) This is a deeply prophetic concept. Hear this. “I knew...” I knew there was an assignment; I knew what I was supposed to do; I knew how you operated; I knew I had everything at my disposal to do it; but I was afraid, so I did NOTHING!

1. “Then he who had received the one talent came and said, **‘Lord, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you have not sown,** and gathering where you have not scattered seed. And **I was afraid, and went and hid your talent in the ground. Look, there you have what is yours.’**” Matthew 25:24-25 NKJV

(b) You wicked and lazy servant! You knew. You knew! But, you did nothing anyway. Even if you were too lazy to

really fulfill all I left you to do, that is to return to me a multiple of what I left with you, you could have at least done something, but instead you did nothing. It seems you were never really a servant of mine after all, so take your rightful place alongside the unbeliever!

1. “But his Lord answered and said to him, ‘**You wicked and lazy servant, you knew** that I reap where I have not sown, and gather where I have not scattered seed. So you ought to have deposited my money with the bankers, and at my coming I would have received back my own with interest. **Therefore take the talent from him, and give it to him who has ten talents.** ‘For to everyone who has, more will be given, and he will have abundance; but from him who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. **And cast the unprofitable servant into the outer darkness.** There will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

Matthew 25:26-30 NKJV

## **B. Exodus in Review**

- (1) Israel’s Assignment (Door #1 or Door #2)
  - (a) Examples of insanity: Deliverance from Egypt to... The Parting of an ocean to... Bread from heaven to... Water from a Rock to... The Defeat of their enemies



(Amalekites) to... The offer to be a covenanted people. I will be your God, you will be My people if...

*(assignment—obedience—next assignment)????*

1. 'You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. **Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice** and keep My covenant, **then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people;** for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words which you shall speak to the children of Israel." Exodus 19:4-6 NKJV

(2) Israel chooses Door #2 (*assignment—disobedience—consequences*)

- (a) After all they had witnessed and been promised, Israel chooses Door #2 in the form of a cow made of gold!
  1. "Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "**Come, make us gods that shall go before us;** for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."**And he received the gold from their hand, and he**

**fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a molded calf.** Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"

Exodus 32:1, 4 NKJV

(b) Consequences! You choose to ignore your assignment and the result is: Death, Plague, Generational Curses, and even the potential to be blotted out from the book of life altogether. Kind of like Y'shua warned... *"cast the unprofitable wicked servant into the outer darkness"*

1. "Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder; **and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it.** And he said to them, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Let every man put his sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and **let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man his neighbor.'** " So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. **And about three thousand men of the people fell that day.** And the Lord said to Moses, "**Whoever has sinned against Me, I will blot him out of My book.** Now therefore, go, lead the people to the place of which I have spoken to you.

Behold, My Angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit for punishment, **I will visit punishment upon them for their sin.” So the Lord plagued the people because of what they did** with the calf which Aaron made.” Exodus 32:20, 27-28, 33-35 NKJV

(3) Insanity Timeout!

(a) Do you honestly think you can do what you want, against God and get away with it? We have repeated evidence that you cannot, so if you’ve concluded otherwise, you must be...insane! Or to put it a bit milder, it’s like you are drunk. Don’t worry about a thing; you can do whatever you want against God and nothing bad will happen. Forget drunk; that’s insane!

1. “and so it may not happen, **when he hears the words of this curse, that he blesses himself in his heart, saying, ‘I shall have peace, even though I follow the dictates of my heart’—as though the drunkard could be included with the sober.”** Deuteronomy 29:19

NKJV

2. “Thus says the Lord of hosts: “Do not listen to the words of the prophets who prophesy to you. **They make you worthless; They speak a vision of their**

**own heart**, Not from the mouth of the Lord. **They continually say** to those who despise Me, 'The Lord has said, "**You shall have peace**"'; And to **everyone who walks according to the dictates of his own heart, they say, 'No evil shall come upon you.'** ""

Jeremiah 23:16-17 NKJV

### C. Creation in Review

(1) We've already learned in the parable...

(a) Be faithful and He will make you ruler over many things...

1. "His Lord said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant; you were faithful over a few things, **I will make you ruler over many things**. Enter into the joy of your Lord.'" Matthew 25:21 NKJV

(b) Y'shua was there at creation (Colossians 1:16 and John 1:3) so this teaching on ruling was established from the beginning!

1. "Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; **fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion** over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth.'" Genesis 1:28 NKJV

- (2) Obedience gone sideways...our inaugural example of consequences for disobedience!
- (a) Here are the rules...don't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
1. **"And the Lord God commanded** the man, saying, "Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; **but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat,** for in the day that you eat of it you shall surely die.'" Genesis 2:16-17 NKJV
- (b) Testing directions...We were intended to rule but what happens when we decide to do our own thing? Do we still get to rule? Notice that not only does the enemy question God's command, but Eve adds to God's command, which really muddies the water. It's critical to be clear on what the Lord's instructions are. Have we not confirmed this already with the Parable of the Talents and in the Upper Room Discourse? But something else critical happens as a consequence of our disobedience; suddenly we are much more concerned with our earthy skin than the glory of God covering us!
1. "Now the serpent was more cunning than any beast of the field which the Lord God had made. And he said to the woman, **"Has God indeed said, 'You shall**

**not eat of every tree of the garden'?"** And the woman said to the serpent, "We may eat the fruit of the trees of the garden; but of the fruit of the tree which is in the midst of the garden, God has said, 'You shall not eat it, **nor shall you touch it, lest you die.'** " Then the serpent said to the woman, "You will not surely die. For God knows that in the day you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and **you will be like God, knowing good and evil.**" So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both of them were opened, **and they knew that they were naked; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings.**" Genesis 3:1-7 NKJV

- (c) Man's first attempt to cover his nakedness is an abject failure. It had to be. You can't hide from God. Your sin will expose you every time. But, you must look beyond the image of green leaves covering "private parts" and realize what was really being exposed here. God approaches us, "What have you done?" and we pull out

our fig leaves, “The woman you gave me; the serpent deceived me.”

1. “And they heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden in the cool of the day, and **Adam and his wife hid themselves** from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. Then the Lord God called to Adam and said to him, “Where are you?” So he said, “I heard Your voice in the garden, and I was afraid because I was naked; and I hid myself.” And He said, “**Who told you that you were naked?** Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you that you should not eat?” Then the man said, “**The woman whom You gave to be with me, she gave me of the tree, and I ate.**” And the Lord God said to the woman, “**What is this you have done?**” The woman said, “**The serpent deceived me, and I ate.**”” Genesis 3:8-13 NKJV
- (d) The consequences for this rebellious disobedience are numerous, but we will expound on only one, the “cover up.” We routinely use that phrase. It means “try to hide the fact of illegal or illicit activity.” I wonder if the phrase has its roots in the Garden of Eden as Adam and Eve attempted to “cover up” their nakedness, hide their

illicit activity, with accusations and blame. We also see that the enemy is cursed, Eve will be subjected to painful childbearing and a husband she needs but does not like to be ruled by, and Adam who will be cursed to toil in a land that will be hesitant to provide for his sustenance! But here is the most critical of consequences; *“For Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.”* They had lost the Glory of the Lord, been driven from the Garden, and would now be downgraded to a life covered in someone else’s skin!

1. “So the Lord God said to the serpent: **“Because you have done this, You are cursed** more than all cattle, And more than every beast of the field; On your belly you shall go, And you shall eat dust All the days of your life. And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel.” To the woman He said: “I will greatly multiply your sorrow and your conception; In pain you shall bring forth children; **Your desire shall be for your husband, And he shall rule over you.**” Then to Adam He said, “Because you have heeded the voice of your



wife, and have eaten from the tree of which I commanded you, saying, 'You shall not eat of it':

**“Cursed is the ground** for your sake; In toil you shall eat of it All the days of your life. Both thorns and thistles it shall bring forth for you, And you shall eat the herb of the field. In the sweat of your face you shall eat bread Till you return to the ground, For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return.” And Adam called his wife’s name Eve, because she was the mother of all living. [21]

**Also for Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.** Then the Lord God said, **“Behold, the man has become like one of Us, to know good and evil.** And now, lest he put out his hand and take also of the tree of life, and eat, and live forever”— therefore the Lord God sent him out of the garden of Eden to till the ground from which he was taken. **So He drove out the man; and He placed cherubim at the east of the garden of Eden, and a flaming sword which turned every way, to guard the way to the tree of life.”** Genesis 3:14-24 NKJV

#### **D. Back to Exodus—Another Chance for Glory**

(1) Follow the Glory...

(a) The redemption story is ubiquitous in Scripture. It is not always obvious, however, when you peel back the curtain, it becomes clear. Here we stand with another chance to experience God's Glory. The cloud of glory filled the Tabernacle and we receive very specific instructions—follow the Glory! This is where our Exodus journey ends and our Leviticus journey begins! Will the people obey or disobey? Will they walk through Door #1 or Door #2?

1. **“Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle.** And Moses was not able to enter the tabernacle of meeting, because the cloud rested above it, and the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. **Whenever the cloud was taken up from above the tabernacle, the children of Israel would go onward in all their journeys. But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not journey till the day that it was taken up.** For **the cloud** of the Lord was above the tabernacle **by day**, and **fire was over it by night**, in the sight of all the house of Israel, throughout all their journeys.”

Exodus 40:34-38 NKJV

## E. Leviticus is Review

(1) What will they do?

(a) All sorts of instructions follow in Leviticus. The people have had plenty of experience with what it looks like when they obey and what it looks like when they don't!

1. "Now the Lord called to Moses, **and spoke to him** from the tabernacle of meeting, **saying,**"... Leviticus 1:1 NKJV

(2) Example: Door #2

(a) Nadab and Abihu decide to dishonor Yahweh with profane offerings! They are instantly devoured by God. Why? If you want to experience the Glory of God you must be holy. You cannot do it your own way!

1. "Then **Nadab and Abihu**, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and **offered profane fire** before the Lord, which He had not commanded them. **So fire went out from the Lord and devoured them**, and they died before the Lord. And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the Lord spoke, saying: 'By **those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.**' " So Aaron held his peace."  
Leviticus 10:1-3 NKJV

(3) Obedience = Life

(a) If you think for a moment you can choose Door #2 and prosper in any way, you are sadly mistaken. You cannot return to your old pagan ways, nor can you adapt new pagan practices, and expect to be blessed by the Lord.

1. “Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Speak to the children of Israel, and say to them: **‘I am the Lord your God. According to the doings of the land of Egypt, where you dwelt, you shall not do; and according to the doings of the land of Canaan, where I am bringing you, you shall not do;** nor shall you walk in their ordinances. You **shall observe My judgments and keep My ordinances, to walk in them:** I am the Lord your God. You shall therefore keep My statutes and My judgments, which if a man does, **he shall live by them:** I am the Lord.” Leviticus 18:1-5  
NKJV

(4) Disobedience = Death

(a) If you take on pagan practices and defile God’s sanctuary, death awaits. If you hide your eyes when others do, God will be against you.

1. “Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Again, you shall say to the children of Israel: **‘Whoever of the children of Israel, or of the strangers who dwell in**

**Israel, who gives any of his descendants to Molech, he shall surely be put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones.** I will set My face against that man, and will cut him off from his people, because he has given some of his descendants to Molech, **to defile My sanctuary and profane My holy name.** And if the people of the land should in any way hide their eyes from the man, **when he gives some of his descendants to Molech, and they do not kill him, then I will set My face against that man and against his family;** and I will cut him off from his people, and all who prostitute themselves with him to commit harlotry with Molech. **‘And the person who turns to mediums and familiar spirits, to prostitute himself with them, I will set My face against that person and cut him off** from his people. **Consecrate yourselves therefore, and be holy, for I am the Lord your God.** And you shall **keep My statutes, and perform them:** I am the Lord who sanctifies you.” Leviticus 20:1-8 NKJV

- (5) Don't give God your junk!
  - (a) You cannot bring God your leftovers and think they will be honored and accepted.

1. **'You shall not offer to the Lord what is bruised or crushed, or torn or cut;** nor shall you make any offering of them in your land. Nor from a foreigner's hand shall you offer any of these as the bread of your God, because their **corruption is in them, and defects are in them. They shall not be accepted** on your behalf.' "" Leviticus 22:24-25 NKJV
- (b) Prophecy Outtake: Dishonoring Yahweh with your irreverence! You cannot bring blind, lame, sick or stolen sacrifices to God. That is unacceptable. And you should not look on idly while others do!
  1. "A son honors his father, And a servant his master. **If then I am the Father, Where is My honor? And if I am a Master, Where is My reverence?** Says the Lord of hosts To you priests who despise My name. Yet you say, **'In what way have we despised Your name?'** **"You offer defiled food on My altar,** But say, 'In what way have we defiled You?' By saying, 'The table of the Lord is contemptible.' **And when you offer the blind as a sacrifice,** Is it not evil? And when you **offer the lame and sick,** Is it not evil? Offer it then to your governor! Would he be pleased with you? Would he accept you favorably?" Says the Lord

of hosts. "But now entreat God's favor, That He may be gracious to us. While this is being done by your hands, Will He accept you favorably?" Says the Lord of hosts. "**Who is there even among you who would shut the doors, So that you would not kindle fire on My altar in vain?** I have no pleasure in you," Says the Lord of hosts, "**Nor will I accept an offering from your hands.** For from the rising of the sun, even to its going down, My name shall be great among the Gentiles; In every place incense shall be offered to My name, And a pure offering; For My name shall be great among the nations," Says the Lord of hosts. "But **you profane it, In that you say, 'The table of the Lord is defiled; And its fruit, its food, is contemptible.'** You also say, 'Oh, what a weariness!' And you sneer at it," Says the Lord of hosts. "**And you bring the stolen, the lame, and the sick;** Thus you bring an offering! **Should I accept this from your hand?"** Says the Lord. "But cursed be the deceiver Who has in his flock a male, And takes a vow, But sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished— For I am a great King," Says the Lord of hosts, "And My name is to be feared among the nations." Malachi 1:6-14 NKJV

(6) Offer to Obey

(a) Make no idols and reverence His Sanctuary! And if you obey—you will yield abundant fruit!

1. **“You shall not make idols for yourselves;** neither a carved image nor a sacred pillar shall you rear up for yourselves; nor shall you set up an engraved stone in your land, to bow down to it; for I am the Lord your God. **You shall keep My Sabbaths and reverence My sanctuary:** I am the Lord. **‘If you walk in My statutes and keep My commandments, and perform them, then I will give you rain in its season, the land shall yield its produce, and the trees of the field shall yield their fruit.’** Leviticus 26:1-4 NKJV (etc. through 13)

(7) Or...you can choose Door #2

(a) Don't obey and decide to ignore my offer, and I will make your life a terror, filled with sorrow, pestilence and famine.

1. **“But if you do not obey Me,** and do not observe all these commandments, and if you despise My statutes, or if your soul abhors My judgments, so that you do not perform all My commandments, **but break My covenant,** I also will do this to you: **I will even**



**appoint terror over you, wasting disease and fever which shall consume the eyes and cause sorrow of heart. And you shall sow your seed in vain, for your enemies shall eat it. I will set My face against you, and you shall be defeated by your enemies.** Those who hate you shall reign over you, and you shall flee when no one pursues you.” Leviticus 26:14-17 NKJV

(b) *And “I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins.”* Now if you think you can do whatever you want and you will get away with it, what might be an appropriate diagnosis?

1. “And after all this, if you do not obey Me, then I will punish you seven times more for your sins. I will break the pride of your power; I will make your heavens like iron and your earth like bronze. And your strength shall be spent in vain; for your land shall not yield its produce, nor shall the trees of the land yield their fruit. ‘Then, if you walk contrary to Me, and are not willing to obey Me, **I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins.**” Leviticus 26:18-21 NKJV (more warnings all the way to verse 43)

#### F. A lesson in directions...

(1) Directions!

- (a) God loves to give directions —will you go His way? After all that Israel witnessed God do to Pharaoh and the land of Egypt, once they were released, He immediately pointed them in a direction that was quite contrary to reason. What did they do? What would you do?

1. “Then it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that **God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near;** for God said, “Lest perhaps the people change their minds when they see war, and return to Egypt.” So God led the people around by way of the wilderness of the Red Sea. And the children of Israel went up in orderly ranks out of the land of Egypt.” Exodus 13:17-18 NKJV

(2) Good choice. They chose Door #1

- (a) They took a sharp turn away from logic and followed God’s directions. God was clear as He guided them with a pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night.
1. “So they took their journey from Succoth and camped in Etham **at the edge of the wilderness. And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of**

**cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light,** so as to go by day and night. He did not take away the pillar of cloud by day or the pillar of fire by night from before the people.” Exodus 13:20-22 NKJV

(3) But then...

(a) Then it seemed that God’s directions lead them to a bad place. They were backed up against the sea with no way out, as Pharaoh’s army chased them down. Be still was Moses’ admonition. God has got this! He’s will protect you and ruin your enemies if you would just trust Him and move forward. God then does something fantastic at the moment; He walls off His people from the Egyptian forces with a dark cloud on the enemy’s side and a fire to give light on Israel’s side. And then Yahweh parts the ocean and allows His people to cross over on dry ground. Afterwards, He allows the ocean to collapse on the entire Egyptian army, thus overthrowing Egypt!

1. “And Moses said to the people, “Do not be afraid. **Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord,** which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. The Lord will fight for you, and you shall hold

your peace." And the Lord said to Moses, "Why do you cry to Me? **Tell the children of Israel to go forward.** But lift up your rod, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it. **And the children of Israel shall go on dry ground through the midst of the sea.** And I indeed will harden the hearts of the Egyptians, and they shall follow them. So I will gain honor over Pharaoh and over all his army, his chariots, and his horsemen. Then the Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I have gained honor for Myself over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen." **And the Angel of God, who went before the camp of Israel, moved and went behind them; and the pillar of cloud went from before them and stood behind them.** So it came between the camp of the Egyptians and the camp of Israel. **Thus it was a cloud and darkness to the one, and it gave light by night to the other, so that the one did not come near the other all that night.**" Exodus 14:13-20 NKJV

2. "Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong east wind all that night, and made the sea into dry land, and the waters were divided. **So the children of Israel**

**went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground,** and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.” Exodus 14:21-22 NKJV

3. **“And the Egyptians pursued and went after them into the midst of the sea,** all Pharaoh’s horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. ...And **Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth,** while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So **the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea.”**

Exodus 14:23, 27 NKJV

(4) What happens when you pick Door #1?

(a) Well done!

1. “His Lord said to him, **‘Well done, good and faithful servant;** you were faithful over a few things, **I will make you ruler over many things.** Enter into the joy of your Lord.’” Matthew 25:21 NKJV

### **G. Hard-pressed on every side**

(1) What does it look like for you when you are backed up against the ocean with no way out?

- (a) I invite you to consider the narrative of the Exodus as we explore Paul’s words. We have thoroughly established that we have two options, Door #1 (Obey)

and Door #2 (Disobey). The children of Israel obeyed Yahweh in this instance and God shown on them and commanded light to come out of darkness, just as the Angel did with the wall of light and darkness that separated Israel from Egypt. **Prophetic Note:** to separate or set-apart is the concept to holiness.

1. “Therefore, since we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we do not lose heart. But we have renounced the hidden things of shame, not walking in craftiness nor handling the word of God deceitfully, but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man’s conscience in the sight of God. But even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, whose minds the god of this age has blinded, who do not believe, lest the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, **who is the image of God, should shine on them. For we do not preach ourselves, but Christ Jesus the Lord, and ourselves your bondservants for Jesus’ sake. For it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness, who has shone in our hearts to give the light** of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.” II Corinthians 4:1-6 NKJV

- (2) Trust this process, choose Door #1!
- (a) If we trust this process and also know that when we are backed up against the sea, hard-pressed on every side, we need not despair. Sure, in the natural, all things seem lost, however, this death to self that is available in those moments makes a way for a much better life in Him!

1. **“But we have this treasure in earthen vessels,** that the excellence of the power may be of God and not of us. **We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed—** always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body. For we who live are always delivered to death for Jesus’ sake, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our mortal flesh. **So then death is working in us, but life in you.** And since we have the same spirit of faith, according to what is written, “I believed and therefore I spoke,” we also believe and therefore speak, knowing that He who raised up the Lord Jesus will also raise us up with Jesus, and will present us with you. For all things

are for your sakes, that grace, having spread through the many, may cause thanksgiving to abound to the glory of God." II Corinthians 4:7-15 NKJV

(3) The eternal weight of glory!

(a) It was very obvious to Israel, as they were trapped against the sea that they were all going to perish. But something happens when you have chosen Door #1. The inward man is renewed! And the affliction we are facing suddenly seem so minor, as we recognize that this is the glory process! The great take away is to stop looking at what seems so obvious in the natural; those things are temporary. Instead, focus your eyes on how your obedience to God is always the path to His Glory.

1. **"Therefore we do not lose heart. Even though our outward man is perishing, yet the inward man is being renewed** day by day. For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, **is working for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory, while we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal.**" II Corinthians 4:16-18 NKJV

2. See [Hard-Pressed on Every Side](#)



3. See [New Wineskins II](#)

(4) What happens when you pick Door #1?

(a) Well done!

1. "His Lord said to him, '**Well done, good and faithful servant;** you were faithful over a few things, **I will make you ruler over many things.** Enter into the joy of your Lord.'" Matthew 25:21 NKJV

## H. The Glory Returns

(1) From Glory to Glory

(a) When you stare into the mirror, what is staring back at you? Increasingly it should be the face of Y'shua.

1. "Now the Lord is the Spirit; and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberty. But we all, with unveiled face, **beholding as in a mirror the glory of the Lord,** are being **transformed into the same image from glory to glory,** just as by the Spirit of the Lord." II Corinthians 3:17-18 NKJV

(b) Or...do you consistently choose Door #2 and face a man in the mirror who would rather listen to God's word than obey God's word. Or worse, do you think you can stand in the mirror, view a hearer only, and believe God will bless that. That would be insane.

1. “But be doers of the word, and not hearers only, deceiving yourselves. **For if anyone is a hearer of the word and not a doer, he is like a man observing his natural face in a mirror; for he observes himself, goes away, and immediately forgets what kind of man he was.** But he who looks into the perfect law of liberty and continues in it, and is not a forgetful hearer **but a doer of the work, this one will be blessed in what he does.**” James 1:22-25 NKJV

(2) The glorious liberty of the children of God

- (a) This is what the world is waiting for; this is what all of creation is waiting for. And this Glory will not come from those who feel they will still be blessed as they disregard God’s direction. I believe we have established that, “to do this over and over again, and think you will get a different result would be insane.” So, hop off the glory-go-round and lets manifest the *“glorious liberty of the children of God.”*

1. “The Spirit Himself bears witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs— heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ, if indeed we suffer with Him, that we may also be glorified together. For I consider that the sufferings of this

present time are **not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us.** For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the **revealing of the sons of God.** For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of Him who subjected it in hope; because the creation itself also will be **delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God.**" Romans 8:16-21 NKJV

**Summary:** DOOR #1 OR DOOR #2?

**3. Which door will you choose? What type of servant are you?**

**A. What you choose makes all the difference**

(1) Door # 1 (*assignment—obedience—next assignment*)

(a) Now, let's go back and revisit the Parable of the Talents and see what it looks like for servants who pay attention. The faithful servants were those who knew their master's desires and what was required of them while their master was gone! If you are faithful with what he leaves with you, he will give you a much greater role in his organization!

(2) Door # 2 (*assignment—disobedience—consequences*)

- (a) This is a deeply prophetic concept. Hear this. “I knew...” I knew there was an assignment; I knew what I was supposed to do; I knew how you operated; I knew I had everything at my disposal to do it; but I was afraid, so I did NOTHING!
- (b) You wicked and lazy servant! You knew. You knew! But, you did nothing anyway. Even if you were too lazy to really fulfill all I left you to do, that is to return to me a multiple of what I left with you, you could have at least done something, but instead you did nothing. It seems you were never really a servant of mine after all, so take your rightful place alongside the unbeliever!

## **B. Exodus in Review**

- (1) Israel’s Assignment (Door #1 or Door #2)
  - (a) Examples of insanity: Deliverance from Egypt to... The Parting of an ocean to... Bread from heaven to... Water from a Rock to... The Defeat of their enemies (Amalekites) to... The offer to be a covenanted people. I will be your God, you will be My people if...  
(*assignment—obedience—next assignment*)????
- (2) Israel chooses Door #2 (*assignment—disobedience—consequences*)

- (a) After all they had witnessed and been promised, Israel chooses Door #2 in the form of a cow made of gold!
  - (b) Consequences! You choose to ignore your assignment and the result is: Death, Plague, Generational Curses, and even the potential to be blotted out from the book of life altogether. Kind of like Y'shua warned... *"cast the unprofitable wicked servant into the outer darkness"*
- (3) Insanity Timeout!
- (a) Do you honestly think you can do what you want, against God and get away with it? We have repeated evidence that you cannot, so if you've concluded otherwise, you must be...insane! Or to put it a bit milder, it's like you are drunk. Don't worry about a thing; you can do whatever you want against God and nothing bad will happen. Forget drunk; that's insane!

### **C. Creation in Review**

- (1) We've already learned in the parable...
  - (a) Be faithful and He will make you ruler over many things...
  - (b) Y'shua was there at creation (Colossians 1:16 and John 1:3) so this teaching on ruling was established from the beginning!

- (2) Obedience gone sideways...our inaugural example of consequences for disobedience!
- (a) Here are the rules...don't eat from the tree of the knowledge of good and evil.
  - (b) Testing directions...We were intended to rule but what happens when we decide to do our own thing? Do we still get to rule? Notice that not only does the enemy question God's command, but Eve adds to God's command, which really muddies the water. It's critical to be clear on what the Lord's instructions are. Have we not confirmed this already with the Parable of the Talents and in the Upper Room Discourse? But something else critical happens as a consequence of our disobedience; suddenly we are much more concerned with our earthy skin than the glory of God covering us!
  - (c) Man's first attempt to cover his nakedness is an abject failure. It had to be. You can't hide from God. Your sin will expose you every time. But, you must look beyond the image of green leaves covering "private parts" and realize what was really being exposed here. God approaches us, "What have you done?" and we pull out our fig leaves, "The woman you gave me; the serpent deceived me."

(d) The consequences for this rebellious disobedience are numerous, but we will expound on only one, the “cover up.” We routinely use that phrase. It means “try to hide the fact of illegal or illicit activity.” I wonder if the phrase has its roots in the Garden of Eden as Adam and Eve attempted to “cover up” their nakedness, hide their illicit activity, with accusations and blame. We also see that the enemy is cursed, Eve will be subjected to painful childbearing and a husband she needs but does not like to be ruled by, and Adam who will be cursed to toil in a land that will be hesitant to provide for his sustenance! But here is the most critical of consequences; *“For Adam and his wife the Lord God made tunics of skin, and clothed them.”* They had lost the Glory of the Lord, been driven from the Garden, and would now be downgraded to a life covered in someone else’s skin!

#### **D. Back to Exodus—Another Chance for Glory**

(1) Follow the Glory...

(a) The redemption story is ubiquitous in Scripture. It is not always obvious, however, when you peel back the curtain, it becomes clear. Here we stand with another chance to experience God’s Glory. The cloud of glory

filled the Tabernacle and we receive very specific instructions—follow the Glory! This is where our Exodus journey ends and our Leviticus journey begins! Will the people obey or disobey? Will they walk through Door #1 or Door #2?

### **E. Leviticus is Review**

(1) What will they do?

(a) All sorts of instructions follow in Leviticus. The people have had plenty of experience with what it looks like when they obey and what it looks like when they don't!

(2) Example: Door #2

(a) Nadab and Abihu decide to dishonor Yahweh with profane offerings! They are instantly devoured by God. Why? If you want to experience the Glory of God you must be holy. You cannot do it your own way!

(3) Obedience = Life

(a) If you think for a moment you can choose Door #2 and prosper in any way, you are sadly mistaken. You cannot return to your old pagan ways, nor can you adapt new pagan practices, and expect to be blessed by the Lord.

(4) Disobedience = Death



- (a) If you take on pagan practices and defile God's sanctuary, death awaits. If you hide your eyes when others do, God will be against you.
- (5) Don't give God your junk!
  - (a) You cannot bring God your leftovers and think they will be honored and accepted.
  - (b) Prophecy Outtake: Dishonoring Yahweh with your irreverence! You cannot bring blind, lame, sick or stolen sacrifices to God. That is unacceptable. And you should not look on idly while others do!
- (6) Offer to Obey
  - (a) Make no idols and reverence His Sanctuary! And if you obey—you will yield abundant fruit!
- (7) Or...you can choose Door #2
  - (a) Don't obey and decide to ignore my offer, and I will make your life a terror, filled with sorrow, pestilence and famine.
  - (b) And *"I will bring on you seven times more plagues, according to your sins."* Now if you think you can do whatever you want and you will get away with it, what might be an appropriate diagnosis?

**F. A lesson in directions...**

- (1) Directions!

- (a) God loves to give directions —will you go His way?  
After all that Israel witnessed God do to Pharaoh and the land of Egypt, once they were released, He immediately pointed them in a direction that was quite contrary to reason. What did they do? What would you do?
- (2) Good choice. They chose Door #1
  - (a) They took a sharp turn away from logic and followed God's directions. God was clear as He guided them with a pillar of cloud by day and pillar of fire by night.
- (3) But then...
  - (a) Then it seemed that God's directions lead them to a bad place. They were backed up against the sea with no way out, as Pharaoh's army chased them down. Be still was Moses' admonition. God has got this! He's will protect you and ruin your enemies if you would just trust Him and move forward. God then does something fantastic at the moment; He walls off His people from the Egyptian forces with a dark cloud on the enemy's side and a fire to give light on Israel's side. And then Yahweh parts the ocean and allows His people to cross over on dry ground. Afterwards, He allows the ocean to collapse on the entire Egyptian army, thus overthrowing Egypt!

(4) What happens when you pick Door #1?

(a) Well done!

### **G. Hard-pressed on every side**

(1) What does it look like for you when you are backed up against the ocean with no way out?

(a) I invite you to consider the narrative of the Exodus as we explore Paul's words. We have thoroughly established that we have two options, Door #1 (Obey) and Door #2 (Disobey). The children of Israel obeyed Yahweh in this instance and God shown on them and commanded light to come out of darkness, just as the Angel did with the wall of light and darkness that separated Israel from Egypt. **Prophetic Note:** to separate or set-apart is the concept to holiness.

(2) Trust this process, choose Door #1!

(a) If we trust this process and also know that when we are backed up against the sea, hard-pressed on every side, we need not despair. Sure, in the natural, all things seem lost, however, this death to self that is available in those moments makes a way for a much better life in Him!

(3) The eternal weight of glory!

(a) It was very obvious to Israel, as they were trapped against the sea that they were all going to perish. But something happens when you have chosen Door #1. The inward man is renewed! And the affliction we are facing suddenly seem so minor, as we recognize that this is the glory process! The great take away is to stop looking at what seems so obvious in the natural; those things are temporary. Instead, focus your eyes on how your obedience to God is always the path to His Glory.

1. See [Hard-Pressed on Every Side](#)

2. See [New Wineskins II](#)

(4) What happens when you pick Door #1?

(a) Well done!

## **H. The Glory Returns**

(1) From Glory to Glory

(a) When you stare into the mirror, what is staring back at you? Increasingly it should be the face of Y'shua.

(b) Or...do you consistently choose Door #2 and face a man in the mirror who would rather listen to God's word than obey God's word. Or worse, do you think you can stand in the mirror, view a hearer only, and believe God will bless that. That would be insane.

(2) The glorious liberty of the children of God

- (a) This is what the world is waiting for; this is what all of creation is waiting for. And this Glory will not come from those who feel they will still be blessed as they disregard God's direction. I believe we have established that, "to do this over and over again, and think you will get a different result would be insane." So, hop off the glory-go-round and let's manifest the *"glorious liberty of the children of God."*

## QUESTIONS & DISCUSSION

### **1. There is a beautiful synergy between Creation and the building of the Tabernacle in the wilderness...**

- A. What do you notice in common as God evaluates the finished work of His creation and Moses evaluates the finished work of the Tabernacle? (See: Genesis 1:31, 2:1-3; Exodus 39:32, 42-43)
- B. Oftentimes, once a specific task is complete, God gives us a new set of instructions. What were those instructions in each instance? (See: Genesis 2:15-17; Exodus 40:16-17)

### **2. Y'shua taught us that a faithful servant has specific attributes...**

- A. Name as many attributes as you can using Matthew 24:45-51 and Matthew 25:20-23.

- 3. As students of Bible, we are privileged to see divine connections throughout His Word. Shortly after the Last Supper, Y'shua teaches His disciples an important parable.**
- A. Read the beginning of Parable of the Talents in Matthew 25:14-19 and describe in your own words what is happening.
  - B. Then Read the following excerpts from Y'shua's message that He taught at the Last Supper table shortly after He gave that parable. Describe how they fill in the details of the Parable of the Talents . (See: John 14:12, 19, 25-31; 15:26-27; 16:4-7, 12-16, 22; 17:9, 20)
- 4. Your choices will define what type of servant you are. Obedient servants choose Door #1; disobedient servants choose Door #2.**
- A. Describe the attributes of an obedient servant using Matthew 25:20-23.
  - B. How is the promise to faithful servants similar to God's blessing over mankind in Genesis 1:28?
  - C. Describe the attributes of a disobedient servant using Matthew 25:24-30.
  - D. Reviewing Matthew 25:24-25, what makes it obvious that this servant has no excuse to have failed his assignment?
- 5. God's faithfulness to Israel throughout the Book of Exodus is apparent. From the deliverance from Egypt to... the parting of**

**an ocean to... bread from heaven to... water from a Rock to...  
the defeat of their enemies to... the offer to be a covenanted  
people in Exodus 19:4-6...**

- A. However, describe how after all that they still chose Door #2? (See Exodus 32:1-4)
- B. Read about their consequences for doing so in Exodus 32:20-35.
- C. Use Deuteronomy 29:19 and Jeremiah 23:16-17 to describe the mindset of those who think they can disobey God and still be blessed.

**6. After Creation, Yahweh gave specific directions in Genesis 2:16-17.**

- A. Describe in your own words what followed in Genesis 3:1-7 (especially verse 7).
- B. Immediately Adam and Eve attempted to hide themselves from God in Genesis 3:8-13. Metaphorically, what “fig leaves” did they use when asked, “Who told you that you were naked?” (Hint: verses 12 & 13)
- C. What does it mean that they were now “naked” and what was the great cover-up? (Hint: Cover-up means to “try to hide the fact of illegal or illicit activity.”)
- D. Genesis 3:14-24 describes the details of the consequences of their disobedience, however, what might be the prophetic

significance in verse 21 that they were then clothed in animals skins? (Hint: they were formally clothed in God's glory.)

**7. Describe the "second chance" to experience God's Glory in Exodus 40:34-38.**

A. How might we say this is a picture of redemption?

**8. Much like Adam and Eve were given instructions to "subdue the earth" and "not eat" following creation, the Book of Leviticus gives instructions following the establishment of a functioning Tabernacle at the end of Exodus.**

A. Use the following to describe some of those instructions, choices and consequences: (See: Leviticus 10:1-3, 18:1-5, 20:1-8, 22:24-25, 26:1-4, 14-17, 14-17)

B. Read Malachi 1:6-14 and compare the prophecy to Leviticus 20:1-8 and Leviticus 22:24-25.

**9. God is always looking to see if we will follow His directions after He has completed a work in us.**

A. What did God instruct Israel to do that was surprising at the moment of the Exodus? (See Exodus 13:17-18)

B. How did He lead them and where did it bring them? (See Exodus 13:20-22, 14:13-20)

C. What did God do because they chose to obey Him? (See Exodus 14:19-27)



**10. The narrative of how Israel was backed up against the sea with no way to escape is instrumental in our lives as Christians.**

**Read II Corinthians 4:1-18:**

- A. How does Paul's phrase, "hard-pressed on every side", connect to Israel's dilemma at the sea?
- B. How do Paul's words, "for it is the God who commanded light to shine out of darkness", connect to the pillars of cloud and fire that separated Israel from Egypt?
- C. How does the fear for their lives at the edge of the sea relate to Paul's teaching that we are a "treasure in earthen vessels", and that we should not lose heart even though it seems our "outward man is perishing"?
- D. Finally, connect Paul's words, "we do not look at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary, but the things which are not seen are eternal", with Moses' words, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord."

**11. Relate the Glory of God over the Tabernacle in Exodus**

**40:34-38 to:**

- A. ...being transformed into the same image from glory to glory in II Corinthians 3:17-18.

- B. ...a man observing his natural face in a mirror and immediately forgetting what kind of man he is in James 1:22-25
- C. ...being delivered from the bondage of corruption into the glorious liberty of the children of God in Romans 8:16-21