

Possessing Our Full Inheritance

Notes By Tracy Hogan

August 27, 2016

Revelation 3:18-21 READ

Revelation 3:21 He who overcomes, I will grant him to sit beside Me on My throne, as I Myself overcame and sat down beside My Father on His throne.

Revelation chapters 2 and 3: These messages are to believers. They represent the state of the Church today. The message is the same – repent/obey, endure to the end. To him who overcomes, the Lord will give the crown of life. Two churches were different: Smyrna (persecuted church) and Philadelphia (representing the Bride, end-times).

Matthew 24:13 He who endures to the end will be saved. Not at the beginning, but when we finish our race, if we do.

Numbers 20:1-21:35 We see the Israelite's in the wilderness at Kadesh.

Numbers: 20:1 "...And the people dwelt in Kadesh. In natural it was a waterless, wretched place. (dry seasons/trials).

Kadesh in Hebrew means: Place of consecration, separation, holiness – one-ness, wholeness of life. God of peace will sanctify you wholly – spirit, soul and body (**1 Thessalonians 5:23**).

People complained, contended against Moses, would it not have been better if we died in the plague – they called the place evil that God had called holy (**Numbers 20:3-5**).

It became a place known as Meribah – or a place of strife, where they contended against God, longing for what they were used to, what made their flesh feel good, what was easy. Speaks of our flesh – wanting our ways and not God's (**Isaiah 55:9**).

Numbers 20:14-21 READ

Numbers 20:14, 17, 20-21 "Sent messengers to the king of Edom, saying, let us pass through your country..." The king said no and instead came against the Israelites with a strong hand, and they turned away having to go another route.

Note, they asked for the shortest way, or easier way, to the Promised Land. It was not given to them. Instead they faced a battle to continue on their journey, they did not engage in warfare but were turned away. **Battle #1.**

We see another battle break outs: Battle #2.

Numbers 21:1-3 READ The Canaanite king of Arad, heard of Israel, sent spies, fought against them and took some captive.

We see something change here – we see the character of God being formed in the Israelites. It was not well with them that some of their own were now taken captive – held as hostages in the enemy's camp – so they learned to fight back.

Numbers 21:2 Israel vowed to the Lord, if you deliver these people into our hand we will utterly destroy their cities.

This pleased God and He gave them victory. Canaanite worship was very evil. It turned people away from following the one true God, and He wanted that destroyed, not just physically in their midst, but to be destroyed from within their souls. Canaanite's worshipped the fire god Molech, along with fertility worship of Baal and Ashtoreth. They used same sex rituals as a sacrifice to their false gods, and were full of shrine prostitution. Remember, this was all the Israelite's knew after living in Egypt for 430 years. This demonic worship, the ways of Egypt, not only kept them in captivity in slavery, but also wanted to destroy them by trying to prevent them from inheriting the Promised Land, why God was pleased when they destroyed these cities. Leviticus 18:21 forbid them to partake in this pagan worship. Remember, when the Israelite's began they were camping at Kadesh – set apart, holy to eventually become whole spirit, soul and body. That in itself is a process to come to full salvation, which can be broken into three stages that all believers should be walking through: Justification, sanctification, and glorification.

So A Holy War Broke Out – Good Against Evil. So it needs to be with us. To root out all that remains of "Egypt" within us – and all around us. Root out all the doctrines of demons, religion, false belief systems, traditions of man. The list goes on and on. We're no different than our ancestors. May we learn from them, and know we will face many battles, internal and external.

They continued on from there and had to go around Edom, the long way. But after that victory – what did they do? They became impatient, depressed, discouraged, loathing His provision, because the way was not easy. They spoke against God and Moses, His anointed chosen leader. Why have you brought us here to die in the wilderness (**Numbers 21:4-5**)?

There are consequences to our murmuring. God does not ask us to understand His ways. He asks for our absolute and explicit obedience, whether we understand His way or not, and in faith He expects us to obey His Word. When we do, then understanding follows (**Hebrews 11:1, 6**). They failed the test and paid a price – the Lord sent forth fiery serpents some died. It was only after repenting, and saw the error of their way did the Lord remove the serpents (**Numbers 21:7**).

They wanted it to be easy, they wanted what was familiar to them. It was not, it was full of every unimaginable test and trials, and they had not walked this way before. Fear and unbelief gripped their hearts often, therefore, they questioned God's good and perfect plans for Him to bring them to a place of total freedom, and oneness in Him.

Numbers 21:20-23 They come to Moab, again they sent messengers to Sihon, asking the king of the Amorites to pass through his land. The short cut! The king said no and instead went to battle against them, trying to stop them. **Battle #3!**

Numbers 21:31-32 They were now dwelling in the midst of their enemies. **We see "strategy" here.** They spied out their land – got to know who their enemy was, and because of it were able to destroy them, got victory and were able to possess the land they had occupied.

CLOSING: We see here that God gave them the victory over the Amorites with the edge of the sword. The sword speaks of how our battles will be won founded on the pure Word of God, for it is sharper than a double-edged sword separating the spirit from the soul, the bone from the marrow, searching the innermost intentions of man's heart (**Hebrews 4:12**).

The battles we face will also only be won when we are living in that place of Kadesh. Living a consecrated, pure, holy life unto the Lord with our words, thoughts and deeds, and when stop looking for a "short cut" – our solutions, but surrender our will for His ways. Note, in Numbers 19, the Lord was instructing the Israelite's to purify themselves, if they did not – they would be cut off. The sprinkling of the water speaks to us the necessity to have a disciplined, prayer and Word life. That not only the blood of the Lamb cleanses us from our sin (**1 John 1:9**), but the washing of the water with the Word (**Ephesians 5:26**), will cleanse us, causing us to come back into alignment with God's perfect will for our lives.

Why? For us to be His Bride, one who will be without spot or wrinkle (**Ephesians 5:27**). It is not automatic for every believer to be the Bride. It is His desire and perfect will for us, but we all get to decide by the choices we make. It is he who overcomes that will be the Bride, who loves not their life unto death. Those who will deny themselves, take up their cross and follow the Lamb wherever He may lead, no matter what the cost. In that process, if we say yes, we die to self, surrender our will for His, and our soul/mind becomes renewed/transformed – perfected into His love. Our spirit is new at our new birth, but our soul is not automatically saved, it is a process and requires an action on our part (**James 1:21-25**).

Too often, like the Israelite's we want the "easy way" or what makes us comfortable. When the truth is that we need to be preparing ourselves and engaging in battle like never before. We are in a real war for our soul – good against evil! Remember, right after coming out of Egypt, they faced one battle after another – serious warfare, with kingdoms that wanted to destroy them, and prevent them from possessing their full inheritance. The Promise Land was not "automatically" entered, or possessed by them. Likewise, our soul is not automatically saved. They had a choice in how they were going to respond (attitudes/actions) to the trials and fiery afflictions that came their way. It's no different for us. **READ 1 Peter 4:12-13**

Entering and possessing our full inheritance comes at a price – it will be a battle. Often we give up, we murmur, we reason away God's plans for us because they "seem" too difficult. We speak against God, and become His enemy (**Romans 8:7**). We speak against His anointed leaders who try to lead us in the way that we are to go – the holy way, the narrow road that leads to life. We saw this with the Israelite's. May we learn from them and not make the same mistakes. We need to understand possessing anything in God's Kingdom will come at a high price – why the enemy battles us greatly. There will be one war after another that breaks out against us trying to stop us from possessing our full inheritance – the Prize, which is to be the Bride. If we settle for anything less in this life, then we will have missed the eternal purpose of why God created us – He is after a Bride for His Son. **This battle will go on right up until His return – it is "He who endures to the end that will be saved."**

If the Israelite's had not fought the plans of the enemy, they would never had advanced to the next stage of their journey in the wilderness – they would have remained stagnant, not going further in God's plans for them. We can see eventually, only two, Joshua and Caleb, entered the Promised Land. Because of fear, unbelief, and murmuring – it stopped them in their tracks. They may have ended up in heaven, but they did not go on to be His Bride, they missed the high call on their life. Remember, they started out from Kadesh – place of one-ness, wholeness, but never possessed their full inheritance. But Joshua and Caleb did. Why? They were of a different spirit and followed God fully – whole-heartedly (**Numbers 14:24**).

I encourage you to choose the high life, and let go of the low life – the compromise and mixture, the foolish pleasures of this world's fatal systems that want to destroy your soul and prevent you from fulfilling your high and lofty destiny. Our rebellion is the sin of witchcraft and our stubbornness the sin of idolatry, and that it is better to obey than to offer sacrifices (1 Samuel 15:22-23). Ultimately, if we are to possess our full inheritance, it will come down to are we willing to let the Lamb, the Lover of our soul, possess our soul – to purify us to His holy standards? **We are all called to be the Bride of Messiah – few are chosen. We decide by the choice we make in this life** (**Matthew 22:14**).