THE MASTERCRAFT ...STAR PERFORMANCE ON SOLID ROCK

LESSONS FROM THE JOURNEY OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL.

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LESSONS FROM THE JOURNEY OF THE CHILDREN OF ISRAEL

God promised them Canaan, a beautiful land; the Mastercraft is promised to us this year.

Exodus 3:17- "and I have promised to bring you up out of your affliction in Egypt, into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites--a land flowing with milk and honey."

Deut. 8: ⁷ For The LORD Your God Is Bringing You Into A Good Land—a Land With Brooks, Streams, and Deep Springs Gushing Out Into The Valleys And Hills; ⁸ A Land With Wheat and Barley, Vines And Fig Trees, Pomegranates, Olive Oil and Honey; ⁹ A Land Where Bread Will Not Be Scarce and You Will Lack Nothing; A Land Where The Rocks Are Iron And You Can Dig Copper Out Of The Hills.

¹⁰ when you have eaten and are satisfied, praise the LORD your God for the good land he has given you.

The Lord is committed to giving us the best in our domains. We must believe Him and work with Him to possess it.

In taking them to the promised land God purposed to demonstrate His miracles to them, using circumstances they will face along the way to test their faith and also demonstrate His power. Unfortunately, the Israelites failed their tests.

a. The red sea (Exodus 14) - To possess the land, they must fight wars. God needed to demonstrate to them how He would help fight the wars for them.

However, ¹⁰ ... The Children Of Israel Lifted Their Eyes, And Behold, The Egyptians Marched After Them. So They Were Very Afraid, And The Children Of Israel Cried Out To The Lord. ¹¹ Then They Said To Moses, "Because *There Were* No Graves In Egypt, Have You Taken Us Away To Die In The Wilderness? Why Have You So Dealt With Us, To Bring Us Up Out Of Egypt? ¹² ... For *It Would Have Been* Better For Us To Serve The Egyptians Than That We Should Die In The Wilderness." *They failed the test*

God's Plan: Exodus 14:

¹Now The LORD Spoke To Moses, Saying: ² "Speak To The Children Of Israel, That They Camp ...Before The Sea. ³ For Pharaoh Will Say Of The Children Of Israel, 'They *Are* Bewildered By The Land; The Wilderness Has Closed Them In.' ⁴ Then I Will Harden Pharaoh's Heart, So That He Will Pursue Them; **And I Will Gain Honor Over Pharaoh And Over All His Army, That The Egyptians May Know That I** *Am* **The LORD."**

Israelites Did Not Understand, Hence Grumbled. ¹³ And Moses Said To Them, "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. ¹⁴ The LORD Will Fight For You, And You Shall Hold^[6] Your Peace."

We saw how it ended, God delivered them but God did not like their unbelieve. So the test of their faith and the proof of God's ability to do miracles continued.

There is no benefit in putting God through test. When we do that, God continues to prove Himself but we loose the point. It is better to believe Him right away; knowing that "His thought over us are thoughts of good, AND NOT OF EVIL,, to bring us to the expected end. (JEREMIAH 29:11)"

Time of rejoicing

15 Then Moses And The Children Of Israel Sang This Song To The LORD, And Spoke, Saying: "I Will Sing To The LORD, For He Has Triumphed Gloriously!
The Horse And Its Rider He Has Thrown Into The Sea!

b. Bitter Waters Made Sweet (Exod. 15)

²² So Moses Brought Israel From The Red Sea; Then They Went Three Days In The Wilderness And Found No Water. ²³ Now When They Came To Marah, They Could Not Drink The Waters Of Marah, For They *Were* Bitter. ²⁴ And The People Grumbled Against Moses, Saying, "What Shall We Drink?"

²⁵ So He Cried Out To The LORD, And The LORD Showed Him A Tree. When He Cast *It* Into The Waters, The Waters Were Made Sweet.

God had promised them "a Land With Brooks, Streams, and Deep Springs Gushing Out Into The Valleys And Hills. They just could not hold on to that and build their faith. If they did, God would have given them water now and also made their journey shorter than 40 years.

c. Bread as Manna (Exo 16)

16 And They Journeyed From Elim, And All The Congregation Of The Children Of Israel Came To The Wilderness Of Sin, ...² Then The Whole Congregation Of The Children Of Israel Grumbled Against Moses And Aaron. ³ ... "Oh, That We Had Died By The Hand Of The LORD In The Land Of Egypt, When We Sat By The Pots Of Meat *And* When We Ate Bread To The Full! For You Have Brought Us Out Into This Wilderness To Kill This Whole Assembly With Hunger."

Brethren, this is a people that God promised "8 A Land With Wheat and Barley, Vines And Fig Trees, Pomegranates, Olive Oil and Honey." yet they just could not trust God.

- **d. Golden Calf (Exodus 32):** Test continued and their journey elongated The People Began to Doubt God's leading and opted to worship a golden Calf
- ⁹ And The LORD Said To Moses, "I Have Seen This People, And Indeed It *Is* A stiff-necked People!
- ¹⁰ Now Therefore, Let Me Alone, That My Wrath May Burn Hot Against Them And I May consume Them. And I Will Make Of You A Great Nation."

e. Discouragement after land was spied: God's anger aroused and all men that left Egypt at 20 years will not enter the land

NUMBERS 32: 10-11

¹⁰ The LORD's Anger Was Aroused That Day And He Swore This Oath:

11 'Because They Have Not Followed Me Wholeheartedly, Not One Of Those Who Were Twenty Years Old Or More When They Came Up Out Of Egypt Will See The Land I Promised On Oath To Abraham, Isaac And Jacob— 12 Not One Except Caleb And Joshua, For They Followed The LORD Wholeheartedly.' 13 The LORD's Anger Burned Against Israel And He Made Them Wander In The Wilderness Forty Years, Until The Whole Generation Of Those Who Had Done Evil In His Sight Was Gone.

--- SAD, Unending search for the Mastercraft because of unbelieve and not following God Wholeheartedly.

LESSONS:

Mastercraft is sure - Land following with milk and honey which the Lord promised to give you.

- **a.** There is a distance between where we are now & where we are going (the land)
- D. A journey is required. In this journey, there will be moments of comfort and moments of discomfort. Psalm 61:2 David Said "From The End Of The Earth Will I Cry To You, When My Heart Is Overwhelmed: Lead Me To The Rock That Is Higher Than I." And they that know their God must be strong to do exploits. Israel did not demonstrate that they know their God.
- C. We must be sensitive; know that God will test our faith; And He is watching to see how we handle the test.
- **d.** Obedience to the Spirit is key. Hear God and follow Him
- **e.** Listen to the voice of God and follow Him.
- f. God has already prepared the destination and He knows what is in it
 - I. God described Canaan to Israelites ahead of time
 - II. He described what to expect to Elijah before He asked him to start the journey (2 King 17:3-5)
- g. We are Moses and Aaron of our time, we must pray continuously, earnestly and fervently

Brethren, lets journey well with God as we create our Mastercraft.

Prayer Point (for Self):

God, I want to create the Mastercarft, within my domain, this year:

- I ask for grace to be steady, be obedient and be connected with the Holy Spirit.
- Help me to understand and demonstrate the required sensitivity.
- Help me to stay away from sin and unbelieve.
- Help me to be fervent and earnest in prayer to the end.