

# AN INCREDIBLE JOURNEY FORESHADOWING THE FUTURE



Now a new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph (Ex. 1:8). There is a lot to consider in this few words, for they take us to the beginning when Joseph was sold to an officer of Pharaoh as a slave. However, God was with him and through all his life in Egypt, he prospered to become second to the King. Finding favor with him, Joseph moved his family from Canaan to Egypt, where they stayed 430 years. The Israelites, after so many years in that land, prospered and never returned to Canaan. That seemed to be the story of Israel throughout history after they were taken captives to another land. Not until pressure of persecution to the point of their death, do they return home, but not all. Let's remember Hitler's day. How many were killed? How many are still in that land today, including the whole of Europe? What will take them to realize the way home? History has been repeating itself over and over in the lives of Israel; today they call it anti-Semitism. After the slaughter of many of their ancestors in Hitler's day Israel has said, "Never again." But it will not be so, until they go home.

In the days of Egypt, after 430 years, a king arose who did not know about Joseph, neither cared one way or another to know, planned to overwork the Israelites by

afflicting and oppressing them with increase work to the point of “severe slavery.” That not being enough, the king ordered the midwives to kill all Israel’s baby boys at the point of their birth, for he said, Behold, the Israelites are too many and too mighty for us. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply more and should war befall us, they join our enemies fight against us, and escape out of the land (Ex. 1:9-10). At that time, Moses was born, but escaped through the shrewdness of his mother when he was adopted by the king’s daughter. Forty years he lived in the palace, but when he could no longer bear the suffering of his people, he killed an Egyptian, and had to flee to the desert to escape the hand of Pharaoh. He lived in the wilderness in the land of Midian for another forty years, when God called him to deliver His people from their suffering. By the time Pharaoh started his pressure on Israel until God delivered them from Egypt it was about eighty years.

The incredible Israel’s journey of deliverance began right at the Passover time, after God dealt with Egypt by bringing it plagues and the death of their firstborn, including the animals. Israel, however, were protected from all the judgement sent to the Egyptians, including the last one. For that, they were marked with the lamb’s blood used for the sacrifice in that Passover day. The Lord instructed them how to eat the Passover just before leaving Egypt by saying, You shall eat it thus: your loins girded, your shoes on your feet, and your staff in your hand; and you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord’s Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt this night and will smite all the firstborn in the land of Egypt , both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment. I am the Lord. The blood shall be for a token or sign to you upon the houses where you are, when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague shall be upon you to destroy you when I smite the land of Egypt (Ex. 12:11-13). Israel left Egypt mourning for their dead. However, God gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they gave them what they asked. And they stripped the Egyptians (Ex. 12:36). At the end of the 430 years, even that very day, all the hosts of the Lord went out of Egypt (vs .41).

That happened in 1639 B.C on a Thursday evening, May 4<sup>th</sup>. It seemed a long time since God promised Abraham the land of Canaan for his offspring. A long time in a human mind, for we do have a short life span, but not for God, since He does not live in the measure of time. He is time and He is forever. In the plenitude of His time, God delivered Israel from the hands of the Egyptians to form out of

them a nation; a peculiar nation, unlike all the nations around them. God led them through a desert, a fiery desert, to teach them to fear Him, to acknowledge Him as their God through all the miracles and signs that they were going to witness in their distresses and trials. God also led them not by way of the land of the Philistines, although that way was nearer; for God said, Lest the people change their purpose when they see war and return to Egypt. But God led the people around by way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. (Ex.13:17-18a).

The Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night (Ex. 13:21). That was a strong expression of God's protection toward the people, strong enough to convince all of them and confirm to them that He is the only true God. The first trial arose in the first days of their journey, not long after they had left Egypt. The Egyptians had decided to come after them with 600 chosen chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt, with officers over all of them... When Pharaoh drew near, the Israelites looked up, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them; and the Israelites were exceedingly frightened and cried out to the Lord (Ex. 14:7, 10). Moses assured them of God's deliverance saying, Fear not; stand still and see the salvation of the Lord which He will work for you today, for the Egyptians you have seen today you shall never see again (Ex. 14:13). Israel was facing two problems of magnitude strength: the Egyptian army behind them and the Red Sea before them. Egypt is a type of the dragon in the latter days persecuting the remnant of Israel. Revelation twelve is a passage of past and future prophecies which concerns the birth of YAHSHUA and the future of the nation of Israel during the tribulation time. Verse six reads: and the woman (Israel) fled into the desert, where she has a retreat prepared by God, in which she is to be fed and kept safe for 1,260 days (42 months; three and one half years). The woman was supplied with the two wings of a giant eagle, so that she might fly from the presence of the serpent into the desert... then out of his mouth the serpent spouted forth water like a flood after the woman, that she might be carried off with the torrent. But the earth came to the rescue of the woman; the ground opened its mouth and swallowed up the stream of water which the dragon had spouted from his mouth (Rev. 12:6, 14, 15).

When the Egyptians narrowed Israel down to the Sea, God came and rescued them by dividing the sea so that they crossed it on dry ground. The Egyptians, however, were swallowed up by the Red Sea, when Moses stretched forth his

hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its strength and normal flow when the morning appeared; and the Egyptians fled into it and the Lord overthrew the Egyptians and shook them off into the midst of the sea (Ex. 14: 16,27). As God carried the nation of Israel on eagles' wings and brought them to Himself through the desert, so will He once again supply eagle's wings for Israel's remnant to flee from the presence of the devil- the serpent to the desert. It was the blood of a sacrificial lamb on their doorpost that guaranteed their salvation; it will be that the remnant will overcome the devil by means of the blood of the Lamb and by the utterance of their testimony (Rev. 12:11).

Egypt is also a type of the world where we feel comfortable and at ease with its ways and with its foods, and pleasures. It fattens us and it makes us spiritually lazy. But God calls His people out of it to join Him in the desert, where we will experience Him in the supernatural ways. There, He is absolute, His power is visible and there, we must depend on Him. His Holy Spirit guarantees us our salvation. The journey will be long, tiring and sometimes frustrating. But know for sure, that there will be no heaven, unless we journey through the desert of sanctification.