

## The Righteousness of the Divine Character (Psalm 105; 106)

The reliability of YAHWEH'S word confirms Who he is. The righteousness of His character is seeing all through His precious word, the Bible. When He chose Abraham to be the father of the nation He was going to create to bring forth His Son, YAHSHUA as the Savior of the world, He demonstrated His love to the world lost in sin, at the same time, the holiness of His character. He desired not that the world would stay lost and chained by the power of the evil one; He desired not that the world stayed submerged in guilt of their sin and being led to destruction. He desired that men would be free from the power of sin to be more like Him, as He had created him to be for the glory of His name. When He called Abraham to fulfill His love to humankind He said to him, Go for yourself away from your country, from your relatives and your father's house, to the land that I will show you, and I will make you a great nation, and I will bless you and make your name famous and distinguished, and you will be a blessing (Gen. 12). For that to happen Abraham had to obey the commands of God; first to leave his family, his country, and his gods. Abraham was faithful in all he was told to do, even in the command to sacrifice his son. For that reason God said to him, I have sworn by Myself that since you have done this and have not withheld or begrudged your son, your only son, in blessing I will bless you and in multiplying I will multiply your descendants like the stars of the heavens and like the sand on the seashore; and your Seed will possess the gate of His enemies; and in your Seed all the nations of the earth be blessed and bless themselves, because you have heard and obeyed My voice (Gen. 22: 16-18). Abraham was seventy-five years old when the Lord called him to leave his family and his country to start on a new journey in his life. This journey would be different than any other, because his life was now a vessel in the hand of God to fulfill His plan of salvation for the world. Age was not a matter for God, as we see here. Seventy-five was not old, neither was one hundred, twenty-five years later when God finalized His promise to him, giving him the son of the promise. He said to Abraham, I am the Almighty God; walk and live habitually before Me and be perfect and I will make My covenant between Me and you and will multiply you exceedingly; as for Me, behold, My covenant is with you, and you shall be the father of many nations (Gen. 17). He also told him that his descendants would be residents in a foreign land for 400 hundred years, serving as slaves; but in the fourth generation they would come back to Canaan. Because God is eternal and His plans are from everlasting to everlasting, the space of time that took for Him to fulfill His promise to Abraham, meaning two thousand years, proved that He is forever. Salvation had been promised through God's Son to Adam and Eve when they first sinned two thousand years earlier and in Abraham God was going to start the process to accomplish what He had promised in Genesis 3:15. All this was included in His plan, even before Abraham existed.

The next step God took was to choose Joseph, one of the sons of Jacob, by allowing his brothers to sell him as a slave in Egypt, in order to save his family from a famine that was to come all over the world. In fact, Joseph was only seventeen when he went to Egypt as a slave; and in the period of thirteen years God removed him from the dungeon of slavery and positioned him to be a ruler of Egypt; he was then thirty years old when he started a new chapter in his life, in the time frame that God wanted to use him to save his family. They remained in Egypt for four

hundred and thirty years when God chose Moses to deliver them from bondage of suffering in the hands of the Egyptians. Moses was then eighty years old, seemly old to us, but not to God, Who took these eighty years to prepare him to be a leader of Israel journeying through the desert to the Promise Land. First and wonders before Pharaoh to prove him the existence of the true God. On the day of He saved Moses by allowing him to be adopted by Pharaoh's daughter when he was a baby. Moses lived in the palace for forty years, before he killed an Egyptian and had to flee to the desert of Median, where he lived forty years. It was there that God called him to deliver Israel from slavery. He gave him power to perform miracles. Before their exit from Egypt, the Lord commanded them to seal their doorposts with the blood of the lamb they were to kill and eat that night. They were to leave Egypt in a hurry, with loins girded, shoes on, and staff on their hand; with no time to waste. God led them by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea, a much longer way, so that they would not turn around to go back to Egypt. When they had reached the Red Sea God ordered Moses to stretch out his hand over the Sea, He divided it for them to pass through the midst of it in dry ground. So it was that at the end of 430 years, to the very day, Israel went out of Egypt to the Promised Land. This experience was a "night of watching unto the Lord"; He went before them in a pillar of cloud by day and in a pillar of fire by night. These pillars did not depart from them all the days of their journey to the Promised Land. The Lord fed them manna from heaven until they reached Canaan and provided water from a rock when they were thirsty. For forty years, their shoes and clothes did not wear out.

The Lord God created the nation of Israel to bring forth His Son, YAHSHUA their Messiah and Savior of the world. In the covenant with Abraham, God said, In your seed (YAHSHUA) shall all the nations of the earth be blessed, because you have heard and obeyed My voice (Gen. 22:18). God's covenant with Abraham was more than just forming a nation from Abraham's descendants. The deeper meaning of this covenant was the bringing forth His Son through Abraham's descendants. God lead them for forty years through the desert teaching them ordinances and commandments that were godly; and taught them to worship Him, the only true God. He was their King. Israel's years of living in Egypt had erased the true God from their minds to worship the Egyptian gods, as it was the case in the desert when they started in their journey. The covenant God had made with Abraham, He sworn to Isaac, and confirmed to Jacob, as a statute and to Israel as an everlasting covenant.

To free Israel from Egyptian bondage, He showed signs and wonders and miracles; He made the land of Egypt dark, He turned its waters into blood, causing the fish to die; frogs covered the land in abundance; swarms of beetles, flies and mosquitoes and lice; He send hail and rain with lightening like flaming fire, locust and grasshoppers ate the vegetation and devoured the fruit of their ground. And at the end they lost all their first born sons. God's purpose had to be fulfilled in the plenitude of time. Two thousand years later all came to be as He had promised Abraham "When the proper time had fully come, God sent His Son, born of a woman, born subject to the Law to purchase the freedom of those who were subject to the Law, that we might be adopted and have sonship conferred upon us" (Gal. 4:4) to prove the righteousness of His divine character, or for His name sake no matter how long it took for it be fulfilled.

YAHSHUA came and bought us back with his own blood, redeeming us from the eternal condemnation of sin. We are in covenant with Him, the covenant of blood; it is a new covenant, as He told His disciples at the last supper before His trials and death: For this is My blood of the new covenant, which [ratifies the agreement and] is being poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins (Matt. 26:28). With our God there is no limit of time; He has no beginning and no end. His promises endure forever; what He promised He will do in His time. The fulfillment of the promise to Abraham constitutes an example for us to understand His eternity. His space of time is unlimited, for He is the Creator of time. Almost two thousand years ago He promised to return to take us to heaven; many have discredited such promise, because (according to them) He is late in accomplishing it. Abraham and Sarah thought to be old and did laugh at the promise of having a child in their old age. But our Lord is never late, never fails us in fulfilling His promise, for He cannot do that. The righteousness of His character is sure; His word stands firm in heaven as the Psalmist says in the pages of His word, the Bible. The Apostle Peter in his second letter said, Nevertheless, do not let this one fact escape you, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day; the Lord does not delay and is not tardy or slow about what He promised, according to some people's conception of slowness, but He is long-suffering toward you, not desiring that any should perish, but that all should turn to repentance (II Peter 3:8-9).

The wait will be worth it all when we see Christ, our Savior; when His glory will be revealed and when "as He is, so shall we be also". Meanwhile, let's be eager to be found by Him without spot or blemish and at peace, growing in grace and recognition and knowledge and understanding of our Lord and Savior YAHSHUA the Messiah (II Peter 3:14,18).