

He that
OVERCOMETH

shall inherit all things; and I will be
his God, and he shall be my son.

Revelation 21:7

**The Necessity of the
Wilderness**



- We have been learning about Jesus being a **Priest** and **King**.
- We have been learning that our walk of **salvation is progressive**.
- God wants to **take us through** the pressure.
- Let's look at this scripture:
 - And it came to pass, when Pharaoh had let the people go, that God led them not *through* the way of the land of the Philistines, although that *was* near; for God said, Lest **peradventure the people repent when they see war**, and they return to Egypt:
 - **But God led the people about, *through the way of the wilderness*** of the Red sea: and the children of Israel went up harnessed out of the land of Egypt. Exodus 13:17-18



- We live in a day of **instant** things.
- We can walk into a room and get **instant** light by flipping a button.
- We get up in the morning and drink **instant** coffee and eat **instant** grits.
- **God doesn't believe in "short cuts".**
- Israel had **not yet** been proven.
- **They were not ready for warfare.**
- We must see the love of God in **leading Israel through the wilderness.**
- Are you glad that **He will take you through?**
- There are those who **cry to be delivered** from God's plan of salvation.
- But when **we run from a problem**, we take it to the other side of the fence, because **the problem is internal.**



- I'll guarantee you that we can't take our unrighteousness into the Kingdom.
 - Know ye not that the **unrighteous** shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not **deceived**: neither **fornicators**, nor **idolaters**, nor **adulterers**, nor **effeminate**, nor **abusers** of themselves with mankind,
 - Nor **thieves**, nor **covetous**, nor **drunkards**, nor **revilers**, nor **extortioners**, shall inherit the kingdom of God.
 - And such were some of you: **but ye are washed**, but ye are **sanctified**, but ye are **justified** in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God. 1 Corinthians 6:9-11
- God lead His people **THROUGH** the way of the wilderness.
- The Word says that:
 - Then was JESUS [was] **LED** up of the **SPIRIT** into the **WILDERNESS** to be tempted of the devil.... For as many as are **LED by the Spirit of God**, they are the sons of God. Matthew 4:1, Romans 8:14



- There is an “**ARE LED**” company.
- Not USED to be LED, or WANT to be LED, but “**ARE LED**”.
- **He that had an ear, let him hear.**
- Those who are **hearing the voice of God’s Spirit** in this hour are being **brought through**.
 - “And the children of Israel went up **HARNESSED** out of the land of Egypt.” Exodus 13:18
- **Harnessed** means “staunch, to be stout, in **battle**.”
- At first glance, that seems to be a good thing, but a closer look will reveal that **this baby nation had a mind of its own.**



- When we are first **delivered** from the bondage of sin, we want to go out and **conquer** the world.
- It takes a while to learn that **the battle is the Lord's**.
 - Lest peradventure the people **repent when they see war**, and they **return** to Egypt. Exodus 13:17
- Can you picture this homemade army?
- They were **doing the best they knew how**.
- I can hear them now, “Let’s get **organized**, Moses.”
- But you cannot turn a **slave** into a **soldier** overnight.



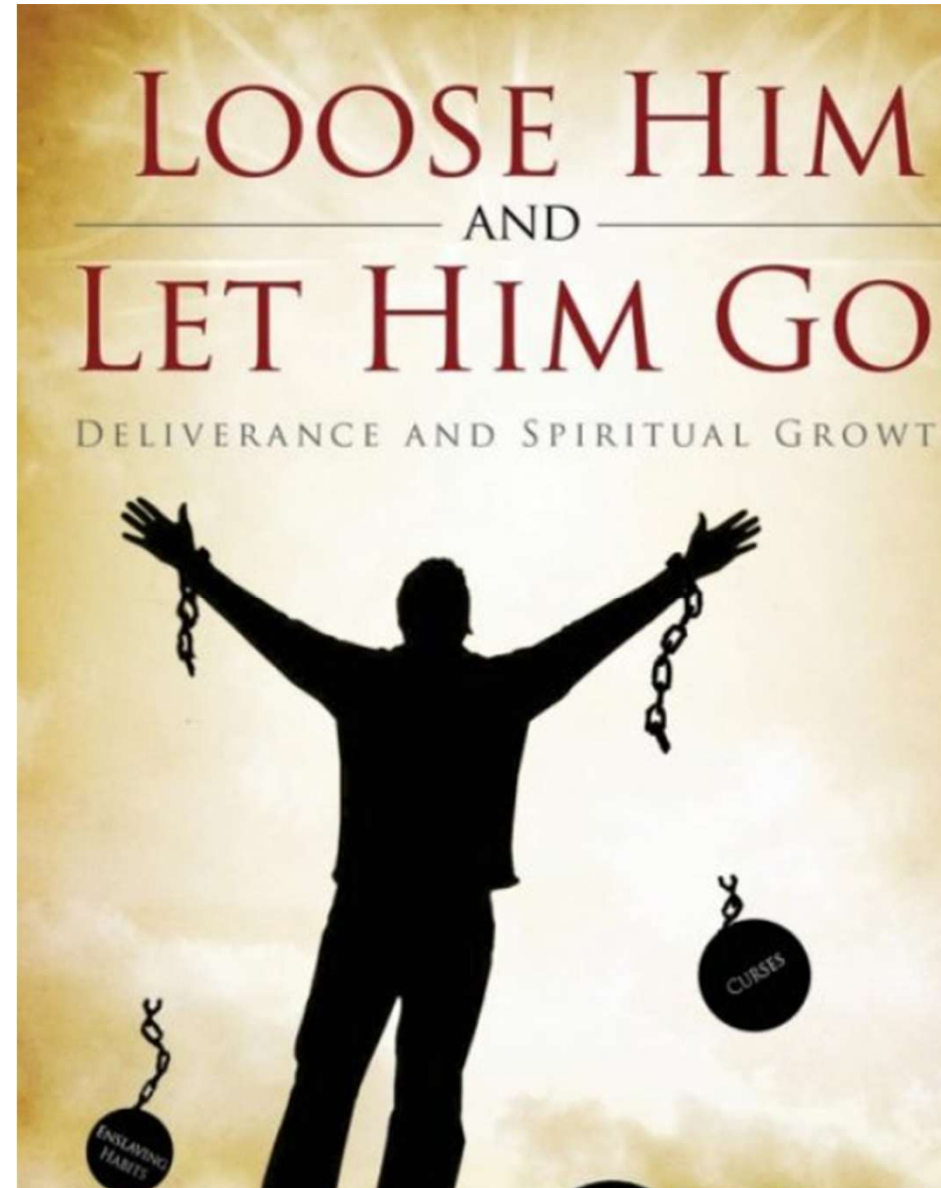
- In a **time of pressure**, the **slave nature** will come forth.
 - And when Pharaoh drew nigh, **the children of Israel lifted up their eyes**, and, behold, the **Egyptians marched after them**; and they were sore **AFRAID**: and the children of Israel **cried out** unto the LORD.
 - And they said unto Moses, **Because there were no graves in Egypt, hast thou taken us away to die in the wilderness?** ...And Moses said unto the people, **Fear ye not, stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will shew to you to day:** for the Egyptians whom ye have seen to day, ye shall see them again no more for ever.
 - **The LORD shall FIGHT for you**, and ye shall hold your peace. Exodus 14:10-14
- The battle array had disintegrated into CHAOS.
- Those who had been harnessed in their homemade armor were not harnessed by their own fears.



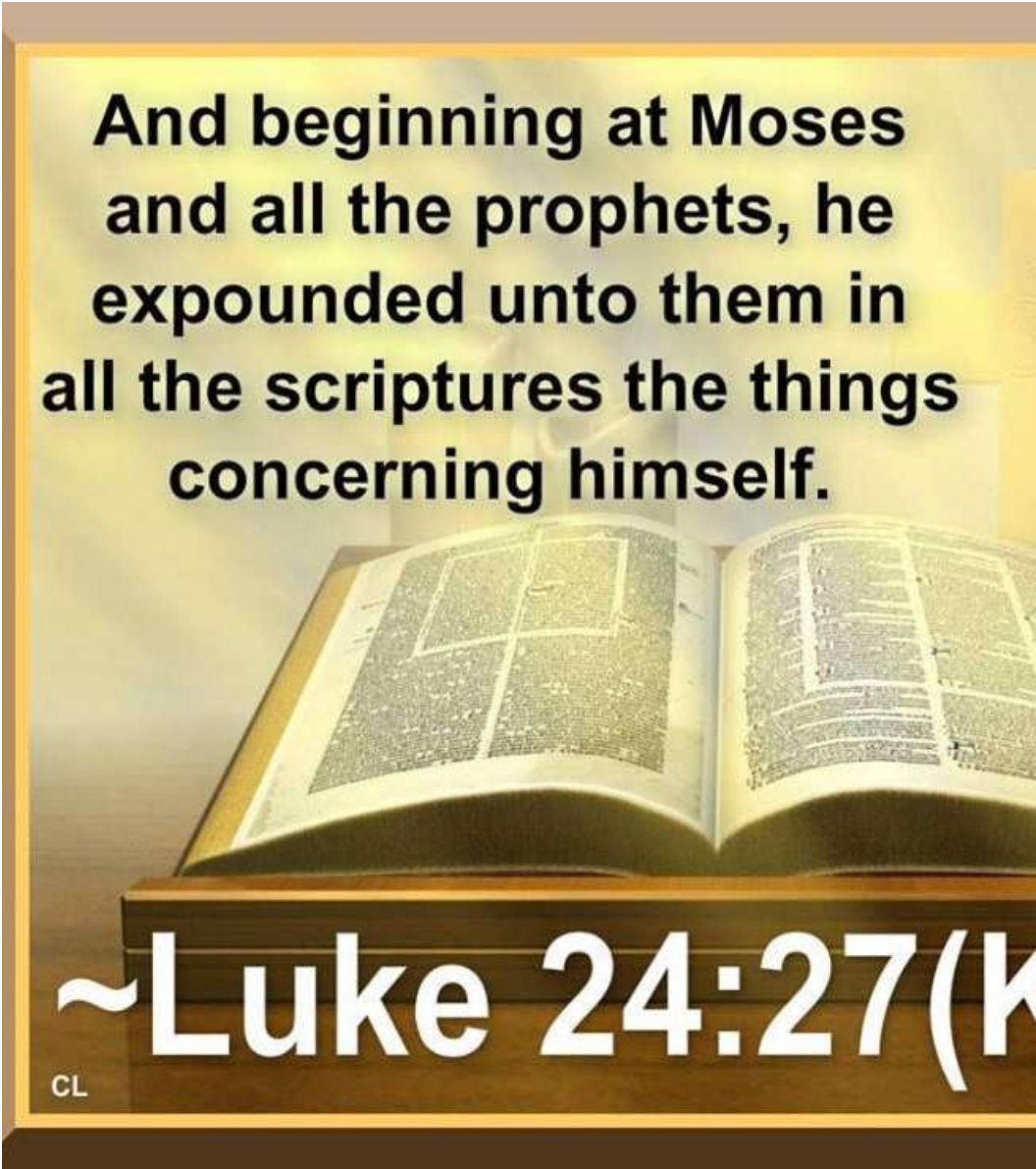
- We must understand that just because we have been saved or born again does not mean we have come into complete liberty (freedom).
- **We have been brought up out of Egypt, but Egypt has not been brought up out of us.**
- Do you remember the raising of Lazarus?
 - And he that was **DEAD** came forth, **BOUND** hand and foot with **GRAVECLOTHES**: and his face was **BOUND** about with a napkin. Jesus saith unto them, **Loose him, and let him go....** And you *hath he quickened*, who were **DEAD** in trespasses and sins. John 11:44, Ephesians 2:1
- There are many things about us that are **still harnessed** and **shackled** and **bound**.



- The story of Lazarus is a beautiful picture of what I am saying, Praise God that we have been **raised from the death of trespasses and sins!**
- But did you know that **we came forth** from that experience **bound** from head to foot?
- There must be a further word from the Holy Ghost that says, “**Loose him and let him go!**”
- **It is not enough to be born again.**
- **You must be loosed!**
- We need to be **released** in our **minds, works, and walk.**
- We need **liberty** in our **seeing, hearing, and speaking.**



Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea; And were all **baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea**; And did all **eat** the same spiritual meat; And did all **drink** the same spiritual drink: for they **drank of that spiritual Rock** that followed them: and that **Rock was Christ**...Now all these things **HAPPENED** unto them for **ensamples**: and they are **WRITTEN** for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come...For whatsoever things were **WRITTEN** aforetime were **written for our learning**, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope...And beginning at Moses and all the prophets, he [JESUS] expounded unto them in all the scriptures the things **concerning himself**. 1 Corinthians 10:1-4,11; Romans 15:4; Luke 24:27



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~Luke 24:27(K

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- All that **has happened** and all that **has been written** is for **US!**
- **All Scripture is God-breathed and profitable.**
 - All scripture *is given by inspiration of God*, and *is profitable* for doctrine, for **reproof**, for **correction**, for **instruction** in righteousness. 2 Timothy 3:16
- The **Lord Jesus revealed Himself from the law of Moses**, the prophets and the psalms.
 - And he said unto them, **These are the words which I spake unto you**, while I was yet with you, **that all things must be fulfilled**, which were written in the law of **Moses**, and *in* the **prophets**, and *in* the **psalms**, concerning me. Luke 24:44
- We have been brought **out of Egypt** by the blood of the Passover Lamb, but **we are still harnessed**.
 - The next day John seeth Jesus coming unto him, and saith, **Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world**. John 1:29



- **We need the wilderness.**
- In the Bible the wilderness speaks of **discipline, testing, trial, pressure, purification.**
- **Stop kicking against the very thing that God has provided to set you free.**
- **God knows what He is doing.**
 - And thou shalt remember all the way which the **LORD thy God LED** thee these forty years in the **WILDERNESS, to HUMBLE thee, and to PROVE thee, to know what was in thine heart, whether thou wouldest keep his commandments, or no.**
Deuteronomy 8:2
- “To Know” could be rendered as “**to get to know**”.
- God wanted to **get to know** His people.



- But beyond that, He wanted **His people** to get **to know themselves** and **the God that was leading them**.
- Jehovah already **knew the hearts** of His people.
- **He knows your heart and mine.**
- But God wants us to **know** even **as we are known**.
 - For now we see through a glass, darkly; **but then face to face**: now I know in part; but **then shall I know even as also I am known**. 1 Corinthians 13:12
- God wants us to be as **confident** in the **One who is in us as He is**.
- We are **maturing** in our knowledge of the Son **who is within us**.
 - Till **we all come in the unity of the faith**, and of the **knowledge** of the Son of God, unto a **perfect man**, unto the **measure** of the stature of the fulness of Christ. Ephesians 4:13
 - And because ye are sons, **God hath sent forth the Spirit of his Son into your hearts**, crying, Abba, Father. Galatians 4:6



**FOR NOW WE SEE
THROUGH A GLASS,
DARKLY; BUT THEN
FACE TO FACE**

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- The Father knows **what** we are **becoming**.
- He sees the **end** from the **beginning**.
- He wants **us** to **see** and to **know** ourselves as **He sees** and **knows** us.
- **The wilderness is necessary.**
- There are no options or shortcuts.
- We will never know **how strong we are in God** until we have been **proven**.



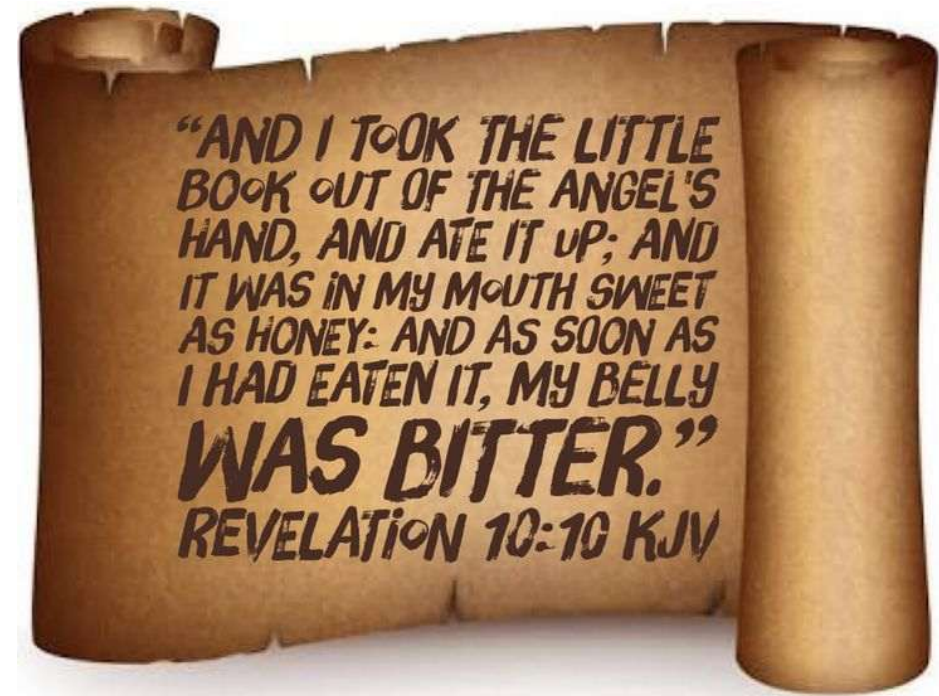
- Much has been said across the Body of Christ in the **faith** and **prosperity** message concerning our position in Christ and the need of speaking it into being.
- It is true, **you are what you say you are.**
- The first three chapters of Ephesians deals with the **WEALTH** of the believer, but we know that the last three chapters of Ephesians deal with the **WALK** and the **WARFARE** of the believer.
- We must understand **the need for balance.**
- Yes, God wants us to **prosper** and be in **good health.**
- But often our idea of **wealth** and **prospering** is not in line with God's plan.



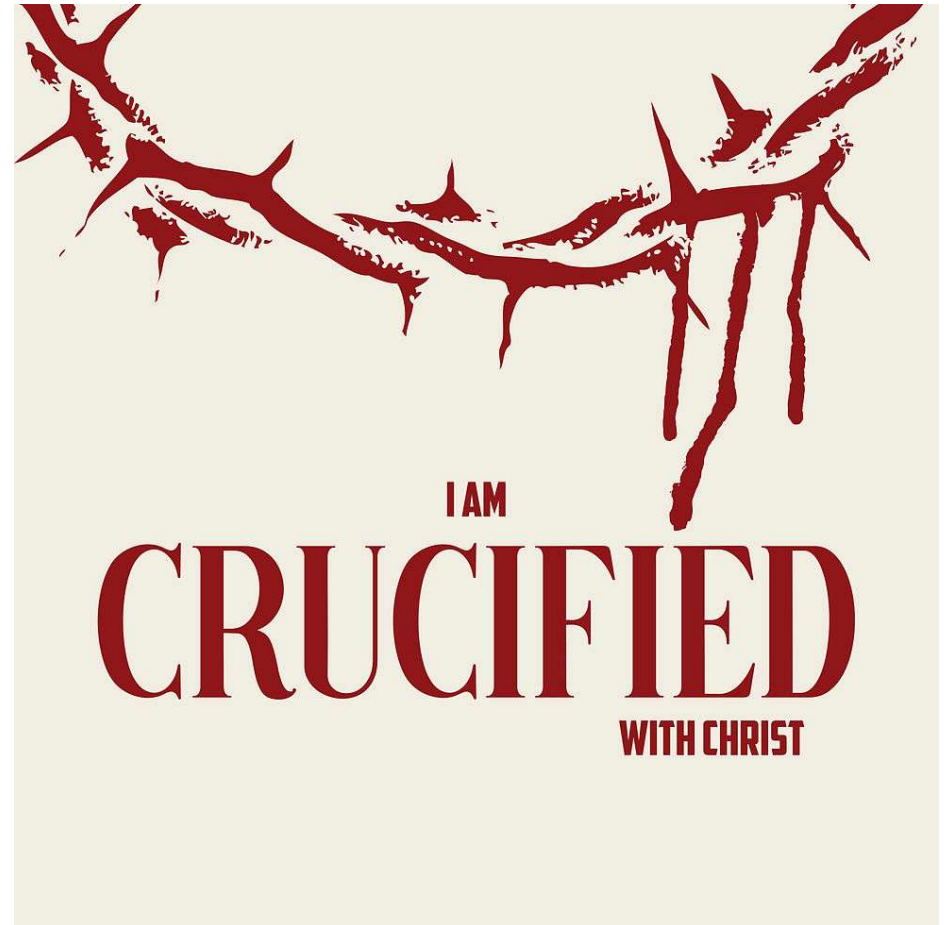
- God wants us to **press through tribulation!**
- You and I must be **discerning** and get a solid, **balanced** perspective of **God's plan** for our lives, or we are going to **miss the very thing that can save us.**
- There has been a subtle principle creeping through the body of Christ that says that **ANYTHING negative** or adverse is **wrong.**
- **God sent Israel into an environment of adversity.**
- We must have a **balanced diet of spiritual things.**
- A **balanced diet of the Word** is needed to be strong and healthy in Jesus.



- Jesus will **take us through tribulation!**
 - And when we departed from Horeb, **we went THROUGH** all that **GREAT and TERRIBLE wilderness**, which ye saw by the way of the mountain of the Amorites, as the LORD our God commanded us; and we came to Kadesh-barnea. Deuteronomy 1:19
- **Note that God's people are still going THROUGH.**
- In talking about **BALANCE**, we must understand that the wilderness is **GREAT** and the wilderness is **TERRIBLE**.
- Just like spinach. You may think it doesn't taste good, but it is good for you.
- Some Christians are like little children – they only want to eat that which is good **TO** them, but not necessarily that which is good **FOR** them.
- **We have to eat ALL of the spinach.** It is good for us.
 - And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book. And he said unto me, Take *it*, and eat it up; and **it shall make thy belly BITTER**, but **it shall be in thy mouth SWEET** as honey...and it was in my mouth sweet as honey: and as soon as I had eaten it, my belly was bitter. Revelation 10:9-10
 - Moreover he said unto me, Son of man, eat that thou findest; eat this roll, and go speak unto the house of Israel. So I opened my mouth, and he caused me to eat that roll. And he said unto me, Son of man, cause thy belly to eat, and fill thy bowels with this roll that I give thee. **Then did I eat it; and it was in my mouth as honey for SWEETNESS.** Ezekiel 3:1-3



- God told John and Ezekiel to **EAT** the Word.
- Learn this principle: in **your mouth the Word is sweet like honey**, but in **your belly, in your innermost being, it becomes bitter**.
- Some of you have begun to **taste** of the **painful reality** of what it means to be **crucified with Christ**.
- We will never fellowship the **power of His resurrection** in our lives until we have **fellowshipped the sufferings** of our Lord.
 - I am **crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live**; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the **faith** of the Son of God, **who loved me, and gave himself for me**. Galatians 2:20



- Yea doubtless, and I **count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord:** for whom I **have suffered the loss of all things**, and do **count them *but* dung**, that I may win Christ,
- And be found in him, **not having mine own righteousness**, which is of the law, but that which is **through the faith of Christ**, the righteousness which is of God by faith:
- **That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings**, being made **conformable unto his death**;
- If by any means I **might attain unto the resurrection** of the dead. Philippians 3:8-11
- **Some of you are running from that.**
- So God has arranged for you to **hear** this so you can **repent** and **change** your mind and **get on the right track**.

whatever gain I had
I count as **LOSS**
for the sake of
CHRIST

- I want you to be an **overcomer**. I really do.
- I don't want you to be filled with **frustration**.
- I learned something a long time ago: if you want to know what the Bible **means**, then first see what the Bible **SAYS**.
 - We went **THROUGH** all that **GREAT** and **TERRIBLE** wilderness. Deuteronomy 1:19
- Now instead of the word, “**wilderness**” insert that **person** or **thing** that God has custom-built for **YOUR development**.
- Know what is happening to you who are crying out in the spirit to be like the Lord: you are being **processed** and **matured** and **trained** and **changed**!



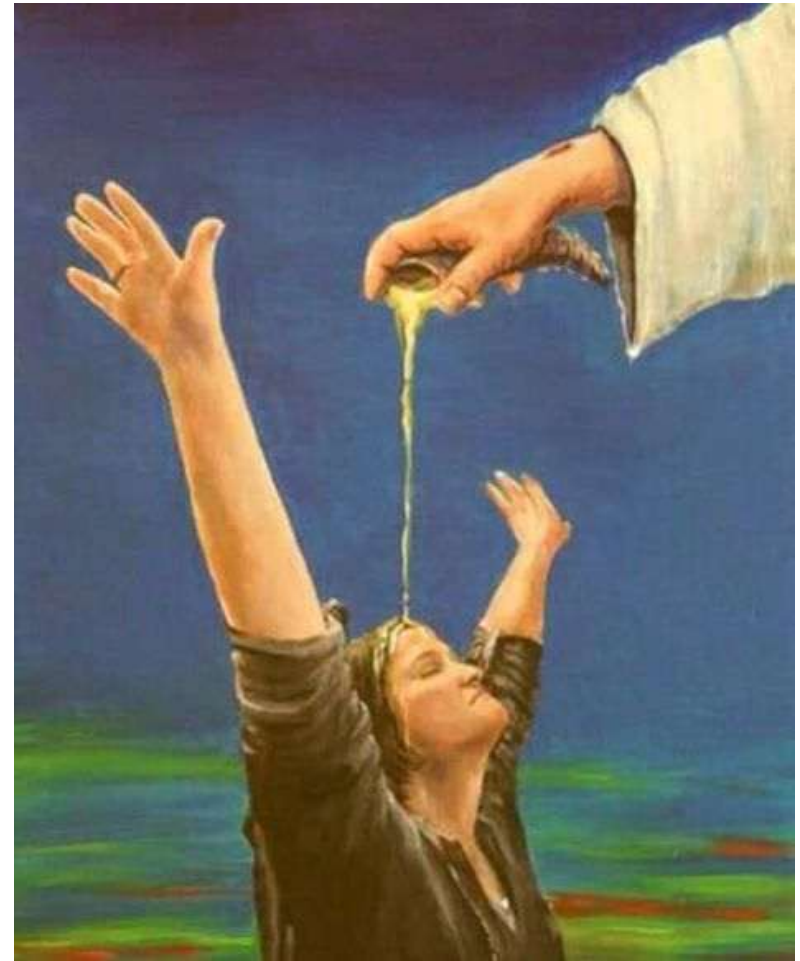
- One extreme in the land proclaims the **great** things.
- The other tangent can only project the **terrible** things.
- I believe in **faith** and **prosperity**, but I also believe in the **wilderness** dealings that will make these truths work themselves out in **reality** and **practicality**.
 - For the LORD thy God hath **BLESSED** thee in all the works of thy hand: he **KNOWETH** thy walking **THROUGH** this great wilderness: these forty years the LORD thy God *hath been* with thee; **THOU HAST LACKED NOTHING**. Deuteronomy 2:7
- **Praise His Name! Isn't that wonderful?**
- We should **rejoice!**



For the Lord thy God hath blessed thee in all the works of thy hand: he knoweth thy walking through this great wilderness: these forty years the Lord thy God hath been with thee; thou hast lacked nothing.

DEUTERONOMY 2:7 KJV

- God can furnish a **table in the wilderness**.
 - Yea, they **spake against God**; they said, Can **God furnish a table in the wilderness**? Psalms 78:19
- In the **presence of your enemies** your cup will run over.
 - Thou **preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies**: thou **anointest my head with oil**; **my cup runneth over**. Psalms 23:5
- God is **faithful** in the **wilderness**.
- He knows **every step** that we have taken.
- He knows **the way** that we take.
- **The wilderness is the way to life.**
- The majority **DIE** in the wilderness.



- We must mix the **Word** with **faith**.
 - For unto us was **the gospel preached**, as well as unto them: but **the word preached did not profit them, not being mixed with faith** in them that heard *it*. Hebrews 4:2
- We must **walk** in what we have **heard**.
- God has **done** all that He can do.
- All that remains is the **KEY** to life, the **key** to Canaan.
- What is your **RESPONSE** to the **dealings** of God?
- Are you **angry** and **bitter**, filled with **resentment** and **rage**?
- Or are you **THANKFUL** and **BROKEN**?
- What is your **spirit**?
- What is your **attitude**?



- The carnal mind says, “I see **no value** or **purpose** to the **wilderness**”.
- The carnal mind is looking for a **loophole**.
- The carnal mind **doesn’t like or want it**.
- The **Mind of Christ**, the spiritual min of Romans 8:1-6 knows that the servant is not above his Lord.
 - *There is* therefore now **no condemnation** to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
 - For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus **hath made me free** from the law of sin and death.
 - For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, **God sending his own Son** in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh:
 - That the **righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us**, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.
 - For they that are after the flesh do mind the things of the flesh; but **they that are after the Spirit the things of the Spirit**.
 - For to be carnally minded *is* death; but to be **spiritually minded is life and peace**.
 - Because the **carnal mind is enmity against God**: for it is not subject to the law of God, neither indeed can be.
 - So then **they that are in the flesh cannot please God**. Romans 8:1-6

**Those who are
in the flesh
cannot please
God.**

ROMANS 8:8

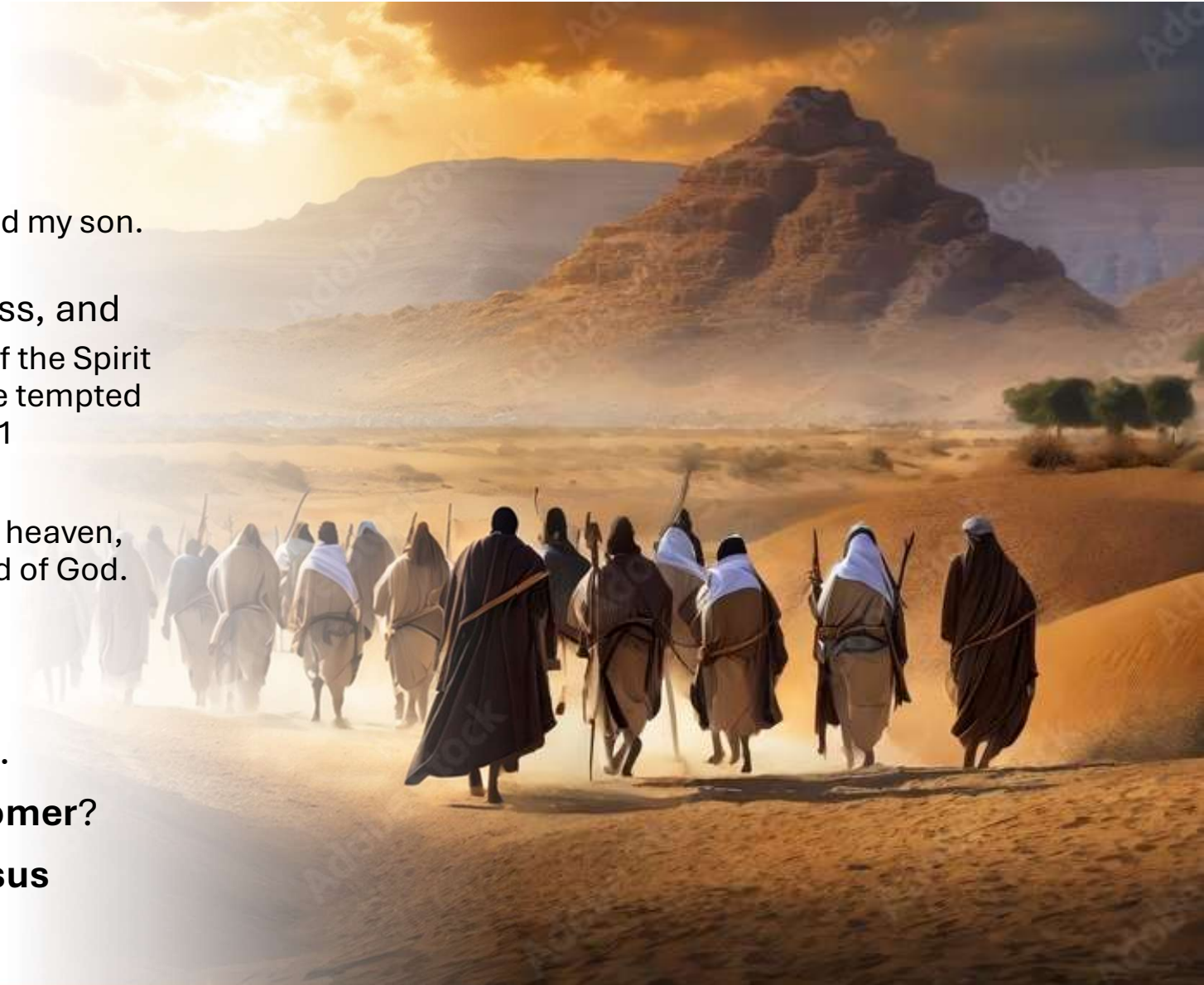
- The **disciple** is not above his **Master**.
 - The **disciple is not above *his* master**, nor the **servant above his lord**. Matthew 10:24
 - The disciple is not above his master: but **every one that is perfect shall be as his master**. Luke 6:40
- **God is looking for a people who cannot be moved or upset by anything.**
- The cry of His heart is for a people who can **share His throne** and **shepherd the nations** with a rod of iron.
 - And he that **overcometh**, and keepeth my works unto the end, **to him will I give power over the nations:**
 - And he shall rule **them with a rod of iron**; as the vessels of a potter shall they be broken to shivers: even as I received of my Father.
 - And **I will give him the morning star.**
 - He that hath an **ear**, let him hear what the **Spirit** saith unto the churches. Revelation 2:26-28



- We cannot afford the luxury of our **personal feelings**.
- **We have no rights.**
- If we do, **we'll lose them in the wilderness!**
- Your **testings** will last **as long as it takes** to **change** your **mind** and **attitude**.
- **Can we walk around in the furnace without complaining?**
- **Can we sing in the fire?**
- The key to God's whole program operating in your life is your spirit and **attitude of response** to His Word of your life.
 - Wherefore **glorify ye the LORD in the fires**, *even* the name of the LORD God of Israel in the isles of the sea. Isaiah 24:15



- The principle is this:
 - **OUT** of Egypt (the world)
 - Out of Egypt have I called my son.
Matthew 2:15
 - **THROUGH** the Wilderness, and
 - Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. Matthew 4:1
 - **INTO** the land.
 - He was received up into heaven, and sat on the right hand of God.
Mark 16:19
- We will never enjoy our **full inheritance** until we have **experienced** the wilderness.
- Do you want to be an **overcomer**?
- Then look at the **Pattern, Jesus Christ**.



Song – God will Make a Way

**God will make a way
Where there seems to be no way
He works in ways we cannot see
He will make a way for me**

**By a roadway in the wilderness
He'll lead me
Rivers in the desert will I see
Heaven and earth will fade
But His Word will still remain
He will do something new today**



[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co1MOOJI9Nc&list=RD
Co1MOOJI9Nc&start_radio=1](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Co1MOOJI9Nc&list=RDCo1MOOJI9Nc&start_radio=1)