

Beshalach
"When he sent"

Torah Reading: Exodus 13:17 - 17:16

Haftarah Reading: Judges 4:4 - 5:31

Study Questions

1. What hermeneutic "right", if any, do we have for using the story of the Exodus as a picture for the redemption from in we have through Yeshua?
2. In addition to the lessons in this portion, what other applications of the Exodus story can you draw to your life?
3. Why did the Lord not lead Israel to Canaan by the shortest and easiest route?
4. Why did the Lord send the manna and the quail instead of feeding Israel through other means?
5. What was the lesson of the manna?
6. What attributes of God are taught through the Song of Moses? What promises are made to Israel in it?
7. Explain 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 in light of the Exodus story.
8. Why did the story of the battle with Amalek follow the complaints about no water?

Study Notes

Outline

- The Date of the Exodus
- The Account of the Exodus

The Great Debate

- Moses did not give the name of the Pharaoh from the Exodus.
- The two possible date ranges are 1200's BC and 1400's BC.

The Big Event

- This week will focus on the "Cup of Redemption".
- "The Lord said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord that He will perform for you today." Shemot 14:13

Redemption

- Redemption - the act of emancipating slaves through the payment of a price.
- The first thing we notice about redemption is the price which was paid. In Israel's case, the price was an innocent lamb.
- Redemption implies a former master. Pharaoh became angry and wanted Israel back.

- This passage teaches us that complete redemption will require the Lord entirely breaking all claims a former master has on His children.

The Helpless Ones!

- A major feature of the Exodus is the fact that it was totally carried out by God.
- All Israel had to do was walk in it.
- “While we were still sinners Messiah died for us.” Romans 5:8
- “But when the time had fully come, God sent His Son...to redeem.” Galatians 4:4
- The rabbis believed as well that not all Israel was redeemed but only those that trusted in the Lord.

Midrash and the Mikveh

- Mikveh - pool of collected fresh waters used for immersion. The mikveh pictures a womb and a grave.
- As a grave, the immersion symbolizes death. When someone comes up out of the mikveh, he is picturing a resurrection to new life.
- When Israel entered the Reed Sea they were dying to Egypt, when they came out the other side they were a new people with a new life.
- Compare 1 Corinthians 10:1-13 and replace ‘baptism’ with ‘mikveh’.

Freedom

- Redemption has to do with freedom from slavery.
- Freedom does not mean “without boundaries”. It means “changing masters”.
- Compare this with “slave to sin” and “slave to righteousness”.

Israel’s Condition

- Not yet soldiers - Shemot 13:17
- Still too young. They needed to learn from their trials - Hebrews 5:8
- They needed to learn to hear God’s voice.
- They needed to learn to stop worrying and trust God.
- Did any of these things change who they were in God’s eyes?

Reason to Praise!

- What can we learn about God and ourselves from Shemot 15?