

'IT'S JUST PAST MIDNIGHT' parable - Part 2

Exodus 11:4,5 & 12:29

RELEASED FROM BONDAGE

(Exodus 11:3) *And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.* (4) *And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt:* (5) *And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts.* (7) *But against any of the children of Israel shall not a dog move his tongue, against man or beast: that ye may know how that the LORD doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.* (Exodus 12:29) *And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.*

PASSOVER was originally instituted by God for the purpose of seeing His people **released from bondage**. What bondage were they released from? Making bricks! Bricks are entirely man-made and equates with teaching and preaching that comes from the educated connivings of so-called preachers who only know 'the letter-word' of the scriptures. Their 'laws', expectations and demands of 'you should' or 'you ought to' or 'why haven't you' place pressures on one which restricts one's growth. We may not be in a literal Egypt under some Pharaoh's control but we are nonetheless so many, many times in a straightjacket and are not free to express oneself or give input in the meetings! Having to 'toe the line' by agreeing to 'the statement of faith' which limits the Lord. God is releasing His people from bondages that they might not even be aware of. There *is a glorious liberty of the children of God*.

Above all this, each one of us there has to be a 'passing over' from the restriction of Egyptian thinking to the liberty of God's thinking. *All the first-born of Egypt shall die* . . . says the word. Now 'First-born' is that which comes forth first.

Every thought that is a reaction that comes forth first out of our mouths before any other words and most certainly before the words from the mind of Christ, is not from the Christ within. Much of our speech stems from 'Egyptian' carnality (the ways of the world engrained in us over many years) or religiosity (the ways religion has taught us to the point we thought that was all there was . . . being religious!). All this and more has been happening for a long time because we were brought up surrounded by these 'Egyptian' influences including reason and logic. They have held us in bondage for a long time making 'bricks' in building up a denominational 'Church' instead of building up the Christ life in each person. As these negative **first-born thoughts** are destroyed, then the thoughts from God can come forth first producing our actions and reactions *for out of the heart the mouth speaks*. Such has likely been our captivity for a long while (or at least to a smaller degree), but now at just **past midnight** a new day dawns and we can expect an increasing release.

It was at midnight too that God showed that there was *a difference between the Egyptian and the Israelite* It is seen by our words for God said, *My thoughts are not your thoughts*. . . we add 'until now!'. From this release onwards God led His people day and night, protected and provided for them as they walked

with Him. He does not change. He will lead you into all truth . . . the sort of truth that will set you free.

God's people in Egypt were called '*His First-born Son*' (Exodus 4:22 *Israel is My Son, even My First-born*). The first-born of Egypt died **BUT THE FIRST-BORN OF GOD WERE RELEASED INTO THEIR DESTINY**. Paul puts it like this, that he knew *he was apprehended* by God for a special purpose. Experience was now going to swallow up plain knowledge; there was a change in thinking and talking for it was a new day for them. We are exhorted to come out of 'Egypt' that we might enter into **the Promised Land of the Kingdom of God**.

The dealings of God start with *the renewing of our minds* and we are well under way in this new day because it is past **midnight**. It will be noticed when one is praying (out loud). There will be a tendency to '*speak to the mountain*' rather than beseech God to do it! There will be also **a knowing** more than **a hoping** that certain things will happen for you have been released. One's voice will take on a certain authority (faith) when declaring His thoughts and insights in a situation. **Midnight** does not release an improvement upon the old *in-part* realm, but rather a release into that which is pertaining to the fullness of the Spirit. We have walked **with** the Lord in a limited way but now He is releasing us to begin to walk **as** Him in a new freedom.