**“BONDAGE--------------------------TO THE PROMISED LAND”**

**INTRODUCTION:**

1. scripture – Titus 2:11-12

2. Immediately, as we think of this title, we remember the travels of the nation of Israel,

 from Egypt till their arrival in Canaan, the land of promise

3. As we look into “their history”, there is a sense that *“their history”* ***IS***

 *the course that we are as well traveling upon* ***presently.***

4.various times their “travels”, “deeds” are symbolical of us today.

 -a. two times in I Cor. 10, Paul speaks in this manner

 -b. verses 6 and 11 specifically

5. Their ***“physical bondage and deliverance”*** ultimately into the Promised land,

 could be compared to ***our “spiritual bondage and deliverance”*** that WILL also

 lead to our attaining a promised land.

6. We might notice their lives in some ***“basic steps”,*** that in many ways reflect

 the *“road upon which we also must travel”*

Bondage Wilderness Promised

 In Baptized Wanderings Jordan Land

 Egypt into Crossing Arrival

 Moses

Bondage Christian Promised

 In Baptized daily Heavenly

 Sin into Living Death Rest

 Christ

**THOUGHTS:**

**(I) “BONDGE BROUGHT A DELIVER”**

 1. Exodus 1:11…

 -a. slavery had come upon this nation

 -b. they were growing weary, for by themselves, ***there was no escape***

 2. Exo.1:14… lives were bitter by means of the work/as slaves

 2:11… even being beaten by their task masters

 3:9… “I have seen the oppression…”

 3. Exo 3:7-8.. a cry went forth

 I have seen their affliction

 I am aware of their sufferings

 I have come down to deliver them

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Likewise concerning us…

 A) as we have sinned – for all have … -Rom.3:23

 we are bond servants unto sin, without an ability to escape.

 And the ultimate end shall be death- eternal condemnation – Rom.6:23

 Rom.6:21

 *What benefit did you reap at that time from the things you are*

 *now ashamed of? Those things result in death!*

 B) Isa. 59:1-2… separated from then only source that could give aid – God.

 -1. Captured

 -2. In bondage to the sin that we had committed – John 8:34

 C) our situation was that, by ourselves, we had no escape..

 -a. Rom.5:8-9

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**(II) “COMMITMENT UNTO A DELIVER/SAVIOR”**

 1. Exodus 14:22…

 -a. Later in time, the apostle Paul will look back to this event, and state that

 Israel had been baptized into Moses –I Cor.10:2

 -b. God responded to their NEED – Exo.3:10

 2. A deliver was sent forth that would do, what was not possible by themselves

 3. Not just remove them from the bondage,

 but far greater was to give a “promise” beyond all they could imagine

 4. As the people acknowledged and accepted “the one” sent by the authority of God

 they “committed their lives” to his direction

 guidance Exo.4:31

 5. Their “baptism into Moses” by means of their “passing thru the Red Sea”

 ***finally freed them of the bondage,*** for all that was now “past”

 -a. as Israel passed thru on “dry ground”

 -b. the Egyptians sought to follow, and the waters, came forth and destroyed them

 -c. Exo.14:30

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Likewise concerning us

 A) thru our baptism,

 -1. forgiveness of sins – Acts 2:38

 -2. the past is removed

 -3. we are “new creatures” in Christ – II Cor.5:18

 B) It is a commitment to the “ONE” who has freed us

 -a. no longer slaves to that which brings death – Rom.6:11

 -b. Rom.6:5-6

 C) Baptized into Christ, for “HE” was the ONE sent from the Father

 -a. John 4:34

 -b. the deliver “authorized” by the Father – Heb.5:8-9

 -c. Col.3:17… the authority by which our actions/conduct is to be judged

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**(III) WILDERNESS WANDERINGSS/ “DAILY LIVING”**

 1.Their deliverer brought forth instructions by which they MUST abide

 -a. “delivered, but for as higher purpose”

 -b. for they were to “reflect” the God that had saw their need, and reacted

 -c. Lev.20:7

 2. Their deliverance was to promote “spiritual standards” that were expected

 -a. 613 laws that were implemented

 -b. for their purpose as set forth in Lev.19:2

 3. Thru their deliverance, and travels towards the Promised lands,

 expectations were REQUIRED

 -a. those who ***chose not*** to follow the rules “never made it” – Jude verse 5

 -b. years in their lives, wherein everyday conduct was to be maintained

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 Likewise concerning us---

 A) Our everyday lives, as we head towards the “Promised lands eternal”

 are to be used to demonstrate the God who has freed us – I Pet.1:15-16

 B) Phil.1:27

 C) Anything that distracts MUST be set aside - Heb.12:1-2

 ***“set aside the weights and run with patience..”***

 D) PRESENTLY, we are united with former Israel ***in this respect,***

 Seeking to follow the will of God

 Striving to overcome all that might war against our goal of the promised land

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**(IV) “CROSSING OVER”**

 1. Joshua 3:17…

 -a. Time had come, and the nation was to cross over into ALL THAT HAD BEEN PROMISED

 2. This “specific crossing” was by those who had been faithful

 who continued onward thru various trials

 3. Along the ways, those 40 years many had

 rejected God

 rebelled against God

 and fallen by the wayside --- I Cor.10:6-10

 4. many, not pictured here had started out, but for their “unbelief” not accounted here

 Hebrews 4:6

 5. heading into “territory” never having been here as yet – Joshua 3:4

 6. Those crossing over this Jordan had “followed” their God

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Likewise concerning us------

 A) we shall one day leave “this life” here – Heb.9:27

 Joshua 23:14… “I am going the way of all the earth…”

 B) if we have continued onward- I Cor.15:58

 held fast to our hope – Heb.3:6

 were faithful unto death – Rev.2:10

 C) we shall cross over into all that has been promised – John 14:1-3

 Songs we often sing refer to this..

 -1. ***On Jordan’s stormy banks*** I stand and cast a wishful eye

 We will rest in a fair and happy land

 -2. ***Just beyond the rolling river***

 Lies a bright and sunny land

 Soon we will cross the rolling river

 -3. ***When all my labors and trials*** are or

 And I am safe on that beautiful shore

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**(V) “PROMISED LAND ACHIEVED”**

 1. Joshua 5:1…

 -a. Israel enters what had been promised

 -b. all that God had promised was to be received – Josh.21:43

 2. The land that ***“flowed with milk and honey”*** had been reached – Exo.3:8

 3. Josh.4:19… the people came up out of the Jordan(entered the Promised land)

 4. Josh.21:45

 ***“...Not one of all the LORD's good promises to***

 ***Israel failed; every one was fulfilled…”***

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Likewise concerning us---

 A) As has been promised,

 Titus 1:2… ***“in hope of eternal life, which God, who cannot lie,***

 ***promised before times eternal.”***

 B) the ***“rest”*** which has been promised is still before us – Heb.4:11

 C) Concerning our lives, we are still in the ***“daily living”*** section,

 crossing the river is ahead,

 and then, our entering into the heavenly lands.

 Song.. “WON’T IT BE WONDERFUL THERE

 When with the savior we enter the glory land

 Won’t it be wonderful there

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**CONCLUSION:**

1. Israel’s journey in like manner is a course “set before us “ as well

2. “leaving bondage” and “daily walking” ***UNTIL*** we one day enter that “promised land”

3. Hebrews 10:39

 Christ