

Easter in Exodus

Lessons From The First Fight:

Exodus 17:8-16

Finding Easter In The Wilderness:

- ✓ The **burning bush**
Exodus 3:13-22 John 8:58
- ✓ The **Passover lamb**
Exodus 12:1-14 1 Corinthians 5:7-8
- ✓ The **tree in bitter water**
Exodus 15:22-25 John 4:7-14
- ✓ Bread **from Heaven**
Exodus 16:1-36 John 6:32-35
- ✓ The **rock that was struck**
Exodus 17:1-7 1 Corinthians 10:4
- ✓ Joshua **defeats the enemy**
Exodus 17:8-16 Romans 8:1-2
- ✓ Arms **outstretched on a hill**
Exodus 17:8-16 1 Peter 2:24 Acts 4:12

Simply Put:

The question is not **IF** we are under a banner,
but **WHAT** banner we are under.

Food for Thought for the week of March 27, 2016

(Questions and Scriptures for further study)

1. We heard this weekend how God gave the Israelites victory but they still needed to fight for it. God and the Israelites both had a part to play in the victory. The same is true for us. God causes our growth but we also have a part to play in it. How do the following passages help you better understand these two aspects of growth?

Ephesians 4:22-25 *New International Version (NIV)*

²² You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; ²³ to be made new in the attitude of your minds; ²⁴ and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

²⁵ Therefore each of you must put off falsehood and speak truthfully to your neighbor, for we are all members of one body.

Galatians 5:16-23 *New International Version (NIV)*

¹⁶ So I say, walk by the Spirit, and you will not gratify the desires of the flesh. ¹⁷ For the flesh desires what is contrary to the Spirit, and the Spirit what is contrary to the flesh. They are in conflict with each other, so that you are not to do whatever^[c] you want. ¹⁸ But if you are led by the Spirit, you are not under the law.

¹⁹ The acts of the flesh are obvious: sexual immorality, impurity and debauchery; ²⁰ idolatry and witchcraft; hatred, discord, jealousy, fits of rage, selfish ambition, dissensions, factions ²¹ and envy; drunkenness, orgies, and the like. I warn you, as I did before, that those who live like this will not inherit the kingdom of God.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, forbearance, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness and self-control. Against such things there is no law.

Philippians 2:12-13 *New International Version (NIV)*

Do Everything Without Grumbling

¹² Therefore, my dear friends, as you have always obeyed—not only in my presence, but now much more in my absence—continue to work out your salvation with fear and trembling, ¹³ for it is God who works in you to will and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose.

What do you think could happen if you focused only on your part in the growth process or just on God's part?

2. Understanding who Jesus is and what he has done for us is the essential message of Easter. The following passages all contain statements that Jesus made about himself. For each one, identify what he says about himself and any ways you can think of for how his description of himself could impact your life as a disciple.

John 6:35 *New International Version (NIV)*

³⁵ Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.

John 8:12 *New International Version (NIV)*

Dispute Over Jesus' Testimony

¹² When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

John 10:7-10, 14-15 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁷ Therefore Jesus said again, "Very truly I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. ⁸ All who have come before me are thieves and robbers, but the sheep have not listened to them. ⁹ I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. ¹⁰ The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

¹⁴ "I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me—¹⁵ just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep.

John 11:25-26 *New International Version (NIV)*

²⁵ Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; ²⁶ and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"

John 14:6 *New International Version (NIV)*

⁶ Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

Which of the above descriptions is most encouraging to you?

3. Jesus rising from the dead is foundational to the Christian faith because it is the proof that Christ is who he claimed to be – our Savior and God's only son. But it also has impact on how we live out our faith. What importance does 1 Corinthians 15:12-19 place on Christ's resurrection for us in our Christian walk?

1 Corinthians 15:12-19 *New International Version (NIV)*

The Resurrection of the Dead

¹² But if it is preached that Christ has been raised from the dead, how can some of you say that there is no resurrection of the dead? ¹³ If there is no resurrection of the dead, then not even Christ has been raised. ¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, our preaching is useless and so is your faith. ¹⁵ More than that, we are then found to be false witnesses about God, for we have testified about God that he raised Christ from the dead. But he did not raise him if in fact the dead are not raised. ¹⁶ For if the dead are not raised, then Christ has not been raised either. ¹⁷ And if Christ has not been raised, your faith is futile; you are still in your sins. ¹⁸ Then those also who have fallen asleep in Christ are lost. ¹⁹ If only for this life we have hope in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.