

## Welcome to 10 Minute Topics

### This week's topic is: Remembering the Exodus

#### Devarim – Chapter 9

(1) Hear, O Israel: you are to pass over the Jordan this day, to go in to dispossess nations greater and mightier than yourself, cities great and fortified up to heaven, (2) a people great and tall, the sons of the Anakim, who you know, and of who you have heard say: 'Who can stand before the sons of Anak?' (3) Know therefore this day, that the L-rd your G-d is He who goes over before you as a devouring fire; He will destroy them, and He will bring them down before you; so shall you drive them out, and make them to perish quickly, as the L-rd has spoken unto you.

(4) Speak not in your heart, after that the L-rd your G-d has thrust them out from before you, saying: 'For my righteousness the L-rd has brought me in to possess this land'; whereas for the wickedness of these nations the L-rd does drive them out from before you. (5) Not for your righteousness, or for the uprightness of your heart, do you go in to possess their land; but for the wickedness of these nations the L-rd your G-d does drive them out from before you, and that He may establish the word which the L-rd swore unto your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. (6) Know therefore that it is not for your righteousness that the L-rd your G-d gives you this good land to possess it; for you are a stiff necked people.

(7) Remember, forget not, how you did make the L-rd your G-d wroth in the wilderness; from the day that you did go forth out of the land of Egypt, until you came unto this place, you have been rebellious against the L-rd. (8) Also in Horeb you made the L-rd wroth, and the L-rd was angered with you to have destroyed you. (9) When I was gone up into the mount to receive the tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant which the L-rd made with you, then I abode in the mount forty days and forty nights; I did neither eat bread nor drink water. (10) And the L-rd delivered unto me the two tables of stone written with the finger of G-d; and on them was written according to all the words, which the L-rd spoke with you in the mount out of the midst of the fire in the day of the assembly. (11) And it came to pass at the end of forty days and forty nights, that the L-rd gave me the two tables of stone, even the tables of the covenant. (12) And the L-rd said unto me: 'Arise, get down quickly from here; for your people that you have brought forth out of Egypt have dealt corruptly; they are quickly turned aside out of the way which I commanded them; they have made them a molten image.'

(13) Furthermore the L-rd spoke unto me, saying: 'I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiff necked people; (14) let Me alone, that I may destroy them, and blot out their name from under heaven; and I will make of you a nation mightier and greater than they.' (15) So I turned and came down from the mount, and the mount burned with fire; and the two tables of the covenant were in my two hands. (16) And I looked, and, behold, you had sinned against the L-rd your G-d; you had made a molten calf; you had turned aside quickly out of the way which the L-rd had commanded you. (17) And I took hold of the

two tables, and cast them out of my two hands, and broke them before your eyes. (18) And I fell down before the L-rd, as at the first, forty days and forty nights; I did neither eat bread nor drink water; because of all your sin which you sinned, in doing that which was evil in the sight of the L-rd, to provoke Him. (19) For I was in dread of the anger and hot displeasure, wherewith the L-rd was wroth against you to destroy you. But the L-rd hearkened unto me that time also. (20) Moreover the L-rd was very angry with Aaron to have destroyed him; and I prayed for Aaron also the same time. (21) And I took your sin, the calf which you had made, and burnt it with fire, and beat it in pieces, grinding it very small, until it was as fine as dust; and I cast the dust thereof into the brook that descended out of the mount. –

(22) And at Taberah, and at Massah, and at Kibroth-hattaavah, you made the L-rd wroth. (23) And when the L-rd sent you from Kadesh-barnea, saying: 'Go up and possess the land which I have given you'; then you rebelled against the commandment of the L-rd your G-d, and you believed Him not, nor hearkened to His voice. (24) You have been rebellious against the L-rd from the day that I knew you. – (25) So I fell down before the L-rd the forty days and forty nights that I fell down; because the L-rd had said He would destroy you. (26) And I prayed unto the L-rd, and said: 'O L-rd G-d, destroy not Your people and Your inheritance, that You have redeemed through Your greatness, that You have brought forth out of Egypt with a mighty hand. (27) Remember Your servants, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; look not unto the stubbornness of this people, nor to their wickedness, nor to their sin; (28) lest the land whence You brought us out say: Because the L-rd was not able to bring them into the land which He promised unto them, and because He hated them, He has brought them out to slay them in the wilderness. (29) Yet they are Your people and Your inheritance, that You did bring out by Your great power and by Your outstretched arm.'

### Ten Plagues

The Exodus began with the ten plagues which ultimately led to the Pharaoh releasing the Hebrews from their slavery.

1. Blood
2. Frogs
3. Lice
4. Swarm of wild beasts
5. Epidemic
6. Boils
7. Hail
8. Locust
9. Darkness
10. Death of the firstborn

### Splitting of the Sea

Upon releasing the Hebrews from slavery, Pharaoh changed his mind and chased the Hebrews to the edge of the Sea of Reeds. G-d commanded Moses to stretch his hand over the sea and the waters parted. After the Hebrews successfully reached the other shore, G-d drove the water back and drowned the Egyptians.

### Revelation at Mount Sinai and the Tabernacle

The ultimate reason for the Exodus was the national revelation on Mount Sinai. G-d spoke to the entire nation of Hebrews as well as individually with Moses. Moses brought down the Law and began teaching all the Hebrews the Law of G-d. The Tabernacle (the forerunner of the Temple) was built and the priesthood began with Aaron and his sons.

### Spies and the Wandering in the Desert

Moses sent twelve spies into the land of Canaan to report back to the Hebrews what they saw. The spies reported back to the Hebrews stating that the people who inhabited the land could not be conquered. Joshua and Caleb were the only two spies who maintained that the Hebrews could conquer the land. As a result of the sin of the spies, G-d commanded that the Hebrews would journey in the desert for forty years until the sinful generation would pass away.

### End of the Journey

After the forty years in the desert, being taught all the Law as well as fighting battles against the enemies of G-d's people, the Children of Israel arrived at the Jordan River. Moses gave final instructions and commands from G-d to the Children of Israel. Moses conferred his leadership to Joshua who led the Children of Israel into the Land of Israel.

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Text based on "The Holy Scriptures" – Jewish Publication Society, 1917

\*The usage of G-d and L-rd is in compliance with the command to not take the Name of G-d in vain or to erase His Name. If you print out these pages, please treat them with respect. If you need to get rid of them, please take them to a synagogue and ask that they be reused or placed in a geniza.

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