

Part 9 – Lessons from Blood, Flies and Frogs

In part 8 we learned how compassionate the Lord (YHWH) was to *continue* to forgive the rebellious Israelites who came out of Egypt. Though they sinned against Him, *at least ten* times within the *first two years* of coming out of Egypt, He *continued* to use great self-control when disciplining them. And, essentially this was because of the unconditional promise (that He could not break) that He gave to Abraham, Issac and Jacob/Israel (He promised to multiply their descendants to an uncountable number, not to destroy them). So, these Scriptures were very enlightening because they show us how *God used the truth to control Himself* – i.e. He remembered His unconditional covenant, but He also remembered that they were just in flesh bodies. And, as Jesus pointed out, the flesh is weak, even if our spirit is willing. But that generation of Israelites were incredibly obstinate despite the many mighty miracles He performed, both in protecting them and in providing for them; so, most of them were not very willing to try and obey Him! And this is simply because they *allowed themselves* to forget all that God had done for them when hard times came. This shows us *how important* it is for us today to remember God's Word *and* be grateful for all He has done for us... so we don't become ungrateful and rebellious as the Israelites of old. Therefore, the Psalmist of this great 78th Psalm, will begin to recount (in more detail) some of the mighty plagues He performed upon Egypt to redeem (free) Israel from Egyptian bondage...

Psalm 78

43 How he had wrought his signs in Egypt, and his wonders in the field of Zoan:

The word '**wrought**' means *to put* (#7760) and the word '**signs**' means *a signal* (literally or figuratively), as *a flag, beacon, monument, omen, prodigy, evidence*, etc. (#226). And the word '**wonders**' means *a miracle*; by implication, *a token* or *omen* (#4159). So, the miraculous plagues that God brought upon the Egyptians was *evidence*– to both the Egyptians and the Israelites – that He truly is the *Supreme* God over **all** the earth. And, as we learned when studying verse 12, the word 'Zoan' means *a place in Egypt* (#6814). Notes in the *Companion Bible* (in Ex 1:10) explain that Zoan was the capital of Egypt and noted for wisdom. And the *Smith's Bible Dictionary* tells us specifically that Zoan was the capital of Lower Egypt, which is actually in the north part of Egypt, which is where the children of Israel lived when they were there. However, Israel lived in Goshen (Gen 45:10, 46:28, Ex 8:28, 9:26) of Lower Egypt and were therefore *not* impacted by the plagues. The *Smith's Bible Dictionary* also tells us that this is where the *Shepherd kings* (also called Hycsos or Hyksos) ruled from at the time God commissioned Moses to go to the Pharaoh and demand he let Israel go free (and earlier than that too; even when Joseph was there). So, this is why the Psalmist mentions the field of Zoan being where God showed '**marvellous things**' which means *miracles*. It was *there* (in the field of Zoan, the capital of Egypt at that time) that God began the plagues; but they *spread all over Egypt*, yet not to Goshen where the Israelites were (Ex 8:28, 9:26) ...

Psalm 78

44 And had turned their rivers into blood; and their floods, that they could not drink.

First off, the *Companion Bible* has a very helpful note to explain why this Psalmist only mentions *some of* the ten plagues in verses 44-51 – i.e. he names the first and the last, and omits the third (gnats, wrongly translated as lice), fifth (murrain, which is a plague), sixth (boils) and the ninth (darkness). It says that he selects according to his special purpose (of writing this Psalm). This is interesting also when you look up the *spiritual* significance of numbers in the Bible [**God's Designing Hand Seen In Numbers** <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/960>]. So, the first plague that the Psalmist chooses to point out is the very first plague that God brought upon the Egyptians, as it is written...

Exodus 7

15 Get thee unto Pharaoh in the morning; lo, he goeth out unto the water; and thou shalt stand by the river's brink against he come; and the rod which was turned to a serpent shalt thou take in thine hand.

16 And thou shalt say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath sent me unto thee, saying, Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness: and, behold, hitherto thou wouldst not hear.

*17 Thus saith the LORD, **In this thou shalt know that I am the LORD**: behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.*

18 And the fish that is in the river shall die, and the river shall stink; and the Egyptians shall lothe to drink of the water of the river.

*19 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Take thy rod, and stretch out thine hand upon the waters of Egypt, upon their streams, upon their rivers, and upon their ponds, and upon all their pools of water, that they may become blood; and that there may be blood **throughout all the land of Egypt**, both in vessels of wood, and in vessels of stone.*

Notice that Moses was to wait until morning and *then* go out to the Nile River, where Pharaoh *would* be, and speak to him *again*. (Note that our Heavenly Father already knew *where* Pharaoh would be the next morning). Aaron was to give the message to Pharaoh that the following plague was a *consequence* for not obeying YHVH's demand to let Israel go. In other words, YHVH was about to begin revealing His mighty power to Pharaoh (and all of Egypt, as well as the Israelites). In Exodus 5:2, Pharaoh had said, *Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go?* Well, Pharaoh soon found out! It's also important to note that the Lord (YHVH) told Moses to warn Pharaoh *exactly* what would happen before it actually did. And he warned that, not only would the Nile River become blood, but so would ***all the streams, rivers, ponds, pools (reservoirs)*** and even the water in their vessels would become blood. Further to that, all the fish

in the waters would die and the water would *stink so much* that no one would want to drink the water. These are the details YHVH told Moses to warn Pharaoh of *even before it happened...*

Exodus 7

*20 And Moses and Aaron did so, as the LORD commanded; and he lifted up the rod, and smote the waters that were in the river, **in the sight of Pharaoh, and in the sight of his servants**; and all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.*

*21 And the fish that was in the river died; and the river **stank**, and the Egyptians could not drink of the water of the river; and there was blood **throughout all the land of Egypt**.*

Moses and Aaron not only testified what was *about* to happen to Pharaoh; all his servants were present also, so there were *many* witnesses. Moses had Aaron lift the rod (symbolic of Jesus Christ) and stretch out his hand upon the waters of Egypt, in which time God smote the waters and made them all turn to 'blood'. ***The timing was perfect.*** Our God (YHVH) is *amazing*. His timing is amazing and so are His mighty works. Consider what an impact this would have had on Pharaoh's servants. Although Pharaoh's heart was hardened, we're not told if his servants felt the same way. So, to see the Nile River, *which they worshiped*, suddenly turn to blood *just as Moses and Aaron had just warned them about* would be quite convincing, especially since their Pharaoh and magicians *could do nothing to fix it*. And then they were stuck with the bloody, stinky, unusable waters for... they didn't know how long. Can you image being without any clean water and not knowing when you would find any? It would have been stressful and worrisome and seeds of doubt about the power of your gods would begin to creep into your mind. The word about the warnings of Moses would no doubt spread quickly throughout Egypt, causing many of them to begin to doubt the power of their gods. Note also that this plague impacted *only* the land of Egypt. It did *not at all* impact Goshen, where the Israelites were. Furthermore, this first 'plague' would lay the ground work for the rest of the plagues, for YHVH knows how to use His creation to fulfil His purposes. He is *super* natural which simply means He is *more* natural than we are! Why? Because **He created all things, for His pleasure** (Rev 4:11). That means His creation is 'at His disposal'...

It's also important to know that the two witnesses of God (YHVH) will perform this plague during the reign of the antichrist (a.k.a. Satan) as a testimony *against* him, just as Moses and Aaron used it to witness to Pharaoh and his people. The purpose was, and will be again, to prove to the people who YHVH really is (God above all others) and the power He has (His power is stronger than all others) ...

3 And I will give power unto my two witnesses, and they shall prophesy a thousand two hundred and threescore days, clothed in sackcloth.

4 These are the two olive trees (Zech 4), and the two candlesticks standing before the God of the earth.

5 And if any man will hurt them, fire proceedeth out of their mouth, and devoureth their enemies: and if any man will hurt them, he must in this manner be killed.

*6 These have power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and **have power over waters to turn them to blood**, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will.*

Rev 11:3-6

So, this plague is just one, of many, the two witnesses of the ‘latter days’ will be performing to prove (witness to) the people that Satan *really is not* the Savior of the world. And from this, we see that there is also a spiritual type in this plague. From John 4:10-24 and 7:38-39 we see that Jesus Christ’s Holy Spirit is the *Living Water*. Like physical water helps our physical body dissolve minerals and nutrients (and oxygen, something we need to survive) to make them accessible to our body, likewise God’s Holy Spirit helps us understand and absorb (utilize spiritually) the truth in God’s Word. And, as water cleanses and lubricates our flesh body, likewise does God’s Holy Spirit cleanse our soul thus lubricating it by liberating it from the power of death (sin) (John 14:26, John 13:8, John 15:3). But, when lies are mixed with truth the water is tainted (gets bloody) and your soul gets sick, just as the water turned to blood and made it unusable. And tainted spiritual water is what you get when you reject Jesus Christ, the Word of God. The water (lies) that comes from Satan (Rev 12:15) is as damaging, putrid, stinky and gross as the bloody Nile River was. Furthermore, Jesus gave a metaphor that was rather offensive to most because they didn’t realize He was *not* speaking literally. This metaphor clearly explains how important the Holy Spirit (the Living Water) is to our soul, for its symbolized by the precious blood of Jesus Christ...

*53 Then Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Except ye eat the flesh of the Son of man, **and drink his blood**, ye have no life in you.*

*54 Whoso eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, **hath eternal life**; and I will raise him up at the last day.*

*55 For my flesh is meat indeed, and **my blood is drink indeed**.*

56 He that eateth my flesh, and drinketh my blood, dwelleth in me, and I in him. [John 15]

57 As the living Father hath sent me, and I live by the Father: so he that eateth me, even he shall live by me.

58 This is that bread which came down from heaven: not as your fathers did eat manna, and are dead: he that eateth of this bread shall live for ever.

John 6:53-58

Even the disciples of Jesus didn’t understand this analogy so Jesus later clarified...

*It is **the spirit that quickeneth**; the flesh profiteth nothing: **the words** that I speak unto you, they are spirit, and they are life.*

John 6:63

The Word of God (which includes *every* Word that came from Jesus' mouth) are spirit and they give us understanding of *the truth*. That's why they give us *spiritual* life. So, the lies that Satan gives are likened to the bloody Nile River with dead animals in it... it only leads to spiritual death, just as drinking that putrid river water would have brought many deaths among the Egyptians (if they drank it). But the pure Living Water (the truth spoken of in the Bible) is what gives us life. Because Jesus is the Living Word (John 1:1, 14), He used His flesh body as a metaphor to explain how *our soul needs His Word and His Holy Spirit* just as much as our flesh body needs food and water. **And *this* therein is the great lesson within this plague.** When we refuse the truth Living Water (Jesus Christ) then we are left with the putrid river water (Satan). As Rom 1:20 says: *the invisible things of him from the creation of the world **are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made.*** Therefore, the two witnesses (like Moses) will use a physical sign to explain a *spiritual* truth because most people cannot see how putrid lies are without a physical example, such as the polluted spiritual river water.

Psalm 78

45 He sent divers sorts of flies among them, which devoured them; and frogs, which destroyed them.

The Psalmist now 'jumps' to the fourth plague (flies) but then mentions the second plague (frogs). So, he's clearly not 'going in order' of the plagues and does so because it suits his purpose. So, let's look at the plague of flies and then the plague of frogs...

Exodus 8

20 And the LORD said unto Moses, Rise up early in the morning, and stand before Pharaoh; lo, he cometh forth to the water; and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

21 Else, if thou wilt not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies upon thee, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thy houses: and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground whereon they are.

22 And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth.

23 And I will put a division between my people and thy people: to morrow shall this sign be.

After the gnats (lice) came *unexpectedly*, YHVH then sent Moses to warn Pharaoh that if he *still* would not let Israel go, another plague would come upon him and this time it would be flies. And they would get into *everything*: the people, their houses, their food, their water, the ground... swarms of flies would be everywhere. Moreover, this time Moses *specifically* pointed out that the land of Goshen would not have any flies in their land, so Pharaoh would *know* He was

protecting them. YHVH promised to be a division between Pharaoh's people (Egyptians) and YHVH's people (Israel). The word 'division' in verse 23 is #6304 in the Hebrew and means: *distinction*, but also *deliverance*. It's been translated in the KJV as - division, redeem, redemption. So, YHVH is telling Pharaoh that He *will* save His people *and* He is beginning to separate them from the Egyptians, which is symbolic of cleansing His people from sin. So, the flies did not go into Goshen, where Israel was. Of course, this plague of the flies has a spiritual lesson too. Consider the following New Testament account...

22 Then was brought unto him one possessed with a devil, blind, and dumb: and he healed him, insomuch that the blind and dumb both spake and saw.

23 And all the people were amazed, and said, Is not this the son of David?

*24 But when the Pharisees heard it, they said, This fellow doth not cast out devils, but by **Beelzebub** the prince of the devils.*

25 And Jesus knew their thoughts, and said unto them, Every kingdom divided against itself is brought to desolation; and every city or house divided against itself shall not stand:

26 And if Satan cast out Satan, he is divided against himself; how shall then his kingdom stand?

*27 And if I by **Beelzebub** cast out devils, by whom do your children cast them out? therefore they shall be your judges.*

28 But if I cast out devils by the Spirit of God, then the kingdom of God is come unto you.

29 Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house.

30 He that is not with me is against me; and he that gathereth not with me scattereth abroad.

Matt 12:22-30

The wicked Pharisees accused Jesus of casting out evil spirit by Beelzebub. What is this?

'**Beelzebub**' is #954 (of Aramaic origin) and means: **dung-god**; Beelzebub, **a name of Satan**.

It's, by parody from #1176, which means: **Baal of (the) Fly**; Baal-Zebub, *a special deity of the Ekronites*. So, **Beelzebub is the 'god of the fly'** and the Pharisees accused Jesus of casting evil spirits out by the 'power' of this 'god', which means they basically accused Jesus of casting out evil spirits by the 'power' of Satan. But Jesus pointed out that Satan would not cast out one of his own, or else there's no way he could stand a chance to fight God (YHVH), because *a divided house cannot stand*. Jesus then asked, if they thought He was casting out evil spirits (demons) by the power of the devil (Rev 20:2), how *their* 'children' (protégé's) were casting out devils. This shut up the Pharisees really quick because it revealed *which side they were on* and it is *not* God's side. And, like when YHVH made a separation between Egypt and Goshen with the plagues, likewise will He make a separation between those that are truly loyal to Him versus those who are not (Matt 25:31-32, Matt 13:37-49, Matt 13:47-49). This is why YHVH (and His Son, Jesus) call us to come out of sin (Rev 18:4, 2 Cor 6:14-18).

You cannot ride the fence and think you are pleasing God Almighty (YHVH). You are not pleasing Him and He does not trust you if you don't stand faithfully for Him (the truth). He calls us to come out of spiritual bondage and when we sincerely repent; and we must therefore *work* to kick out our sins (from the heart), *keep them out*. But we must also continue to *learn of Him* (through studying His Word) so we can (not only kick out the other sins we have but also) share the truth with others. So, you can either be living amongst the 'king of the flies' and have to endure all the plagues that come from doing so, or you can come out from the sin (symbolic of Egypt) and live a life of true freedom by obeying your Heavenly Father (John 8:31-32). That is the *only* place true peace of mind comes from (Isa 26:3).

Exodus 8

24 And the LORD did so; and there came a grievous swarm of flies into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses, and into all the land of Egypt: the land was corrupted by reason of the swarm of flies.

Well, Pharaoh did not harken so YHVH sent a 'grievous' swarm of flies to the land of Egypt and the entire land was 'corrupted' because of them. The word '**grievous**' is #3515 and means **heavy** or **severe**. And the word '**corrupted**' here is #7843 and means **to decay or ruin**. So, the flies did a lot of damage to Egypt. Remember, flies are part of the decomposition process, as are gnats (wrongly translated as lice), so it was natural they would come. However, what was *not* natural was the *massive* amounts (swarms) they came in and at the *precise* timing Moses and Aaron asked for them to be sent. And the spiritual analogy here is that, when we allow lies (John 8:44) to permeate our soul, we too become corrupted, but *spiritually*. Never forget where the greatest threat of deception comes from (Matt 24:4-5, Matt 24:11-13, Mark 13:21-23, 2 John 9-11). So, we must not allow any doctrine (lies) into our house (our soul) or else we'll become evil ourselves! We must watch out for deception everywhere but especially from the religious community! (Jer 23, Ezek 34, Mth 24:4-5, 23-27). Now, let's take a look at the next plague (which is actually the second plague) that the Psalmist speaks of here in Ps 78:44 - **frogs**...

Exodus 8

1 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Go unto Pharaoh, and say unto him, Thus saith the LORD, Let my people go, that they may serve me.

*2 And if thou refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite all thy borders with **frogs**:*

3 And the river shall bring forth frogs abundantly, which shall go up and come into thine house, and into thy bedchamber, and upon thy bed, and into the house of thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thine ovens, and into thy kneadingtroughs:

4 And the frogs shall come up both on thee, and upon thy people, and upon all thy servants.

After the third plague, YHVH sent Moses into Pharaoh, again, to warn him that if he *still* refused to let Israel go (and He knew that Pharaoh would), his land would be smitten with frogs that

would go *everywhere* (even into their bedrooms and bread dough). Remember, the Egyptians had frog gods and they were about to find out how worthless worshipping them was! After having their water source contaminated, they were now going to suffer an influx of frogs like had never been seen. And it did not matter if they were rich or poor, *everyone* would have frogs in their houses, places of work, and so forth; *everywhere* they went there would be frogs. So, much of their time would be spent trying to get rid of these frogs. Consider the kind of interruption this would cause to daily life, especially after not having clean water for a week. Frogs are not a clean animal. They are very dirty. So, to have dirty frogs even in the place where you are trying to make bread (your food source) would mean your food would then be contaminated; and even when you used the bathroom the frogs would be there. All the frogs would have driven the people ‘nuts’. Even Pharaoh and his servants would have to put up with all the frogs; no one would be spared. This would have caused the Egyptians to not only loathe the Nile River but also frogs; *both whom they worshiped*. **Through these plagues, YHVH was causing them to despise their gods.**

Exodus 8

5 And the LORD spake unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch forth thine hand with thy rod over the streams, over the rivers, and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come up upon the land of Egypt.

6 And Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt; and the frogs came up, and covered the land of Egypt.

So, Moses and Aaron went to speak to Pharaoh and he refused to let the children of Israel go (again). So, God (YHVH) told Moses to have Aaron stretch the rod out over the waters of Egypt. And when he did, frogs came up *at the exact same time he stretched the rod out*. This shows us God’s amazing ability to *perfectly* control His nature. And from this plague, we also see a prophesy of the future ‘exodus’ (or coming out of spiritual bondage). It looks forward to the time when Satan (the antichrist) [<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/345>] is here on earth pretending to be God and Savior of all the earth (2 Thess 2, Dan 7-11, Rev 13). During that time there will be a massive flood of lies (Rev 12:15), as we learned about in the last chapter. These lies will be coming from Satan and the many fallen angels coming with him but he will have additional ‘help’ deceiving people. Consider the following...

*12 And the **sixth angel poured out his vial** upon the great river Euphrates; and the water thereof was dried up, that the way of the kings of the east might be prepared.*

*13 And I saw **three unclean spirits like frogs come out of the mouth of the dragon, and out of the mouth of the beast, and out of the mouth of the false prophet.***

*14 For **they are the spirits of devils**, working miracles, which go forth unto the kings of the earth and of the whole world, to gather them to the battle of that great day of God Almighty.*

15 Behold, I come as a thief. Blessed is he that watcheth, and keepeth his garments, lest he walk naked, and they see his shame.

16 And he gathered them together into a place called in the Hebrew tongue Armageddon.

Rev 16:12-16

The Revelations tells us that when the sixth angel pours his vial out, there will be unclean spirits that come out of the mouth of the dragon, the beast and the false prophet. These unclean spirits are explained to be spirits of devils (vs 14) and *likened to frogs* (vs 13). So, frogs, which are very unclean animals, are likened to spirits of devils which are *evil spirits*. And all evil spirits are unclean spirits. Remember that one of Satan's names is 'dragon' (Rev 12:9, 20:2). So, Satan, his wicked government (beast) and his propaganda machine (false prophet) will all be using evil spirits to work miracles *to influence people's minds and hearts* to go along with Satan's plan to fight Jesus Christ when He returns; that's why these evil spirits (spirits of devils) go to the kings of the world to gather them to the great day of God Almighty (vs 14), which is also called Armageddon (vs 16).

This spiritual type is critical for us to understand, and be on guard for, because: when the frogs invaded Egypt, *they went everywhere*. They even invaded their houses, their kneading troughs (where food was prepared) and even their bedrooms. **The Egyptian's houses were not secure because they worshiped false gods, which are evil spirits.** Likewise, your 'house' (symbolic of your flesh body) is not safe from evil spirits when you worship false gods (which is essentially believing in lies). This means that, when you do not believe in God's Word, study it and actively strive to obey it, then *you open yourself up to influence (and possibly possession) of evil spirits*. Many people think indulging in lusts is ok so long as they don't let it go too far... but that is how the deception works. Once you begin to 'indulge' in sin, *you'll always want more*. When your fleshly desires are not kept in check, by you disciplining your inner man through knowledge of God's Word (Col 3:10, Eph 4:23-24), then *you will be enslaved by them* because you'll always long (lust) for more and more of whatever you desire. And this lust (longing) for sin is what opens your mind and heart up to influence of evil spirits. This is why Isaiah says...

3 Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee.

4 Trust ye in the LORD for ever: for in the LORD JEHOVAH is everlasting strength:

Isa 26:3-4

Spiritual peace (peace of mind and spiritual protection) is only possible when we keep our mind on God's Word *and not ourselves* (daydreams, fantasies, lusts, pride, greed, selfishness, etc.). As Peter said in 2 Peter 1:4, *we only avoid corruption in the world by kicking out lust*. And that's only possible by partaking of the 'divine nature', which is done by allowing God's Word and His Holy Spirit *into your heart and mind*. This, by the way, is also how you protect your heart and

mind, which is something Moses warned us a lot about in the Pentateuch (Deut 4:6-9, Deut 11:16, Deut 12:29-32). You can learn more in the special study on **Take Heed and Keep It** [<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/943>].

So clearly, there's *much more* to glean from the historical accounts of the Ten Plagues than what appears on the surface. That's why this Psalmist promised to reveal to us 'proverbs' and 'dark sayings' in this 'Psalm' (in verses 2). And the hidden truths (proverbs and dark sayings) were also explained by Jesus Christ when He came to earth, just as it was prophesied, He would (Mth 13:34-35). That's why it takes studying ALL of God's Word to glean the truth. For, without studying (and knowing) the Old Testament, *you won't understand the New Testament*, for it is simply explaining the Old Testament! That's why 2 Peter 1:20-21 says that *no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost*. And Paul also wrote...

*16 All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is **profitable for doctrine**, for reproof, for correction, for **instruction in righteousness**:*

17 That the man of God may be perfect, thoroughly furnished unto all good works.

2 Tim 3:16-17

So, studying both the Old and New Testament (which is ALL Scripture) helps us to be '**perfect**', which simply means **complete** (#739). It could also be rendered as *spiritually mature*. God's Word teaches us what is right versus what's wrong and helps us to clean our heart and mind so we can learn how to do what's right, *from the heart*. And that again is why Paul wrote...

11 Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

*12 Wherefore **let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall**.*

*13 There hath no temptation taken you but such as is common to man: but **God is faithful**, who will not suffer you to be tempted above that ye are able; but will with the temptation also make a way to escape, that ye may be able to bear it.*

1 Cor 10:11-13

So, no matter what happens to you – whatever comes your way – you can handle it **so long as** you remain *steadfastly* committed to *obeying* God's Word (*from the heart*). And when you do this, the Holy Spirit will *always* help you endure the hard times and resist any temptation that comes along. But, it does require *deep* commitment to the truth – i.e. faith, which is *conviction of the truth* – and a lot of self-discipline. And it also means we must remember what is written (as this Psalmist is pointing out) so we don't make the same mistakes that the Israelites did in the wilderness, when they forgot what God had done for them, and quickly became ungrateful, obstinate, murmuring rebels... over and over again. Simply put, if we don't forsake God (Jesus

Christ) then He'll never forsake us! As 2 Peter 2:9 says: *The Lord knoweth how to deliver the godly out of temptations, and to reserve the unjust unto the day of judgment to be punished.* So, let's always remember...

*But **the Lord is faithful**, who shall stablish you, and keep you from evil.*
2 Thess 3:3

We'll pick this up in part 10...

AMEN.