

“Passover to Pentecost”

A prayer and meditation guide on the journey of personal transformation.

“Pentecost” derives its title from the number of days that it occurs after the Passover Feast. They are tied together as events to remind the Israelites of the supernatural interventions of their God to deliver them from slavery to the Egyptians and establish them as “a kingdom of priests unto God”. Passover rehearses when the death angel “passed over” each household that had covered the door frame with the blood of the sacrificial lamb as a substitute for the firstborn of the household. It was the final plague that confronted the gods of Egypt and convinced Pharaoh to release the Israelites from slavery. Pentecost rehearses their arrival at Mount Sinai where God gave them the Law through Moses. The Laws given through Moses were to govern the Israelites in order to preserve their purity so that the Presence of God could dwell with them and His favor would remain upon them as His chosen people in order that He might bring the Messiah into the earth to redeem all mankind.

Jesus was crucified at Passover as the sacrificial lamb. He was raised from the dead on the third day and spent 40 days interacting with the disciples teaching them about the Kingdom of God. On the 40th day, He told His disciples to wait in Jerusalem for the Promise of the Father and then He ascended into heaven. 120 Disciples met together in prayer for 10 days, until “the day of Pentecost had fully come”. The Holy Spirit was poured out upon those disciples with tongues of fire and expressions of praise declaring the magnificent works of God in multiple languages. This New Covenant Pentecost was the indwelling of Holy Spirit to lead and govern each disciple internally and overflow in power to give witness to the gospel of Jesus Christ with power to perform signs, wonders and miracles. Hebrews 12 contrasts the Israelites coming to Mount Sinai that was filled with smoke and fire with believers coming to Mount Zion with a celebration of praise and companies of angels and saints.

The Lord impressed upon me to look at the journey of the Israelites from Passover to Pentecost and the encounters that He had with them along the way that were to prepare them to receive His Presence to dwell with them. 1 Corinthians 10:11 tells us, “Now these things happened to them as examples and were written down as warnings for us, on whom the fulfillment of the ages has come.” The Israelites experienced a foreshadowing before the Messiah of what we possess as the “fulfillment of the ages” in Christ. Simple study of Exodus chapters 14-18 revealed 6 encounters between the Israelites and God in preparation of Pentecost. I believe these encounters are examples for us to pursue and prepare for a personal Pentecost of Holy Spirit presence and power. Each encounter reveals a characteristic of God’s nature or character. Abraham knew the Lord as “El Shaddai”, “God Almighty”. The Lord spoke to Moses as “YahWeh” (Jehovah), the “I AM” (the self-existent one, “I Am whatever you need”). As you walk this prayer journey, do not apply a program, but seek a fresh revelation of God to know Him and experience His presence and purpose in each unique encounter. Each encounter will have a passage to read, passages to meditate on and instructions for prayer. Follow Holy Spirit on your personal journey as He highlights, reveals and dwells in different spaces along the way.

Journal and take notes on those things Holy Spirit reveals, instructs and transforms.

1. Red Sea Crossing

The first encounter with God was the crossing of the Red Sea. Pharaoh heart was hardened to rally his army to pursue the Israelites to bring them back into bondage and slavery. The Lord crush the Egyptian armies under the waters while the Israelites passed through to the other side unharmed. A song of victory over their enemies was released when they looked back to see their enemies destroyed.

This encounter is a Separation from bondage. It is to break the bondage of slavery to sin. It is a type of Salvation in receiving the Lordship of Christ over our life and the separation from the kingdom of darkness. Whether it is an initial encounter or the need to break addictions or bondage to sin in the life of a believer this encounter destroys the enemy that is “too strong for us” (Ps. 18:17).

God is revealed as “Jehovah Tsedeq”, The Lord my Righteousness.

- Read:
 - Exodus 14
 - 2 Corinthians 5:16-21
 - Romans 6
- Meditate:
 - 2 Corinthians 5:17 & 21
 - Romans 6:6-11
 - Colossians 1:13,14
- Seek the Lord as “Jehovah Tsedeq” (The Lord My Righteousness)
 - Declare His Righteousness and that you have been MADE Righteous with the gift of His righteousness imparted to your spirit man.
 - Confess “I am the righteousness OF God in Christ”; “The Lord IS my Righteousness”
 - Repent for trying to establish your own righteousness in good behaviors or self-punishment and Receive the Gift of His Righteousness.
- Repent & Renounce participation in the world’s system
 - Abuse of drugs and alcohol
 - Sexual Immorality
 - Cult or occultic activity
 - Ask Holy Spirit to reveal any area of participation with the kingdom of darkness that you need to repent and renounce.
- Declare New Creation Realities
 - “Old things have passed away! All things have become New!”
 - “I am dead to sin and Alive to God!”
- Praise Him for Giving you the Victory!
 - Sing a song of victory

2. Healing Bitter Waters

The Israelites travel through the desert without water until they arrive at “Marah”, meaning “Bitter”. They complain to Moses that they could not drink the water. The Lord showed Moses a Tree. When he threw it into the water, the water was made sweet and they were able to drink. The Lord made a covenant with them that He would “put none of the diseases of the Egyptians upon them. For I am the Lord your Healer.”

The Lord revealed himself as “Jehovah Rophe”, the Lord who Heals! The context of revealing His healing power was to remove the bitterness from the waters. It is undeniable both scripturally and scientifically that healing of the physical body and healing of the soul are intrinsically connected. He is the Healer of our woundedness and our weakness!

- Read
 - Exodus 15:22-27
 - Isaiah 53
 - Matthew 8
 - Matthew 18:21-35
- Meditate
 - Isaiah 53:2, 4-6
 - 1 Peter 2:24
 - Acts 10:38
 - Hebrews 12:14,15
 - Mark 11:25
- Seek the Lord as Jehovah Rophe, the Lord your Healer
 - Ask Him to comfort and heal any woundedness of your heart
 - Ask Him to reveal His Truth (it may be His presence or perspective) in the midst of painful memories and relationships
 - Give thanks for the Cross as the Tree thrown into your bitter waters and receive His forgiveness for causing pain to others.
 - Choose to forgive those who you have been hurt by applying the Tree of the Cross to their offending actions. Release them from judgment and responsibility for your pain.
 - Wait in His presence paying attention to the Holy Spirit’s speaking and revealing truth to your heart.
- Activate Your Healing
 - Speak Healing to any area of physical weakness or infirmity.
 - Speak Blessing over any and all individuals or institutions that have caused pain in your life.
 - Give thanks for the purchase of your healing through Jesus’ suffering and death on the cross.
 - Declare “by His stripes, I Am Healed! In Jesus’ Name!”
- Worship the Lord as Your Healer!

3. Bread from Heaven

The Israelites journeyed from Elim through the desert of Sin where they had no more food for the journey. They grumbled and complained to Moses. The Lord provided “Bread from Heaven” and quail for meat. He tested them to see if they would honor the Sabbath by gathering only 6 days of the week. Would they trust in His provision or their own efforts of gathering and hoarding? He revealed Himself as Jehovah Jireh, the Lord my Provider.

- Read
 - Exodus 16
 - John 6:22-58
 - Matthew 6:7-15 & 25-34
- Meditate
 - Mark 2:27,28
 - Luke 4:4 & Deuteronomy 8:3
 - Philippians 4:19,20
- Seek the Lord as Jehovah Jireh
 - Repent for trusting in providing for yourself rather than trusting Him as your provider.
 - Repent for any grumbling or complaining about His lack of providing sufficiently in your life.
 - Give thanks for His provision through whatever mode of work or service that He uses to provide for you and your family on a consistent basis.
 - Repent for violating the Sabbath by not resting in His ability to provide.
 - Ask Him to provide your “daily bread”.
- Activate your faith in Him as Provider
 - Declare that you “will see the goodness of the Lord in the land of the living.” Psalm 27:13 & Isaiah 1:19
 - Declare “the Lord has decreed a blessing on my savings and on my work; the Lord has blessed me in my home and my career.” Deuteronomy 28:8

4. Water from the Rock

The Israelites traveled from the desert of Sin toward Sinai and camped at a place called “Rephidim” which means “spread out aid or support”. There was no water to drink and the people began to quarrel with Moses and test the Lord saying. “Is the Lord among us or not?”

The Lord instructs Moses to take the rod that he used to strike the Nile and use it to strike the rock. When He struck the rock, water flowed out for the people to drink. Moses named that place “Massah and Meribah” meaning “testing and quarreling”.

I believe this is where we are confronted with the choice to lean to our own reasoning as our aid and support or lean on the Lord as “Jehovah Tsurì”, the Lord our Rock.

- Read
 - Exodus 17:1-7
 - Proverbs 3:5-8
 - Deuteronomy 6:16 & Matthew 4:7
 - Psalm 18:2
 - Ephesians 1:15-22
- Meditate
 - 1 Corinthians 2:16
 - Romans 12:2
 - Psalm 25:4,5
 - John 16:13
 - Isaiah 26:3,4
- Seek the Lord as Jehovah Tsurì, the Lord my Rock
 - Repent for living out of human reasoning in areas of life and decisions made apart from the counsel of the Word of God and voice of the Holy Spirit
 - Ask the Lord to teach you His ways and to lead you into all truth.
- Activate your Faith
 - Confess, “I have the mind of Christ”; “I have access to the very thoughts of God.”
 - Confess, “I have the Spirit of Wisdom and Revelation, the eyes of your understanding being flooded with light, that you might know the hope of your calling, the glory of His inheritance and the power of His resurrection!”

5. Defeating the Amalekites

While in Rephidim, the Amalekites attacked the Israelites. Moses sent Joshua with men to go fight them in the valley while he stood on the hilltop with the staff of God in his hand. As long as he held the staff up toward heaven, Joshua and the men prevailed. If he lowered the staff, the Amalekites prevailed. Moses sat on a rock while Aaron and Hur supported his hands as he held the staff and Joshua won over the Amalekites. Moses then built an altar and named that place “Jehovah Nissi”, the Lord is my Banner or Victory.

It is interesting that Amalek is a descendent of Esau, the brother of Jacob that sold his inheritance for a pot of beans. He represents the appetites of the flesh that attack us in the valley of our reason where we look for aid or comfort. It is where we come to know the Lord as our Victory over the fleshly appetites. This victory is sustained when we hold the hold up the hands of the Spiritual Authorities assigned to our life and honor the Word of God.

- Read
 - Exodus 17:8-16
 - Romans 8:1-17
 - Galatians 5:13-26 & 6:7-10
 - Ephesians 6:10-20
- Meditate
 - Ephesians 6:
 - Hebrews 13:17
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:12
 - Galatians 6:6
 - Ephesians 6:14-18
- Seek the Lord as Jehovah Nissi
 - Repent and renounce any area that you have allowed the appetites of the flesh to take priority over your spiritual potential blessing.
 - Make a priority of spending time in the Word of God and Worshipping the Lord. (such as this prayer journey)
- Activate Victory over the flesh
 - Honor the Word of God by serving in some capacity through your local church.
 - Bless your pastors with a personal gift.
 - Put on the armor of God & Pray in the Spirit.

6. Become an Intercessor

Moses' father-in-law, Jethro, came to visit Moses and see how the Lord had led the Israelites to mount Sinai. During his visit he watch Moses sit as a judge for the people from dawn to dusk. He counseled Moses to delegate authority to faithful men who can judge the more simple cases and only allow Moses to judge the more difficult cases. Moses implemented this structure and it freed Moses from the daily management of people so that he could go up the mountain and meet with the Lord, which happened in the next chapter.

The Lord uses the counsel of Jethro to set apart or "sanctify" Moses for his real purpose to represent the people to the Lord and be a prophet from the Lord to the people. Jethro was sent by the "Jehovah M'Kaddesh", the "Lord my Sanctifier or Sanctification." He is the Lord who sets us a part from distracts to our purpose, especially our purpose to pray and intercede for people rather than manage their problems!

- Read
 - Exodus 18
 - Ephesians 4:7-13
 - Romans 8:26-30
 - Hebrews 10:14
- Meditate
 - Ephesians 6:18
 - 1 Timothy 2:1
 - Galatians 4:19
- Seek the Lord as Jehovah M'Kaddesh, the Lord your Sanctification
 - Repent for lack of focus on the purpose for which you were created
 - Evaluate your priorities and how you invest your time and routine
 - Ask the Lord if there are relationships or activities that are keeping you from fulfilling His assignment in your life.
 - Ask for His grace to separate you from distracts and unto His destiny for you
- Activate your Sanctification
 - Isolate yourself for a period of time away from people and distractions to spend time hearing the voice of the Lord and fellowship with Him alone.
 - Record by journaling or some other means the things that He reveals to you in this private time.