

Are You in The Wilderness

Number 14:26-35; 26 And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, 27 “How long shall I bear with this evil congregation who complain against Me? I have heard the complaints which the children of Israel make against Me. 28 Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the Lord, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you: 29 The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above. 30 Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in. 31 But your little ones, whom you said would be victims, I will bring in, and they shall know the land which you have despised. 32 But as for you, your carcasses shall fall in this wilderness. 33 And your sons shall be shepherds in the wilderness forty years, and bear the brunt of your infidelity, until your carcasses are consumed in the wilderness. 34 According to the number of the days in which you spied out the land, forty days, for each day you shall bear your guilt one year, namely forty years, and you shall know My rejection. 35 I the Lord have spoken this. I will surely do so to all this evil congregation who are gathered together against Me. In this wilderness they shall be consumed, and there they shall die.’ ” This is part of the scripture that tell us why the Israelites wondered in the wilderness for forty years and why some never crossed over into the promised land God had for them.

As I was driving the other day I thought how has my life been like the Israelites? By that I mean, what blessing have I missed because I have simply said “No” to being obedient to the Lord. Don’t get me wrong I feel blessed by the Lord. But how much greater were the blessing I missed because of my stubbornness? I am not talking worldly things like money or fame. I’m talking Godly blessings quite frankly my mind may not be able to comprehend. What a wilderness moment that was for me. I thought of the many times I clearly saw God’s direction and chose not to follow. I also reflected on when I was satisfied with what the world was offering instead of walking by faith the path God set before me.

Then I realized unlike the Israelites, Moses lead out of Egyptian captivity, it is not too late for me to receive the blessing God has for me while I am here on earth. Jesus said in *John 10:10 The thief does not come except to steal, and to kill, and to destroy. I have come that they may have life, and that they may have it more abundantly.* What great comfort I find in this scripture, knowing Jesus did what he did so I could have an abundant life starting right here right now.

The challenge before me and you now is; before I tell that off color joke, before I speak ill of another person, before I take that next drink or drug, before I decide now is not the time to tell the person next to me what Jesus has done for me, before I am unfaithful to my spouse, before I make a decision without praying for God’s direction, or before I leave my house in the morning will I say “God I will follow your lead and do what You are directing me to do.”

Please pray I will have the strength needed to say no to the world and yes to God, because that is my prayer for you! Are You in The Wilderness? Know today we can walk out of it together!

God Bless,

Ronnie

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