

The Life that Enjoys the Wilderness as a Blessing

Deuteronomy 8:1-6

Why did God lead the Israelites in the wilderness for forty years after Exodus? Today's scripture testifies that God has led the Israelites to the wilderness. God saved the Israelites from Egypt through the blood of the lamb of the Passover and led them to the wilderness. All the figures in the Bible have experienced their own wilderness. It is because through the time of the wilderness that is the place to meet God. The Israelites acknowledged the wilderness as a time to experience the Word of God. If the Word of God is contained in the wilderness, then the hardships and problems that you face are no longer a wilderness, but as a blessing. There are many hardships in your life that are like the wilderness. You may face endless hardships. However, the Word of God is in the wilderness and is the way for you to experience the Word, so hardships and difficulties will be a blessing. What is needed for you to enjoy the life of the wilderness as a blessing?

1. Remember that the Lord your God has Led You

- 1) As recorded in Verse 2 of today's bible passage, the Lord had the Israelites walk in the wilderness for forty years. However, there is a more important meaning than God who led them to the wilderness. It is more important to remember the journey through the 40 years in the wilderness than the fact that they walked through the wilderness for 40 years. This is because you can discover something greater within that journey.
- 2) God commanded the Israelites to walk through the wilderness as a form of punishment with the same heart as a father would. However, the Bible states that this punishment was not a simple punishment, but was meant to lead them towards the correct path.
- 3) The reason God must correctly lead your life is because you began your life from Genesis 3,6, and 11 to the life of Egypt. God desires to change your life because you have lived your life with your strength and power.
- 4) Because you must live a life centered on God, He will change your life's method in the wilderness. You will live in a place of nobody if you lean on God. When God is with you, your problems or difficulties will no longer be your problems. This is what God imprinted in the Israelites for 40 years.
- 5) When you enjoy this truth, then the wilderness is the most blessed location to experience God.

2. Follow the Word

- 1) Although it is so obvious, you must follow the Word to enjoy hardships as blessings. Verse 3 states, "And he humbled you and let you hunger and fed you with manna, which you did not know, nor did your fathers know, that he might make you know that man does not live by bread alone, but man lives by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord." Jesus followed this Word when he was challenged as well. This is because all mankind will live by bread.
- 2) God knows better that your life needs bread. But you must never forget that all problems will still arise. It is more important to think about what you must live for even if you know that the bread is needed for you. The most important part is to find the direction of your life. The bread must not become the direction of your life, but God's Word must be the direction.
- 3) You must restore the relationship between God so that your hearts connect for you to live by following the Word. Therefore Verse 1 states, "The whole commandment that I command you today you shall be careful to do, that you may live and multiply, and go in and possess the land that the Lord swore to give to your fathers."
- 4) The reason Israel perished even though they kept the Commandments and the law is because they lost hold of the focus of their relationship with God. You keep His commandments because God is your master, but in reality, even if God does not become your master, keeping the law does not have any power.
- 5) God heavily worked upon the Israelites to lead them, so he can lead you as well. God provided their

needs by feeding the Israelites manna. God provided more than enough for the Israelites to the extent that their clothes never wore out. To the extent that their feet never swelled for forty years.

6) God does all of this so that the physical things will not be your standard. If you forget this, you will be lost in the time of the wilderness of problems that you face. Not only that, the time in the wilderness will be much more difficult for you.

7) For you to come out of this, God is at work upon your life. God allowed you to go through difficult times and allowed your life to be abundant.

3. The Spiritual System that follows the Word

1) Therefore, may you examine the spiritual state to follow the Word in the time of wilderness. When you establish the spiritual system in the time of the wilderness, you will no longer be deceived by Satan and be strengthened by God to surpass it.

2) You must give true worship as you stand before God and pray to receive His guidance.

3) You must hold to the Word and do according to it. Therefore, through Jesus Christ who is the Word will allow the wilderness to be a blessing.

4) You are following the Word as you are aligned to world evangelism. Your life direction and value is changed to which you must live a new life and not of the past. That is why God leads you in the time of the wilderness.

5) May you follow the Word of God and obey it 100% during the time of the wilderness. May you solely rely on the Word. Through the wilderness of problems, may you experience God and stand as the witness of hardships overturned to blessings.