

**Objective: to reveal
the 'terrain of
transition' and how to
negotiate it safely to
the other side.**

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NLBC a.m.

Crossing Over/Crossing Into – Pt. 5

Ex. 14:1-9; Num. 13:30; Ps. 112

Principle of God – the **process** is more important than the **provision**.
God led Israel to camp in the following location:

Baal-Zephon – a city where a temple was built for the demon, Baal-Zephon, the Lord of the North, a storm god; a place of worship; demonic worship

Migdol – a city that was part of the mountain range that blocked them connected to the Bitter Lakes that contained a tower to observe all that passed

Pi-Hahiroth – meaning “mouth of water” – a piece of land adjoining the Sea that looked like a great swallowing mouth

Eltham – meaning “shut in” -- confined and imprisoned in circumstances...facing a Red Sea that was 205 metres deep (Ex. 13:20)

A place of:

- Demonic evil oppression – a reminder of the slavery they had left – Egypt was the place they lived that extracted their very lives through the oppression of economic slavery – how appropriate that they have a reminder of the ‘life they were to leave’ to find a ‘place of rest’ and blessing in their work life
- Connected with bitterness – anger, resentment and sometimes even hate over disappointment at having been treated unfairly
- A place of confinement, restriction, limitation, blockage, shortage, barrenness, confusion,

God led them to this *location* to bring them an even greater deliverance. We all want *circumstantial deliverance*, but **internal freedom and growth** are much greater and more long-lasting than circumstantial deliverance. We were meant to have both.

Application:

- Decide today that you are finished with economic slavery. Some have developed such an 'appetite' for economic slavery they simply believe, "everyone is in the same 'rat race' so I might as well 'put my head down' and get on with working my guts out to 'make a living' and surrender the life I am to live because, 'that's just the only way to get ahead.' – pay my bills, buy a home, send my kids to university, and have a good retirement.
- Ask God to cleanse you in your spirit from all submission to the 'demon of economic slavery.' 2 Cor. 7:1. You wouldn't knowingly or consciously submit to an evil spirit but ignorantly allow it to take over your thought life, decision-making and lifestyle.
- Begin to seek God for the kind of employment that will allow you 'the good life' that He intended...time for Him, time for your family, time for His Church family, time for reaching the lost, and time for ministry or the *life-assignment* you have been given by Him.
- Put your faith into action by tithing, offerings, sowing, and giving generously – effectively stabbing to death the spirit of fear, doubt, and oppression. Shatter the 'shortage' thinking by your generous giving. Your spiritual inheritance begins here. Luke 16:11 says, "So if you have not been **trustworthy** in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?" Stop "tipping" God occasionally and begin to consistently **tithe** and then move on to offerings and 'sowing.' 2 Cor. 9:8-12.
- Forgive **everyone** in your entire life that has ever wounded, betrayed, abused, disappointed, slandered, falsely accused, maligned, mis-treated and hurt you. Matt. 6:14-15 says, "For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." Col. 3:13; Eph. 4:30-32-5:2. Stamp out the 'spirit of suspicion and evil speculation.'
- Establish your **heart**, your **mouth**, and your **actions** in faith. 2 Cor. 5:7. Plant the promises, speak the promises, and root out all negativity. Declare boldly, "I am crossing over (in any and all circumstances) to the other side!"

Summary

Certainly, the significance of these places is larger than we have examined today. Whatever other places of oppression, demonic harassment, limitation, or unforgiveness there may be,

don't neglect to deal with them. Don't end up 'wandering in the wilderness' in some area of your life.

Crossing Into -- Num. 35:10; 36:13; Deut. 12:10

Life is a journey of transitions...you enter this world at birth and leave this world in death, resurrection or rapture. You enter school and leave school. You enter a job and leave it. You enter your work life and retire. You enter a home and leave it. You enter a room and eventually head for the exit of that room. Three modes of our journey in life—entrance, the land between (the distance between entrance and exit) and exit. The story of God's covenant people, Israel, was in four parts: 1)Egypt/Red Sea 2)Wilderness 3)Wilderness/Jordan 4)Canaan

The first part of Israel's journey was getting '**out of Egypt**' and the second part of their journey was '**getting into Canaan.**' To complete transition, we must both 'leave Egypt' by recognition, forsaking, and repentance and we must 'enter Canaan' by **truly believing** that Canaan is our new address. Ex. 6:3-9; Deut. 1:32-36.

Joshua 23:14-15 NCV says, "You know and fully believe that the LORD has done great things for you. You know that he has not failed to keep any of his promises. Every good promise that the LORD your God made has come true, and in the same way, his other promises will come true."

Some people don't want to believe that others can gain more than they have simply by the use of their faith when what they have has been by 'all that hard work, education, and pursuit.' In their view, the 'arm of flesh and the legs of man' are greater to produce than mere faith in the promises of God.

Has God done great things for you? Sit and recount them with your family as we prepare to go to a 'new place in God' and a new place to gather.

Canaan Land – Num. 33:51, 53; Ps. 105:10-11

Christ *died* to give us His life, Heaven-life on earth, not just the cleansing of our sins. Deut. 8:7-10 NCV says, "The LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with rivers and pools of water, with springs that flow in the valleys and hills, a land that has wheat and barley, vines, fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil, and honey. It is a land where you will have plenty of food, where you will have everything you need, where the rocks are iron, and where you can dig copper out of the hills. When you have all you want to eat, then praise the LORD your God for giving you a good land."

John 10:10 tells that we were given 'life abundant.' There is a generation that will live in **all** that God has provided lest the Cross be seen as a failure, to produce fully, what God intended. Will you be part of that generation?

Joshua 5:12 speaks of the transition from the manna that had become the 'same old, same old' to the full fruitfulness of Canaan, the Promised Land!

Canaan represents a life characterised by the following:

- The land of 'milk and honey' – “the truly good life” Ps. 112. Sixteen times the phrase, 'milk and honey' is used to describe the place God was taking them. Deut. 6:10, 11
- The land of rest as opposed to the land of slavery – labour but **not** life-debilitating labour—sweet sleep, productivity and fulfilment (Josh 24:13) – no longer 'running with the rats in the great rat race' to get and keep the almighty pound, but trusting in His provision and His abundance, meanwhile, bearing witness to others of His life...ie. Joseph – Ps. 3:5-8; Ps. 4:8; Ps. 127:2; Prov. 3:23, 24; Heb. 4:8-10
- Your own home and financial blessing – Deut. 8:10-13; Josh. 24:13
- No disease – Divine health...the true HHS...Ex. 15:26; Deut. 7:15; Matt. 8:17; Isa. 58:8; 3 John 2; Jer. 30:17-20
- Generational blessing – 1 Chron. 28:8; Ps. 112

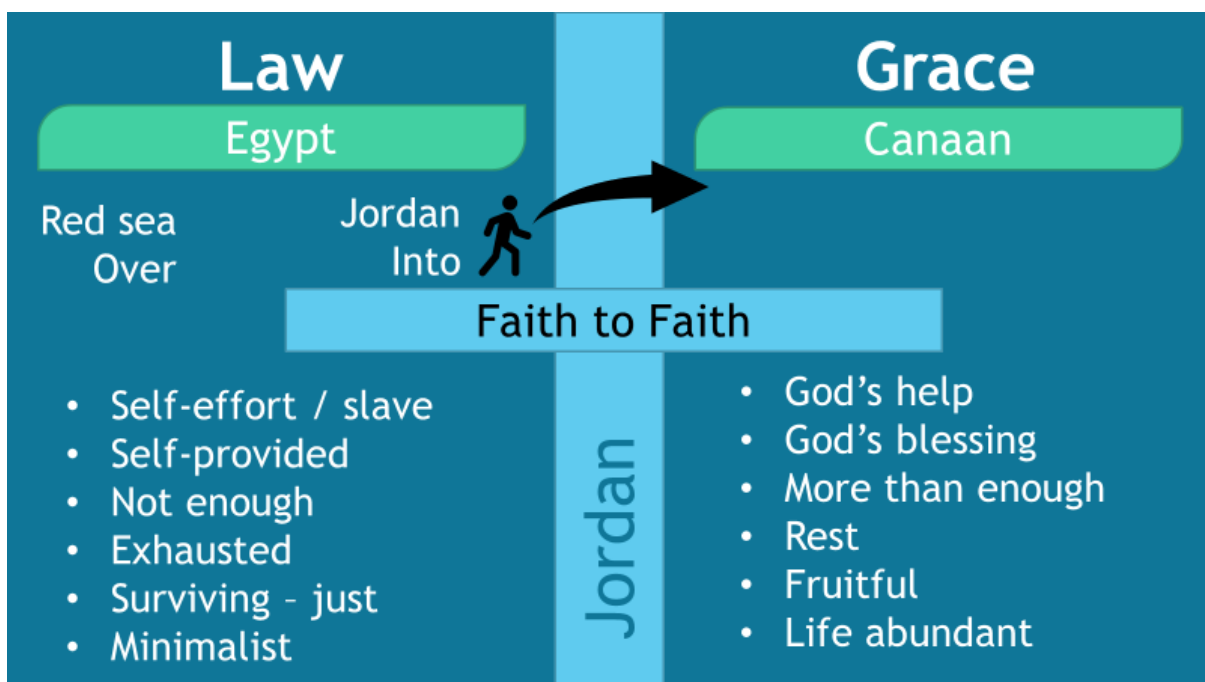
Reluctant Travelers – Num. 32:5,6;

“I want Canaan but I don't want to die for it, go after it, pursue it, make changes for it, believe for it and move toward it in the acquisition of faith.” *Lazy believers die in the wilderness trying to suck the good life out of the desert and other believing believers. They fail to recognise and embrace that it is really their 'inner life' that God is after.*

The Two Tests...Deut. 30:16-20

Leaving Egypt is a test...

Living in Canaan is a test...the one you come to after you believed and entered into the “blessing” of Canaan’s wild and awesome promises! Only men and women of true, steadfast character remain “in the land.” Others become fixed (worshipping) on the blessings and lose their way and drift into nominalism, lukewarmness, and spiritual destitution. (Man who was a “oil millionaire” and lost it all). Deut. 11:13-16.



Crossing Into Canaan -- Joshua 1

After Israel crossed “over the Red Sea,” they crossed the Jordan River during flood stage *into* the Promised Land. Only faith could enable them to **fully leave** Egypt and **cross** over the Red Sea. Only faith can enable us to **cross into** the Promised Land or the Land of Promises...the ‘place’ we were intended to live according to Divine provision and Divine promise. Internal prosperity first is God’s order of blessing. It is what sustains our external prosperity or material blessing.

Developing a “Canaan-Mentality”

Just a living as a ‘new creation’ in Christ involves a radical change in the way we think as believers, so also does living in ‘Canaan.’ Our previous life and the world’s system programmes us to live with its values, instincts, and methods. Canaan, in the Bible, speaks of God’s grace—His unmerited, unearned favour upon our lives. We could not save ourselves. Only He could. We could not secure blessing on our lives by human effort. Only He can. What we secure by human effort must be sustained by human effort and is filled with the great dangers of pride, fear, selfishness and wrongful independence. The striving of human effort wears out the body, the face, the soul, the spirit and brings exhaustion with no real relief. This is because it is wrong, wrong, wrong. Nothing can change the harvest of a life constructed on the basis of Egyptian ‘human effort.’

God said He would provide...Deut. 6:10-12; Josh 24:13. To ‘cross over into’ Canaan is to cross into a life of Divine provision.

God told Israel through Moses and Joshua, to ‘spy out the land.’ He told them to discover the ‘blessing’ that He had pre-provided for them. He called it a land of “rest.” Are you living there yet? Gen. 12:5 speaks of our journey to fully possess and settle in what is so opposite to the world in which we live.

It is only ‘faith and obedience’ that can enable us to ‘cross into’ the land of Canaan, the land of rest, the land of Divine provision. If we fail to make **conscious decisions** to trust the Lord in every area of life, we live in unbelief, human effort, fear and vulnerability.

Developing a Canaan Mentality

God intended His people to develop a ‘Canaan mentality.’ He wanted them to think and embrace a new way of living based on **His provision**, not the slavery of self-provision. Josh. 1:6-9; Rom. 12:1-2.

Things that oppose the 'Canaan Mentality'

- Feeling guilty for being blessed – making excuses for God
- Hiding blessing for fear of being discovered and rejected
- Fear of backsliding over blessing – Ps. 112:3
- Believing it is wrong for me to desire blessing while others are struggling with far less than I have

DEVELOPING A CANAAN MENTALITY	
Egypt	Canaan
Survival	Abundance – John 10:10
Not enough	Generous – 2 Cor 9:8,11
Toil	Labour with rest – Ecc 3:22
Oppression	Promotion - 1 Chron 29:17 Ps 113:7-8
Works	Grace – Deut 6:10-12
Worry, fear, anger	Eph 1:7-8

DEVELOPING A CANAAN MENTALITY	
Egypt	Canaan
Worry, fear, anger	Righteousness, peace and joy – Rom 14:17
Pursuing material things	Enjoying material - Ps 37:19 - Ps 106:5 - Eph 6:3 - 1 Tim 6:17-19

DEVELOPING A CANAAN MENTALITY

Egypt

Canaan

Fear abiding

'Take-away' relationships

Sickness and disease

Continual safety and security

- Ps 3:3

'Buffet' of self offering

- 2 Cor 5:15

Divine health

- 3 John 2

- Matt 8:17

DEVELOPING A CANAAN MENTALITY

Egypt

Canaan

Nomadic

Homes to settle

- Deut 6:10,11

- Deut 8:12,13

Canaan Conquest and Canaan Warfare

Canaan Lifestyle

Canaan Dangers

Canaan Opportunities

