

SHINNING THROUGH THE DARKNESS

Lesson #2 –The Darkness of Unbelief

Scripture Reading: Numbers 14:1-5

Introduction:

1. We must not become discouraged if we only one of few that are letting their light shine.
2. We must let our light shine through the darkness of unbelief.
3. How do we find the courage to shine out against the power of darkness?
4. We find the courage we need when we look to the...

I. PROMISE OF GOD

A. THE PROMISED LAND

1. It was a land flowing with milk and honey –Nu 14:8
2. God made the promise to Abraham and his descendants
 - a. Genesis -12:1-3, 7, 13:15, 15:18, 17:8
 - b. Hebrews -11:8-10, 13-16

B. THE BEAUTY OF HEAVEN

1. Jesus has gone to prepare a place for us –Jn 14:1-4
2. Paul heard inexpressible words not lawful to utter -2Co 12:4
3. John describes heaven –Re 21:4, 22-27
4. Compare souls entering heaven to the Queen of Sheba coming to King Solomon -1Ki 10:7

II. POWER OF GOD

A. ISRAEL URGED TO REMEMBER

1. If the Lord delights in us... -Nu 14:8
 - a. The Lord delights in the ones who have faith in Him –He 11:6
 - b. Faith is stimulated by scenes of the past
2. They witnessed the great power of God
 - i.e. the ten plagues, the Red Sea crossing, the bread, the quail, and water from the rock

B. WE REMEMBER THE PAST AS WE LOOK TO THE FUTURE

1. Christ is with His church
 - a. He bought her with the price of His own blood –Ac 20:26
 - b. He sanctifies, cleanses, and nourishes her –Ep 5:25-29
 - c. He has given her the victory -1Jn 5:4-5, Ro 8:31, 37
2. Christ has brought the church through many obstacles
 - a. Roman persecution
 - b. The apostasy
 - c. Those that move against the church are fighting the mighty hand of God –Ac 5:39, Mt 16:18
3. It is still the same today.
 - a. People trying to silence God from our culture
 - b. People promoting immorality throughout our culture

III. PROTECTION OF GOD

A. NO PROTECTION FOR THE ADVERSARIES OF GOD’S PEOPLE

1. They are urged not to rebel against God –Nu 14:9
 - a. God is on their side
 - b. He will not forsake His people

2. The evidence:
 - a. The words of Rahab –Jo 2:9-11
 - b. The conspiracy of the Gibeonites –Jo 9:1-6
 - c. The alliance of the five kings –Jo 10:1-5

B. OUR PROTECTION THAT GOD PROVIDES

1. The apostle Paul used the government laws in his favor –Ac 22:22-29
2. We too have constitutional laws that protects our rights as citizens
3. E.g. –The misunderstood metaphor “Separation of church and state” (Barton, 43-48)
 - a. The Baptist Association of Danbury, Connecticut was concerned the first amendment rights could be taken away
 - b. Thomas Jefferson assured them that the rights of the American people come from God, not the government.
 - c. This wall was to assure the people that the government would not interfere with religious activity.

Conclusion:

1. We let our light shine by observing opportunities presented to us
2. We let our light shine by knowing our assets we can use to further the kingdom of God.