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Issue 002

THE GREAT TRANSITION

Embracing The Shift Into The Newness of
Life: Four Principles from Israel's Transition
to the Promised Land

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The Great Transition: From Promises To Reality

Embracing The Shift Into The Newness of Life: Four Principles from Israel's Transition to the Promised Land

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Preface

Man was created to be a relational being, and the highest and most strategic relationship that he must pursue and cultivate is the relationship with his Maker.

The book is written to spark the consciousness of the believer in light of his identity in God, for the edification of the saint of God, and to deepen the knowledge of God among those who seek the Truth. As you read through the pages, may the spirit of understanding be upon you. Amen.

So then you are no longer strangers and aliens [outsiders without rights of citizenship], but you are fellow citizens with the saints (God's people), and are [members] of God's household. [Eph. 2: 19 (AMP)]

The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you always.
Shalom.

In the Lord's Service and by the Master's Grace,

Joel Kimari.

Principles From Israel's Journey From Egypt to Canaan

Introduction

The Children of Israel found themselves in Egypt when Jacob and his family sought refuge from a ravaging famine that rocked their home country. They became strangers in that foreign land, and as time passed by, they ended up as slaves of their Egyptian taskmasters, as God had revealed to Abraham (Gen. 15: 13). Israel's full constitution and revelation as a nation began when they departed from Egypt.

Their birth was not an act of rebellion or through armed physical warfare, but through spiritual warfare in which God confronted the gods of Egypt and defeated them in vicious combat. In the end, Egypt gave in and allowed Israel to leave the land of captivity. God was not just taking them out (exodus) of Egypt to leave them in the wilderness, but He was bringing them into (eisodus) the land that He had promised on oath to their fathers, the Patriarchs. But everything changed in the wilderness.

Therefore He raised His hand in an oath against them, to overthrow them in the wilderness. [Psa. 106: 26]

Unfortunately, of the children of Israel who left Egypt and who were over 20 years old, only two men, Caleb and Joshua, were able to enter the promised land. Despite the unprecedented things Israel witnessed the Hand of God do for them, most of them did not transition to the promised land. They were delivered from bondage without having to fight. The Lord literally fought for them, but their beautiful story was corrupted by their actions against Him, and so He could not bring that rebellious generation into the promised land. They had been physically liberated and delivered, but the influence and power of Egypt denied them access to the inheritance.

We can learn from their journey to the promised land. Everyone born again is on transit to a better country prepared for us by God the Father through Jesus Christ. We commence that journey when we accept Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior. However, along the way, some do not come to the reality of the liberty into which they have been granted by the Lord. Just as leaving Egypt was one thing and inheriting the promised land was a completely different thing, so it is with us. Our promise is of a Better and Eternal Country, and the beginning of getting into that Beloved Country commenced when we received Jesus Christ into our lives as Lord and Savior.

As long as we are on this earth, we live as pilgrims who must embark on this journey both physically and spiritually until we arrive home, the celestial city of our God.

For our citizenship is in heaven... [Phil. 3: 20a]

To obtain the promises of God will require us to go beyond the knowledge of the promises that have been granted to us by divine privilege. We must be ready to build the necessary infrastructure that will facilitate our access and enjoyment of our God-given promises. To translate the promises of God into reality, the children of Israel needed to be acquainted with and be conscious of four main principles that are the basis of this expository work. These are: Spiritual Positioning, The Character of the Mind, The Power Working Within, and The Nature and Quality of Faith. These principles are discussed hereunder.

1. Spiritual Positioning

Our existence on earth spans two realms: the physical and the spiritual. Just as in the physical realm, the spiritual realm consists of spiritual life, spiritual space, spiritual beings, and spiritual activities. Every man occupies a spiritual space and position,

whether he knows it or not, whether he is conscious of it or not. We occupy spiritual space by virtue of our existence as spirit beings. Man is a spirit being who was created after the order of God, and his primary existence is spiritual by nature. What we call the body is only a habitation for the spirit of man.

There came a time when a Pharaoh who had no knowledge of Joseph ascended to the throne of authority in Egypt, and from his insecurities and fears, he decided to enslave the children of Israel. When Israel cried out to the Lord, He sent them Moses to bring them out of that land of captivity into a land of prosperity. God orchestrated their deliverance from Egypt in order to bring them into the land He had sworn to their fathers. In Egypt, their spiritual position made them subjects to servitude and oppression, even though they were God's children. They were subjects of their Egyptian lords and masters, even though they had the heritage of being a great nation.

But God came in through Moses and brought a great salvation. The Israelites were elevated to a new spiritual position so that they could walk in the reality of God's promise. Only a handful of men had gone into Egypt through Jacob, but they were leaving as a great nation full of wealth and glory. God elevated them from

slavery to sonship. Their exit from Egypt was symbolic of a change of spiritual position. In the physical, they were walking on foot, but in the spirit, they were flying as if on an eagle's wings. Their maintenance of that high position was attached to their full obedience to His instructions and walking as commanded.

“Now it shall come to pass, if you diligently obey the voice of the LORD your God, to observe carefully all His commandments which I command you today, that the LORD your God will set you high above all nations of the earth.” [Deut. 28: 1]

Position precedes and determines allocation. Some things will remain inaccessible until we are in Him. Every promise given to Israel was anchored on being found in Him. They had to be settled in Him first before He could settle them in the promised land. This was the spiritual side of the inheritance. Jesus Christ had to become their inheritance before He could allocate the land as their physical inheritance. Before giving anything to the Israelites, He gave them Himself first because He is the security and assurance of that which He later allocates.

‘You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. [Exo. 19: 4]

The physical possession and settlement in the promised land were, however, dependent on their maintenance of the spiritual position He had elevated them into, which was in Christ. That is the highest position God can bring a man to: to be in Christ. It is not a place a man can bring himself into. Only by the Hand and grace of God can a man be in Christ. This means that they were to live their lives in Him and for Him. They were to depend on Him for everything.

The moment they began to descend from the high position to which He had taken them, they lost touch with the promise and became wanderers. The inheritance would not become a reality as long as they were wandering because they had to be settled in Him first. From the elevated spiritual position to which He had taken them, they had an advantage over their enemies, over the forces of nature, and over all circumstances that confronted them. The wandering was the outcome of their displacement from their spiritual position.

They wandered in the wilderness in a desolate way; they found no city to dwell in. Hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted in them. Then they cried out to the Lord in their trouble, and He delivered them out of their distresses. And He led them forth by

**the right way, that they might go to a city for a dwelling place.
[Psa. 107: 4- 7]**

Their fall from that position made them subject to their own wisdom, natural forces, and independence, and in the long run, it cost them their lives and cut short their pursuit of the promise. Eventually, they became subject to the powers and instruments of this world. They went on to stay in the desert for over forty years because they had lost their spiritual position in Christ. They became wanderers, people moving from one point to the next, and even though they had the promise, it could not become a reality because they were out of position.

That position is a place of complete dependence on God, and the moment they cried to Him, they were restored, and He led them into the cities that He had appointed for them. They were designed to advance from that position, conquer from that position, and increase from that position. For them, that was the capital center of their existence and operations as far as their calling in Christ was concerned.

And raised us up together, and made us sit together in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus. [Eph. 2: 6]

When one accepts Jesus Christ as Lord, they are elevated to occupy a spiritual position that allows them to effectively interact with God. That position makes it possible to access the promises of God. The problem is not whether God will fulfill the promise or not but whether we are conscious of the preconditions that precipitate the fulfillment of His promises. One of those preconditions is to be found in the right spiritual position. In Christ, we are able to access and take hold of the promises.

By accepting Jesus Christ, one of the things that happens to us is that we transition from our natural positions, and we become seated with Him in heavenly places. That is the position He brings us into so that we can govern from that position. We are meant to live there and conduct our affairs in the earth realm from our position in Christ Jesus. In Him we can behold the eternal promises spoken of us through the Spirit and the Word. We become conversant with the lifestyle and culture of the place He has brought us into. This then informs our response to the issues of life and positively influences our walk with God.

To be in Him means that His Life becomes our life (Col. 3: 3-4), and we become one with Him. No man can fulfill his mandate unless he is in that spiritual position. Once He has

brought us there, it is our business to find out what He wants to do with us and how we can fulfill His purposes here on earth. The reason for our existence is found and defined by our being found in Him so that we can draw every grace responsible for the fulfillment of promises.

Abide in Me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in Me. [John 15: 4]

That spiritual position demands that we live for Him. We become strangers in this world because it is not our home. The moment we begin to find satisfaction, comfort, joy, and approval in the things of this world, we ought to trace our steps and find out whether we have unknowingly vacated our position in Him. We are designed to operate from an elevated position, one of victory over the powers and dominions of darkness. It is a position of function, not just of occupation. We do business from a place of grace, dominion, and prosperity. We can only advance in the breadth and depth of that position as we increase in the knowledge of Jesus Christ.

As you therefore have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in Him, rooted and built up in Him and established in the faith, as

you have been taught, abounding in it with thanksgiving. [Col. 2: 6- 7]

To inherit the promises of God, we must never leave our union with Him or do anything that may make Him leave us. Our access and appropriation of all His promises are tied to our position in Him. There is no security or assurance outside Jesus Christ. Every promise of God is a reality in Jesus Christ, and we only need to grow into the stature where we can be entrusted to apprehend those realities. The Holy Spirit is the assurance that we are united with Him. We must mature in Christ so that we live in the realities of Him in us and us in Him.

By this we know that we abide in Him, and He in us, because He has given us of His Spirit. [1 John. 4: 13]

2. The Character of the Mind

While in Egypt, the mindset of the children of Israel was conformed to the lifestyle that they were subjected to. Eventually, this translated to the nature and quality of their lives, characterized by lack, dependence on the systems of the world, weakness, and self-sufficiency. This was the system that Egypt

infused into them and that informed their lifestyle for most of the 400 years that they were in Egypt, handed down across several generations. The power of the mind is in its ability to perceive and control action. What one sees through the eyes of their mind is what they are most likely to become.

One has to see every promise through the eyes of the mind so that they can pursue it to reality. That is why the generation of those over twenty years of age who left Egypt was unable to cross over into the promised land. They looked but did not see. Moses sent twelve spies to explore the promised land, but they came back with two different reports: the majority report of ten spies, which held that it was impossible to possess the promised land, and the minority report of two spies, which held that God had given the promised land to Israel and they only needed to step up and take over.

Sadly, Israel adopted the majority report. Therefore, God could not give the land to a people whose mindsets were still in bondage. He had sponsored their movement from Egypt and was on the verge of taking them into the promised land, only for them to limit Him by the state of their minds. It did not matter what He had done for them in the past; they had seen the Lord

do it all, and the moment they were called to draw from the victorious experiences He had taken them through in the past; their mindsets failed them.

Their defeatist mentality was one of their greatest disadvantages. A slave mentality broods and gives birth to complaining and lamenting. It was the cause of their ingratitude despite all God had done for them. At one point, they even sought to choose a leader to take them back to Egypt (Num. 14: 4), yet not a long while back, they had cried to God for deliverance. At one time, they remembered the fish that they ate for free in Egypt and the melons and other goodies of Egypt that they got, and they despised manna (Num. 11: 6), the food of angels. Their mindsets made them, by default, victims of circumstances.

They were God's special people, chosen from among the human race. God made them greater than all other nations on earth. They were to begin changing their mindset the moment they started seeing His great acts in Egypt. However, they could not embrace their new identity because they resisted the power that transforms mindsets, the Holy Spirit of God (Acts 7: 51).

Moses testified against them, confessing their rebellion from the first day he knew them (Deut. 9: 24). Their history testified

against them: that their mindset was hostile to God. Their reactions and perceptions to the dealings of God with them were a product of their mindset. You know the way God gives us a promise, and then it does not happen at the time we anticipated or in the manner we expected, and then we end up disappointed and in pain over ‘broken’ promises? Our responses and reactions are based on the state of our minds. God wants us to have a mindset that is anchored and built on His Word.

And do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind, that you may prove what is that good and acceptable and perfect will of God. [Rom. 12: 2]

A mindset is like a building that can be constructed or demolished. Your mindset influences your behavior and reaction towards circumstances in your life. The manner in which we respond to our environment (external and internal) is largely based on the manner in which we have built our mindsets. You take the Apostles, whip them for preaching in the Name of Jesus Christ, and instead of being angry at their persecutors, they go home rejoicing, counting it a joy that they can suffer for Christ (Acts 5: 41). They rejoiced in suffering for their faith in the Lord on account of renewed mindsets.

The mindset of a man grows strong through feeding and weak through starvation. The man who nourishes his mind with the Word of God will find it an easy thing to please the Lord and walk worthy of Him. The Word works on his emotions, his appetites, and his pursuits and aligns them with the purposes of God. The Word builds his confidence in God and in His ability to do what He has promised. The mindset of one who rarely engages the Word finds it a difficult thing to apprehend the promises of God, even though he might know and quote them.

We cannot transition fully into the purposes of God unless we have our minds renewed. On the other hand, the mind that is not renewed becomes conformed to this world. The mind that is not renewed finds its pleasures, joys, and satisfactions in the things of this world. Such a mind finds rest in what this world offers, and the moment you try to interfere with this balance, it reacts aggressively and violently. On several occasions, the Pharisees sought to kill Jesus Christ despite having no charge against Him. The only problem was that He had challenged their mindsets and exposed their false beliefs. They claimed to love God and speak on His behalf, but that was not the case.

Jesus said to him, “‘You shall love the LORD your God with all your heart, with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ [Mat. 22: 37]

Our love for God must permeate and govern our mindsets. A man’s mindset shapes his belief system. A man’s words and actions are the outcome of his belief system. Therefore, the mindset of a man is the structure upon which he builds his life. His words, thoughts, and actions are the raw material of that building. No man can rise above the character of his mind. He may be educated or exposed to the best opportunities and resources, but as long as his mindset is corrupted, he cannot go beyond his level. His mindset allows him to make use of the resources and relationships around him to fulfill his God-given purpose.

A man’s mind has two main influences: the earthly, which is dictated by earthly virtues, or the supernatural, which is dictated by spiritual virtues. Every believer must, with the help of the Holy Spirit, train their minds to focus on heavenly things, things that are of eternal value. This keeps us on the right trajectory to obtain His promises because our minds influence the words we speak and the actions we take in relation to His promises. The

mind ruled by God and fixed on Him creates a conducive environment to obtain every promise He has given because it dwells in the realm of all possibilities in Christ.

Set your mind on things above, not on things on the earth. [Col. 3: 2]

No person can effectively pursue their calling, the promises of God, or their purpose in life without cultivating the right mindset and building the right attitudes around that pursuit. The posture and state of the mind affect one's ability to receive and pursue the promises of God. Every day, we are confronted with choices that we need to make, and in making them, we draw closer to or drift further from accessing the promises of God over our lives. A mind ruled by His Word and His Spirit produces the right kind of results that He would want us to have. We can attract success, victory, and prosperity simply by aligning our minds with His Word.

You will keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on You, because he trusts in You. [Isa. 26: 3]

After receiving Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior, God expects us to be possessed and ruled by the Mind of Christ [1 Cor. 2: 16b]. This, therefore, implies that the quality of our thoughts,

arguments, ideas, and words is superior to those we had when we walked in ignorance of His ways. If we can maintain this mindset, then we can be in command of every situation in our lives. Our paths can shine brighter than the morning sun unto the perfect day (Prov. 4: 18). By virtue of having His Mind, we can live in superiority to the natural forces that we encounter while on earth.

Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things. [Phil. 4: 8 (KJV)]

3. The Power Working Within

A car was invented to facilitate movement. It only moves because the wheels are propelled by some power from the engine through a combustion process that requires fuel and air. The power produced by the system facilitates the movement of the car from one point to another. No car, no matter the quality of its design or how beautiful it looks, can move an inch unless it is

driven by that power. That power is produced within the car, and it enables the car to serve the purpose for which it was designed.

The same principle works in the life of the believer. There is power, some inner spiritual strength, that resides and functions within the believer. That power is inside of us, and when put to work, it grants us access to His promises. However, it is not enough to receive that power and have it remain dormant in us. It will be of no value if it is not activated because the usefulness of power is converting it from potential energy to functional energy. It is spiritual power that facilitates the change of state and levels in a believer's life.

**Now to Him who is able to do exceedingly abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that works in us.
[Eph. 3: 20]**

When Moses sent twelve spies to explore the promised land, they collectively brought a positive report on the general condition of the promised land. However, ten of them, forming the majority report, were of the view that Israel stood no chance against the inhabitants they saw in that land. Their negative report made the hearts of the Israelites melt. A demand had been placed on their inner strength, but they were found

wanting. When they adopted the majority report, it demonstrated that they lacked sufficient power within them to take them into the promised land.

The inner strength was meant to facilitate their pursuit of God's promise. The poisonous words of the ten spies weakened and corrupted the people's inner strength until they decided to give up, and they devised a plan to return to the land of oppression. They only needed to cooperate with God so that He would complete the story of their salvation. It did not matter how far God wanted to go with them or what plans He had for their lives. Their corrupted hearts could not stir up the power within, and so their march into the promised land stalled.

Therefore I was angry with that generation, and said, 'They always go astray in their heart, and they have not known My ways.' [Heb. 3: 10]

Israel received the power to move from Egypt and get settled in the promised land. It was an invisible spiritual power that was working within them. However, they short-circuited the flow of that power, and they were unable to get into Canaan. God put that power alight in them, and it was their responsibility to activate it whenever they needed to draw upon it to sponsor their

movement. God had made that power available for them and provided every resource necessary to activate that power. Their unbelief and rebellion were what cut the flow of that power, and there was nothing God could do to help them.

Their rebellion only attracted the wrath of God. He weighed down their hearts with labor, and they fell down (Psa. 107: 10-12). In their rebellion, God hit them at the source of the power that was meant to facilitate their movement and possession of the inheritance that He had promised them. A heart weighed down with burdens cannot be a safe reservoir and an effective channel for transmitting that power. Then their days were wasted and years consumed until only those whose systems had not been corrupted were qualified to not only see the promise come to reality but also to be partakers.

In spite of this they still sinned, and did not believe in His wondrous works. Therefore, their days He consumed in futility, and their years in fear. [Psa. 78: 32- 33]

No promise of God will ever become true if, on the inside, we have no strength to follow it through to reality. This power is catalyzed by faith in God, who is the only true Source of this strength. The working of that power is dependent on the

condition of our hearts. Unclean hearts hinder the flow and functioning of that power. The kind of inheriting they were doing was not just natural; it had a spiritual effect, and so their hearts had to be right with Him. The flow of that power depends on the purity of the heart because the exercise of that power is exercised from the heart.

That power has given the believer all things that he needs for this life and for godliness (2 Pet. 1: 3). That power is the fuel and food that we need to access our inheritance in Him. That power is the force responsible for sponsoring the believer's spiritual transactions. Every good thing that Jesus did was done through the power of God that was at work in Him; the turning of the water into wine, the raising of Lazarus from the dead, and the healing of the sick were all accomplished through that power. He demonstrated dominion in all His operations because He allowed the power to flow freely in and through Him. His ministry excelled and flourished on account of that power.

How God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power, who went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with Him. [Acts 10: 38]

That power comes upon the believer through the Holy Spirit, who has the sole capacity to access the thoughts of God and also possesses the ability to convey those thoughts to the believer. He knows what the Father wants to accomplish in us and through us, and so He will take up those things and activate the power of God within us to enable us to obtain and achieve them. What a marvelous thing to know that God has made that power available to us. That power is kept flowing through certain spiritual disciplines: unceasing prayers, fellowship with fellow believers and with the Holy Spirit, and the study, meditation, and doing of the Word of God. We therefore confront issues of life from a place of victory.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. [Phil. 4: 13]

Israel suppressed the power of God by creating an unhealthy environment that stopped the functioning and flourishing of that power. There were, however, limited times in which that power worked in them, through them, and for them. That power was meant to govern their day-to-day operations, even the simplest activities at the household level. It was not just meant to defeat their enemies in battles but also to access the blessing of God

across the spiritual and physical spheres. However, when they resisted the Holy Spirit, accessing and exercising that power in times of need was not possible. Failure to access this power meant that their progress stalled.

In the journey of life, we will occasionally come to a place where we feel weak and giving up is the easiest thing to do. The promises of God are real and have been given to us as an inheritance. However, we will not just walk into them. Just like a man in a dark room needs to put on the lights in order to get out of darkness, we have our part to play, and God has given us the grace to walk in victory. We can depend on Him to give us strength when we are weak and to refresh us when we are weary, and when we need that strength increased, we can trust Him to do it.

He gives power to the weak, and to those who have no might He increases strength. [Isa. 40: 29]

We must desire to receive this power in its full force and learn how to develop the environment of our hearts so that this power can function effectively in us without hindrance. That power gives us the strength to stand up and resist the urge to give up when challenges come. It is responsible for propelling our

pursuit of the promises of God. Dominion becomes a reality when that power begins to work in us. We must also deal with all possible threats to the effective functioning of that power, including potential leakages. When that power is drained, the enemy will have an easy time drawing us from the grasp of God.

We can break through any challenge or obstacle to take hold of what God has promised. The enemy does not really matter in this equation because the power we receive from God is the same power that Christ used to defeat him. If we knew what this power could help us do in our lives, families, and societies, then we would be able to live victorious lives in the areas and assignments He has designated for us.

The LORD God is my strength; He will make my feet like deer's feet, and He will make me walk on my high hills. [Hab. 3: 19]

4. The Nature and Quality of Faith

Faith, love, and hope form the value system of the Kingdom of God as far as it concerns the operations of the believer on earth. We cannot get hold of any promise if we do not have faith. Our inheriting the promises of God is a function of our faith in Him:

in His Character, His Abilities, His Mercies, and His Love. Faith is the only force that can quench the violence of unbelief, fear, and doubt. These three are the greatest enemies and threats to obtaining the promises of God. No other power on earth can vanquish them apart from faith in God. The first and most important work of faith is to bring us to the place of believing in Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

Unbelief is one of the reasons that Israel did not effectively transition to the promised land. In relation to inheriting the promised land, not much was demanded from them except to believe in the Lord their God and to follow Him wholeheartedly. The Architect of their deliverance could only plan, orchestrate, and push for their exodus and eisodus. Unfortunately, He could not believe on their behalf. It was their responsibility to believe in Him and that He was able to accomplish His Word.

The deliverance of Israel from Egypt was not the work of a military strategist, because the acts witnessed exceeded the skill and tactics of military men. The perfectly executed deliverance plan was a divine strategy, by a Divine Hand, that pushed Egypt to the limits and broke their resistance against His plan. Nothing was going to stand in the way of Israel's deliverance. God was

pushing for their victory and breaking every barrier and obstacle to their deliverance. By the Hand of God, a great deliverance was witnessed, carved in eternal records. He was actively involved in delivering them from bondage.

Then He brought them into the wilderness, which was only a way to their destination. We must not think that because we are born of God and because we hold fast to His teachings, ours will be an easy journey. While we walk on this earth, we shall encounter many troubles, but God will help us through them (Psa. 34: 19). The persecutions, challenges, and struggles shall not break us because He shall be there with us to comfort, to guide, to deliver, and to strengthen us. It is part of our pilgrimage journey. It is not the number of challenges that count but the Presence of God in our lives as we face those challenges and our ability to trust in Him through them. What we go through must not rob us of our faith.

Strengthening the souls of the disciples, exhorting them to continue in the faith, and saying, “We must through many tribulations enter the kingdom of God.” [Acts 14: 22]

The wilderness was not their destination, just as this world is not our home. We have an eternal home made in the heavens for

our eternal dwelling. Though we live in this world, it is only a temporal abode. We are only sojourners, and this world is not our final destination. We are on our way to a better place. The Israelites were only passing through that desert, en route to a better place, a place that God had promised on oath to their father Abraham: a land flowing with milk and honey.

The most disheartening thing about Israel is that, despite all that God did for them, theirs was a disappointing ending. The miracles, breakthroughs, and successes they witnessed were quickly forgotten. The memory of the great victory that He secured for them was easily erased because they were a rebellious people. They did not believe in the work that He had performed before their very eyes. Their unbelief choked the functioning of faith. Without faith, they could not enter the promised land.

In spite of all this they still sinned, and did not believe in His wondrous works. [Psa. 78: 32]

Faith is made functional when one decides to fully trust in God. We must believe that God is more than willing to deploy every resource available in Eternity to fulfill every promise that He has given us. The unbelief of the House of Israel was in no place

more pronounced than at Kadesh Barnea, where they doubted the ability of God to bring them into the promised land. It was at that instance that He proclaimed a curse over that generation over twenty years of age who had left Egypt and had been witnesses of His great power. Except for Caleb and Joshua, the rest did not enter as the Lord proclaimed because they did not believe in God and in His Word.

We cannot enter into the fullness of His promises if we do not have faith. It is faith that allows us to access the supernatural and appropriate the promises of God. No promise of God can be apprehended without the substance of living faith. Some people have faith, but it is dead. Dead faith cannot deliver anything. The usefulness of faith is in its life and its ability to sponsor our walk with God and manifest His Character while facilitating our appropriation of His Divine promises.

Israel did not believe that they could inherit the promised land, and so they spoke against themselves. Words have a way of expressing the presence or absence of faith in our hearts. Here were God's chosen people, enjoying divine backing towards inheriting the promise, but they spoke themselves out of their God-ordained promise. Because God was in their midst, He

heard their words of unbelief. He could no longer walk with that faithless generation because when they needed their faith most, it was not there. Oh, the curse of unbelief.

And all the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron, and the whole congregation said to them, “If only we had died in the land of Egypt! Or if only we had died in this wilderness!... Say to them, ‘As I live,’ says the LORD, ‘just as you have spoken in My hearing, so I will do to you.’ [Num. 14: 2 & 28]

Sadly, the story of the interactions between mankind and God is littered with innumerable instances of man’s unbelief in God. The natural man has been blinded by the devil to believe that his life is better without God. Faith in God is the foundation upon which other virtues grow and find expression. The relationship between God and the believer is founded on faith. It does not matter how many things God has planned for us because, without faith, we limit Him just as they did in His hometown, which left Him amazed at their unbelief. The Healer was not able to perform significant healing because of the people’s unbelief (Mark 6: 5-6).

Faith is made alive by the application of the truths delivered to our spirits by the Word of God. It is sustained by the continuous study and meditation of the Word of God. Faith and the Word of God are inseparable. Faith is made valid through its actions. The three (the Word of God, our belief in God, and our God-ordered actions) are drawn together to secure the reality of every promise of God. It is the union of these three elements that gives faith its life and ability to deliver on all of God's promises.

**So then faith comes by hearing, and hearing by the word of God.
[Rom. 10: 17]**

We must build sufficient strength and capacity, with the help of the Holy Spirit, to help us navigate the things we encounter in this world and, more importantly, to stay on course as we await the revelation of our dear Lord and Master. The things that corrupt and weaken our faith in God must be banished from our lives, and those that refresh and vitalize our faith must be brought closer. We must be rich even in our faith, upon which demands will be placed as long as we walk on earth. Our faith in God is needed as long as we are on this earth because we live and walk by it.

But the just shall live by his faith. [Hab. 2: 4b]

God wants us to trust Him over every area of our lives. He wants us to believe in Him, in His Word, in His Character, and in His Nature. There is no promise from God that was given for cosmetic value or for the believer's excitement. He never gave any promise without the intention of bringing it into reality. He never made a promise that was beyond His ability to deliver. His flawless Character since the beginning of time will not be tarnished on account of failing to keep any promise. He has demonstrated that He can be trusted because Eternity bears divine records of His eternal faithfulness. Our faith is the license and boarding pass to enter into the reality of all His promises over our lives, both in this life and the eternal one to come. Hallelujah.

But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him. [Heb. 11: 6]

Conclusion

We receive the promise through the written word or through a vision or by way of prophecy. The believer is in a type of contract

that has 3 main elements: The Promisor (God), the promisee (the believer), and the promise (the substance). We can walk in the reality of every God-given promise if we are aligned with the principles that support the realization of that promise. We can change the quality of our lives by consciously engaging the truth to walk in the reality of every promise that God has given us.

Epilogue

It is impossible for you to live in the reality of God's promises without making Jesus Christ the Lord and Saviour of your life. He that gives the promises is the One who is able to translate them to reality for the glory of His Name.

Sinner's Confession

Father God, I thank You for loving me even when I was still in sin. I also thank You for Jesus Christ, for His death and resurrection from among the dead. I confess that I have not been living right with You. I ask for Your mercy, forgiveness, and deliverance from the power of sin. From this moment on, I ask that You come, together with Jesus Christ and the Holy Spirit,

and make Your dwelling place in my heart. I renounce sin, and from this day forward, I confess that Jesus Christ is Lord in my life and that I am born of God. Amen.

By making this confession, you have allowed Jesus Christ into your heart, and you are now a believer, born after God. The next thing is to seek water baptism to affirm this reality: that you are dead to sin and the world, and the life you are now living is the Life of Jesus Christ. Ask God to grant you the gift of His Holy Spirit, Who will help you in your walk with Him. Exercise yourself unto godliness by reading the Word, offering prayers to God, and uniting yourself with a fellowship that believes in Jesus Christ. May His grace be with you eternally. Shalom.

END

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The Great Transition

Upon accepting Jesus Christ as your Lord and Saviour, God expects you to walk in the Newness of Life. It begins with embracing the reality of what God has made us to become and walking in that reality.

God intended for Israel to walk in that newness of life, but they missed it and were unable to effectively transition from Egypt to the promised land. Every promise of God is a pending reality.

This booklet provides insights drawn from Israel's transition from Egypt to Israel, a reflection of our journey from this world into the Celestial City.



Joel Kimari is a believer in the Lord Jesus Christ, His lifestyle, and His teachings. Through writing, he takes honor in communicating the Wisdom and the Intelligence of God.