

The Journey of Israel

Introduction: The Journey of Israel can be a spiritual road map for every Christian. New Testament spiritual truths are often prefigured and symbolized by natural events and things in the Old Testament, 1 Cor.15:46. The journey of the Israelites is specifically mentioned by the Apostle Paul as being a type, model, or pattern (Greek τυπος “tupos”) for us to learn from (1 Cor.10:6 & 11) and is instruction or warning (Greek νουτησεια, “nouthesia”) for us as well, 1 Cor.10:11.

The experiences the Israelites had in their journey help explain to us our Christian development from spiritual birth to full maturity. This journey had three parts: the Israelites went from Egypt, through the Wilderness, into the Promised Land. These three sections show parallel truths about our Christian growth that can be seen through many Scriptures. The following chart helps explain this:

LEVEL OF MATURITY:	1	2	3
1 JOHN 2:12-15	LITTLE CHILDREN	YOUNG MEN	FATHERS
JOURNEY OF ISRAEL	EGYPT	WILDERNESS	PROMISED LAND
FEASTS OF ISRAEL	PASSOVER	PENTECOST	TABERNACLES
REVELATION 17:14	CALLED	CHOSEN	FAITHFUL
MOSES' TABERNACLE	OUTER COURT	HOLY PLACE	HOLY OF HOLIES

The purpose of studying this Old Testament prophetic picture of our Christian spiritual journey is to receive vision to help direct our goals in life, as well as receive wisdom on how we can step-by-step reach God’s full purpose for life.

I. IN EGYPT, THE LAND OF BONDAGE Exodus chapters 1-13

The Israelites leaving Egypt is a prophetic picture of the Christian being saved out of the world:

- * The Israelites were slaves, just as we were slaves of sin,
- * Egypt = the sinful world. They had worldly wisdom, power, glory, and they focused on death
- * Pharaoh = the Devil. His symbol was a serpent on his crown, he was all-powerful, and he refused to let God’s people worship God
- * The blood of a lamb protected God’s people from death and helped them to escape Egypt (Exodus 12) just as Christ, the Lamb of God, set us free from sin and death (Jn.1:29, 1 Cor.5:7) so that we can escape sin & Satan, to begin our pilgrimage to the Promised Land.

A. THE PREPARATION OF ISRAEL’S DELIVERER

There were 3 equal 40-year sections to Moses’ life (Acts 7:23-36)

1. Moses, the Prince of Egypt, Ex:2:1-15
 - a. Moses’ parents were from the tribe of Levi (Ex. 2:1), which became the priestly tribe
 - b. Moses was adopted by Pharaoh’s daughter, but raised for the first few years by his mother, Ex.Ex.2:5-10. The formative power of a godly mother can be great!
 - c. Moses became a prince of Egypt, Ex.2:10. He also gained great worldly wisdom and power, Acts 7:22.
 - d. At the age of 40 Moses tried to fulfill his calling and deliver Israel, Acts 7:23-29. He failed, because worldly position, wisdom, and power are insufficient to accomplish the call of God, 1 Cor.1:26-29. He was called, but not yet ready to be chosen, Mat.20:16.

- e. Moses was afraid and had to flee in exile to the wilderness, Ex.2:14-15. But Hebrews 11:27 tells us “by faith he left Egypt.” Heaven’s final evaluation of our life can at times overlook our own weaknesses and failures!
- 2. **Moses, the Wilderness Shepherd, Exodus 2:15-4:29**
 - a. Moses spent the next 40 years of his life as a shepherd in the wilderness. The Prince of Egypt had failed, but his new humbled life prepared him to become chosen of God, Deut.8:2, Num.12:3, Ex.3:10-11, Ex.4:10, 1 Cor.1:27-29, 1 Pet.5:6.
 - b. At the age of 80, God chose Moses at the burning bush, Acts 7:29-30.
 - c. Moses started to return to Egypt but was opposed by God, Ex.4:24-26. He was called and chosen by God, but had to first practice what he was to preach! God’s covenant to Abraham’s descendants (that they would inherit the Promised Land) was shown by the circumcision of their children (Gen.17:7-11) and Moses’ own sons were not yet circumcised. Those who teach and preach will be held more accountable to God, Jam.3:1, Mat.5:19, Lk.12:47-48.

Similarities between Moses and Paul

Highly educated:	in the wisdom of Egypt	in the school of Gamaliel
Killed:	an Egyptian	Christians
Exiled:	desert of Arabia – 40 yrs.	Arabia – 2 years
Failed to fulfill calling:	mediating between Hebrews	zealous for the Law, persecuted church
Received the pattern:	for Moses’ Tabernacle	for the New Testament Church
Passion for intimacy:	“show me now Your glory”	“that I may know You”

- 3. **Moses, the Deliverer & Leader of Israel, Exodus 4:29- Deuteronomy 34:7**
 - a. After delivering Israel from Egypt, Moses led the Israelites for 40 years through the wilderness, Deut.34:7.
 - b. Moses was faithful to complete God’s calling on his life, Heb.3:5.
 - c. If we are to complete God’s plan for our earthly life, we must also become called, chosen, and faithful, like Moses, Rev.17:14, Mat. 25:21.

B. THE DELIVERANCE FROM EGYPT: “LET MY PEOPLE GO!”

- 1. Pharaoh Rejects Moses, Exodus 5:1-2. The devil will oppose every move of God.
- 2. Pharaoh increased the Israelites’ burden, Exodus 5:3-9. When conducting spiritual warfare, things often get worse before the victory comes!
- 3. The Ten Plagues, Exodus 7:14-12:31. The reason for the plagues was to execute judgment upon Pharaoh and the gods of Egypt. For us to be successful in spiritual warfare, we must first bind the strong man before we plunder his possessions, Lk.11:21-22, Eph.4:12.
- 4. The Institution of the Passover, Exodus chapter 12
 - a. Passover speaks of our salvation experience. (1 Pet. 1:18-19)
 - b. Jesus is our Passover Lamb. (1 Cor. 5:7)
 - c. Every house needed a lamb. (Ex. 12:3) Every family needs a witness, Acts 16:31
 - d. Those who eat must be ready to leave. (Ex. 12:11) Everyone who receives Christ must be ready to leave sin behind, to learn to walk with God.
 - e. A Lamb without blemish was to be killed, Ex.12:5. Christ was examined and found to be without fault or blemish, Lk.23:13-15
 - f. The bones of the lamb were not to be broken (Ex.12:46), like Christ, Jn.19:31-36.

II. IN THE WILDERNESS, Exodus 12:31 – Joshua 3:17)

- * The Wilderness spiritually represents trials & testings that God will use to help bring us into spiritual maturity, Deut.8:2-5, Heb.12:5-10, Is.40:3-5, Hos.2:14-16.
- * Many of God’s most special saints were prepared through wilderness experiences: Moses,

Elijah, John the Baptist, our Lord Jesus, and the Apostle Paul, Gal.1:17-18.

* A wilderness experience does not have to only be a lonely desert experience- God can also place us in a spiritual wilderness in the midst of many people, Ezek.20:35-36.

A. The Journey of the Israelites Begins: Egypt to Mt Sinai, Exodus 12:31-18:27

1. From Goshen to the Red Sea
 - a. With the death of Egypt's firstborn, the Israelites were sent out of Egypt, Ex.12:31-33.
 - b. The Israelites gathered the riches of Egypt before they left, Ex.12:35-36; Gen. 15:14; Isa. 61:6. Great battles can release us into great victories, Job 42:10, Phil.2:5-11
 - c. The Lord did not lead the Israelites by the short route to the Promised Land along the coastal road that led to the land of the Philistines, Ex. 13:17. That would have been about a 13 day march. God knew that the Israelites were fearful slaves running away from their oppressors, who were not ready to be victorious soldiers- they were spiritual babies, not spiritual young men, 1 Jn.2:12-14.
2. Israel Crosses the Red Sea (Ex. 14:1-30)
 - a. God led them to camp by the Red Sea, in a place they could be trapped by Pharaoh's army, Ex.14:1-9. God's battle plans are often the opposite of man's plans, Is.55:8-9, 2 Chron.20:21-24, Zech.4:6.
 - b. God tells Moses to have the people go forward, Ex.14:15. Without a miracle they would drown! But when God speaks, we should exercise faith and obey to release God's miraculous plans, Heb.11:1 & 29.
 - c. Crossing the Red Sea signifies the Christian experience of water baptism, 1 Cor. 10:2.
 - d. God opened the sea for the Israelites, but drowned Pharaoh's army when they followed, Ex.14:18-19. Identifying with the death & resurrection of Christ in water baptism cuts off the powers of Satan from our life!
 - e. At this point the Israelites were out of Egypt, yet the love of Egypt was not yet removed from their hearts, Ex.14-11-12, 16:3, 17:3, Num.11:5 & 20, 14:4. Water baptism gives us *legal* identification (against Satan) with Christ's death and resurrection, but it does not fully bring us into *experiential* identification.
3. The Red Sea to Mt Sinai, Ex.15:22-18:27
 - a. Marah, the place of bitter water, Ex. 15:22-26. The solution was applying a tree, symbolic of the cross, Ex.15:25, Gal.3:13. Life is full of disappointments that can leave someone bitter if we do not apply the cross, Heb.12:15, Gen.50:20.
 - b. Elim- At the oasis of Elim they found twelve wells of water and seventy palm trees. "twelve" = "government" (12 princes, 12 apostles, 12 hours, 12 months) "seventy" = associated with "eldership." (Num. 11:16, 25)
A palm tree is a symbol of righteousness. (Psa. 92:12; Job 1:1; 29:7-11; 1 Tim 3:1-2)
God develops His people in the wilderness! On your journey through the wilderness, make every meeting with God an oasis where you develop maturity & leadership.
 - c. Wilderness of Sin to Mt. Sinai
The 10 trials of the wilderness begin, with lack of food (Ex.16:2-3) and no water, Ex.17:2-3.
 - d. Joshua fought against the Amalekites, Ex.17:8-16. Amalek, the grandson of Esau, represents "flesh and carnality," Gen.36:12, Gal.4:23, & Heb.12:16. We must fight against the lusts of the flesh, Gal.5:16-17.
 - Leaders ought to pray for their flock. (Ex. 17:11; 2 Cor. 10:4-5; Eph. 6:12; Luke 18:1; Jas. 5:16; Eph. 1:15-16)
 - Leaders need support and encouragement too. (Ex. 17:12-13; 1 Thess 5:25; 2 Thess. 3:1; Heb. 13:18)
 - e. Moses learns to delegate, Ex.18:13-26
 - Wise leaders are open-minded. (Ex. 18:24; Prov. 1:5)
 - Delegation frees the leadership. (Ex. 18:14, 17-18; Acts 6:1-2)
 - Delegation gives opportunity for others to function in their gifts. (1 Pet. 2:5,9)
 - Delegation enables leadership to concentrate on priorities. (Ex. 18:18-20; Acts 6:4)

- God's people are best cared for through the network of small groups, which become the "building blocks" of the Body of Christ. (Acts 2:46; 20:20; 1 Cor. 16:19; Col. 4:15; Phm 1:2)
4. At Mount Sinai, Exodus 19:1—Numbers 10:12)
 - a. Mt. Sinai is typical of Pentecost and the power of the Spirit:
 - Israel reached Mt. Sinai on the third month after Passover, just as Pentecost was on the third month after Passover.
 - The fire of God fell on Mt. Sinai, just as it fell on the day of Pentecost, Acts 2:3.
 - God's laws were written on stone at Mt. Sinai (The 10 Commandments), but were written on hearts at Pentecost, Acts 2:37 & 2 Cor.3:3.
 - The plans for God's dwelling place (the Tabernacle of Moses) were revealed on Mt. Sinai, and the beginning of God's dwelling place in the New Testament (the Church) was revealed at Pentecost.
 - There was sin & idolatry among God's people at Mt. Sinai (Ex.32) just as there is sin among God's Pentecostal people today. (Pentecost had leaven, Lev.23:16-17)
 - Mt. Sinai was not the destination of God's Old Testament people, but only a preparation for them to go on towards the Promised Land. Becoming a Pentecostal is not God's final purpose for His New Testament people, it is only preparation for them to go on, Heb.6:1-3, Heb.12:18-24.
 5. At Kadesh-Barnea, the edge of the Promised Land, Numbers 13-14
 - a. Twelve leaders from each tribe were sent out to spy the Land of Promise. (Num. 13:1)
 - b. The evil report of the ten spies magnified the obstacles. (Num. 13:25-33). The eyes of unbelief will never see the fulfillment of God's promises.
 - c. Joshua and Caleb stood valiantly in spite of overwhelming opposition. (Num. 14:6-9)
 - d. God judged the unbelieving generation. (Num. 14:22-23; 29, 32-22) Of the 603, 550 adult men that came out of Egypt, only 2 made it to the Promised Land.
 - e. This was the 10th time that Israel failed the testing of God. (Num. 14:32). The number 10 in the Bible speaks of testing or trials (Num.14:22, Dan.1:12, Gen.31:41, Lk.19:13, Mt.25:1, Jb.19:3, Rev.2:10).The "Moses Generation" were being tested, to see if they were mature & qualified for the Promised Land.
 6. Wandering in the Wilderness, Numbers 15:1-21:35
 - a. The "Moses Generation" failed every test and were judged unworthy of entering the Promised Land, Num.14:22-23. It took them 2 years to travel from Egypt to Kadesh Barnea, and because of their disobedience, they were to wander in the Wilderness another 38 years until all the adult generation that left Egypt had died in the Wilderness, Num.14:29-34. We also can only go forward into God's full plans if God sees us as prepared, so that He will permit us to go on, Heb.6:1-3.
 - b. Joshua and Caleb were to be allowed to enter the Promised Land because of their faith and obedience, Num.14:30. We will enter our own "Promised Land" (the promises of God for our lives) if we will obey His voice & exercise faith, Heb.3:7-4:2.
 - c. Korah rebelled against Moses' leadership. (Num. 16:1-50). Leadership among God's people is appointed by God, not democratically chosen by men, Heb.5:4.
 - d. Moses struck the rock this second time in anger and disobedience, so God would not allow him to enter the Promised Land, Num.20:7-12.
 - A miracle is not a proof that a person is walking in obedience with God!
 - Moses's action broke a type, that Christ (the rock) is only to be struck (crucified) once.
 - God's punishment of Moses may seem harsh, but to whom much is given, much will be required, Lk.12:47-48.
 7. The Second Approach to the Promised Land, Numbers 20:14-Deut.34:12
 - a. Moses defeats King Sihon and King Og, Num.21:21-35. The Israelites were circling around to enter the Promised Land from its eastern side.
 - b. King Balak of Moab bribed Balaam to curse Israel. (Num. 22-24). Balaam's life was characterized by:

- Greed, Jude 11
- Self-deception, Num.22:12, 18, 19, & 34
- False Doctrine, Rev.2:14 & Num.25:1-3
- Balaam was a great prophet, but he died under God's judgment, just as the angel had warned him, Num.22:31-33, Josh.13:22.
- c. A new leader chosen for Israel, Num. 27:18-23. Joshua's qualifications included:
 - He had a servant's heart, Num. 11:28, Mk.10:43.
 - He was a warrior-leader (Ex. 17:8-16), just as Christ is, Ex.15:3 & Joshua 5:14.
 - Joshua became a man of vision & faith, Num.14:6-9.
 - Joshua had received an anointing from His waiting on the Lord, Ex.33:8-11, Num.27:18.
 - Joshua's was commissioned by Moses, at which time he received a further anointing from Moses, Deut.34:9.
- d. Joshua was a prophetic type of the Lord Jesus:
 - His named was changed from Hosea to Joshua, Num.14:16. "Joshua" is the same name in the original Hebrew as "Jesus."
 - Joshua finished what Moses could not complete (Josh.1:2), like Christ, Jn.1:17
 - Joshua led the people into their inheritance (Josh.1:6 & 18:10) like Christ, Eph.1:11.
- e. Moses died at Mt. Pisgah, near the edge of the Promised Land, Deut. 34:1-4.

III. IN THE PROMISED LAND

- * The Promised Land spiritually represents the Christian entering into God's promises for their lives, including spiritual maturity, ministry, and eternal reward, Heb.3:14-4:11, 12:22-24.
- * Abraham had originally received the calling and vision for the Promised Land (Gen. 13:14-17), but God waited almost 500 years to multiply his descendents and prepare them. In a similar way, God has made a contract- a new covenant- to give all of His promises to the followers of Christ, Mt.16:18, Mt.24:14, Rev.21:7. One of the reasons why we do not yet see this all fulfilled yet is because of God is still preparing us, it has not yet been the correct time.
- * In the wilderness the Israelites were prepared to conquer their *inner* enemies- their sinful human hearts- to become holy and victorious. This was to cause them to be ready to overcome the *outer* enemies they would face in the Promised Land- the principalities and powers of Satan. Building *character* always comes before building successful *ministry*, Gen.1:26.

A. Israel Crosses the Jordan, Joshua 3:1-17

1. The Jordan River speaks of death:
 - a. The Jordan leads down to the Dead Sea, where everything in the river will die.
 - b. The Jordan goes from Adam (Josh.3:16) to the lowest place on the surface of the world, about 1280 feet below sea level- speaking of the course of human life going from Adam down to death, Rom.5:12.
 - c. John the Baptist declared the coming death of Jesus Christ at the Jordan River, Jn.1:28-29.
 - d. Elijah ended his earthly life after he crossed the Jordan, 2 Kings 2.
2. The crossing of the Jordan River signifies being crucified with Christ, Gal.2:20, Rom.6:6. Two times the Israelites miraculously crossed through water, at the Red Sea & at the Jordan. The Red Sea crossing, speaking of water baptism, causes us to enter into being *legally* identified with Christ's death and resurrection, Rom.6:2-5. The crossing of the Jordan River speaks of becoming *experientially* identified with Christ's death & resurrection.
 - a. The waters of Jordan were cut off at a city called Adam. "Adam" speaks of our "old sinful nature" we inherit from Adam.
 - b. The people of God entered into maturity when they crossed the Jordan. The first time the Israelites miraculously passed through water (the Red Sea) they were spiritual

- babies, just rescued by the blood of the Lamb. They had been fearful slaves running away from the enemy through the Red Sea, but the second time they miraculously passed through the waters (The Jordan River) they were bold soldiers, running *towards* the enemy instead of *away* from the enemy! The Israelites had spiritually become young men through their wilderness preparations, 1 Jn.2:14, 2 Tim.2:3. then as they possessed the Promised Land they became spiritual fathers & mothers with an inheritance to pass along to their children, 1 Jn.2:13, 2 Cor.12:14.
3. The waters of the Jordan were cut off when the Ark of God was placed in it.
 - a. The Ark is prophetic of our Lord Jesus (of dual nature, the place of the blood, the place where God speaks and reveals His glory).
 - b. It was when Christ stepped into the waters of death at the cross that He cut off the flow of death that passed down to all men, Jn.1:29.
 - c. Some Hebrew texts (such as the one the King James Bible was based on) give the name of the place where Christ was baptized as being *Bethabara* which means, the *House of Crossing*. This would place Christ's water baptism –and the declaration that He was the Lamb of God to take away all sin- as being at exactly the same place where the Ark of God had stood when the waters of the Jordan were cut off, Jn.1:28.
 4. The people of God came 2000 cubits after the ark. The number 2000 prophetically speaks of the approximate length of the Church Age, Josh.3:3-4, 1 Kgs.7:27.
 - a. This was prophetic, that the people of God would enter into the Promised Land (would see all of God's promises to the Church fulfilled) about 2,000 years after Christ's death.
 - b. The Israelites crossed the Jordan at the time of it overflowed, Josh.3:15. The waters of death will overflow the world at the time the overcomers will arise, and enter the Promised Land, Is.60:12.
 - c. The Israelites crossed the Jordan at the time of harvest, Josh.3:15. At the end of the age, during the time of the Joshua Generation of the Church, will be the greatest harvest of souls, Mt.24:14, Is.60:3-7.
 5. Immediately after crossing the Jordan, the Israelites camped at Gilgal, Josh.4:19.
 - a. Gilgal was the place where the Israelite men became circumcised, Josh.5:2-9.
 - b. Circumcision was the sign of the covenant that God's people would inherit the Promised Land, Gen.17:7-14. Now God's promise was fulfilled!
 - c. This spiritually speaks of our becoming circumcised of heart and of our being led by the spirit, not the flesh, Deut.10:16, Phil.3:3, Gal.5:16-18. When we spiritually "cross the Jordan" and become crucified with Christ, we will experience this.
 - d. Crossing the Jordan and coming to Gilgal removed the love of Egypt (the world) from their hearts, Jos.5:9. Up to this time they had repeatedly wanted to go back to Egypt, Ex.14-11-12, 16:3, 17:3, Num.11:5 & 20, 14:4.
 - e. Joshua and the Israelites continued to camp at Gilgal all of the 7 years they were conquering the Promised Land, Josh.5:10, 6:11, 9:6, 10:6, 10:43, & 14:6. If we want to conquer and obtain all of God's promises, we must abide with a circumcised heart!
 - f. At Gilgal Joshua met Christ the captain, Jos. 5:13-15. Before Joshua would conquer Canaan, he met the Conquering Captain, to become changed into His image as a conquering captain, 2 Cor.3:18, 1 Jn.3:2

B. Conquering the Promised Land, Joshua 6:2 – 2 Samuel 5:7

1. Israel defeats Jericho, Jos. 6:1-27
 - a. The Lord placed a ban on all spoils of Jericho, Jos. 6:17-19.
 - b. They marched around the city once for 6 days and 7 times on the 7th day, then

shouted, Jos. 6:12-14, 15-16, 20. To be victorious in spiritual battles we need to hear from God (2 Sam.5:17-25) and use spiritual weapons (2 Cor.10:4) such as shouting, 2 Chron.13:15, Ps.47:5.

- c. Rahab and her family were saved, and she joined the foremothers of Jesus Christ, Jos. 6:22-23, 25; Mat. 1:5.
 - d. Joshua placed a curse over the rebuilding of Jericho, Jos. 6:26. We cannot occupy or rebuild cursed houses, churches, or cities at our own will, we must be led of God, 1 Kngs.16:34, Lev.14:44-45.
2. Israel conquered most of the Promised Land:
- a. In Joshua 10 the kings of the southern area were defeated.
 - Joshua had his leaders share in his victory (Joshua 10:24-25) just as Jesus will have us share His victory, Rom.16:20 & Eph.1:22-23.
 - Joshua then hanged- crucified- the kings on trees, Josh.10:26. Jesus has used the tree of the cross to defeat His own enemies, Gal.3:13 & Col.2:14-15.
 - b. In Joshua 11 the northern part of the Promised land was conquered.
 - c. Israel defeated 31 kingdoms belonging to seven nations, Deut. 7:1-2.
 - The "Seven nations" can represent the "7 things abominable to God," Prov. 6:16-19.
 - The "31 kings" speak of the principalities & powers of Satan that have to be conquered for us to enter in and possess our full inheritance in Christ, which is our 'Promised Land,' Eph. 6:12, Ps. 149:6-9, Mt. 12:29.
 - In the Wilderness God was conquering the problems inside the believer's hearts, but in the Promised Land the believers were to conquer the problems outside of them in the world.
 - c. The three failures of Joshua's army include:
 - Temporary defeat at Ai because of hidden sin (Josh.7:1 & 4-5) and pride, Josh.7:3-4
 - Deception & a wrong alliance with the Gibeonites, Josh.9:3-27.
 - Allowing many of the Canaanite enemies to remain in the land as their defeated slaves, Josh.16:10, 17:12-13, Jud.1:27-34. In a similar way, many Christians today do not seek to destroy all sin from their lives, but only make it controllable- or even useful- as Christians use deception, lust, anger, and other carnal methods to obtain their goals in life. Yet if we allow sins to remain in our life when we are spiritually strong and can control them, the day can come when we are weaker and they will arise to destroy us, Heb.3:13, Jud.16:20-21, 1 Sam.15:1-3 & 2 Sam.1:8-10.
3. Inheriting Mount Zion
- * From the beginning of their journey, God's purpose was to lead His people to Zion, His holy mountain, Ex.15:17. This is what we are called to obtain in our walk with God, Heb.12:18-24.
 - * Moses led Israel out of Egypt, and Joshua brought them in to the Land of Promise. But it was David, a man after God's own heart, who brought them to Mount Zion to receive the fullness of their inheritance and conquer all of the Promised Land. God is seeking for men and women after His own heart, who will come to full spiritual maturity and conquer all of the promises of God for their lives, Heb. 5:12-14; Heb. 6:1-3; Phil. 3:10-14, Gal.2:20.
 - * When David became king of Israel, his first act was to conquer Zion and make it the capital of his kingdom, 2 Sam.5:4-10. Zion became famous for two reasons:
 - a. Zion had the throne of the king, 2 Sam.5:7-10, Ps.48:2, Ps.2:6-8.
 - It is prophetic of the heavenly Zion, the place of God's throne & authority, Rev.14:1-3, Ps.2:6-8, Ps.110:1-2.
 - When we come to full spiritual maturity, to our own Mt Zion, we will become overcomers with great authority, Rev.3:21, Ob.21, Eph.1:22-23.
 - b. Zion was the place of the Ark of God.
 - During King David's reign the Ark was placed in a tent on Mt. Zion in Jerusalem, 1 Chron.15:1 to 16:1.
 - Mt Zion became the place of worship where God's presence dwelt, Ps.76:1-2.

- But there is also a Mt. Zion in heaven, where there is worship at the Throne of God, Rev. 14:1-3. Heaven's most glorious worship is on Mt. Zion in heaven!
 - The redeemed there had a unique ability to worship, because they were among the closest to God, Rev.14:3. Some of God's people live closer to God than others, Ps.76:1-2, Ezek.44:12-16.
- c. Other significances of Zion:
- Zion signifies the unity of the brethren. (Ps. 133:1-3; John 17:21-23; Isa. 52:8)
 - Zion is a place of full spiritual maturity. (Heb. 12:22-23; Eph. 4:11-14)
 - Zion is a place of great deliverance and power. (Isa. 25:7; Obad. 1:17, 21; Rom.11:26)
 - Zion is the place of God's double portion. (Heb. 12:22-23; John 14:12)
 - Zion is the dwelling place of God. (Ps. 87:2-3; 132:13, Rev.14:1-4)
 - Zion is a place of strength and help. (Ps. 20:2; 110:2; Ps. 84:7)
 - Zion is a place of great joy. (Isa. 35:10; Ps. 48:2; 149:2)
 - Zion is the place of where God's beauty is seen. (Ps. 90:17; 48:2; 50:2; 45:11, 13)
 - Zion is the place of God's glory. (Ps. 102:16; Isa. 4:5)
 - Zion is the place where God's law is honored. (Isa. 2:3; Mic. 4:2; Heb. 8:10)
 - Zion is a place of righteousness. (Isa. 33:5; 1:27; Ps. 15:2; 11:7)
 - Zion is place of God's holiness. (Ps. 2:6; Zech. 8:3; Isa. 4:3-4)
 - Zion is the place of the river of God. (Isa. 33:20-21; Ps. 46:4-5)
 - Zion is the place of the rest of God. (Ps. 132:13-14; 2 Sam. 7:1; Heb. 4:9-11)
 - Zion is the place of God's abundance. (Ps. 132:13-15; Isa. 60:14-17; Prov. 13:22)
 - Zion is a place of health and divine healing. (Isa. 33:24; Ex. 15:26; Ps. 103:3)
 - Zion is a place of teaching. (Isa. 2:2-3)
- d. How do we finish our Journey and obtain Zion?
- We must first have our spiritual eyes opened, to see the high calling given to Zion, Eph.1:17-18. This calling can become birthed within our spirit, to have Zion as our goal, our home, our citizenship, Ps.87:5-6.
 - We must go through the steps of preparation to enter into Zion's inheritance, Mt.22:14.
- e. The steps of the Journey of Israel are the same steps that will lead us to spiritual Zion
- We need to first be saved (out of Egypt)
 - Then we should become water baptized (cross the Red Sea)
 - Next we are prepared in the wilderness- baptized in the Holy Spirit at Mt Sinai, and tested by the wilderness trials to become strong overcomers, Is. 40:3-5, 35:8-10.
 - We need to become fully sanctified, crucified with Christ (cross the Jordan).
 - Then we must conquer all enemy opposition (the enemies in the Promised Land) to come to spiritual maturity and ministry.
 - If we allow no compromise but follow God fully, we shall become Davids who will abide with God and rule on Mt Zion, Acts 13:22, 2 Sam.5:7, Rev.14:1-3.