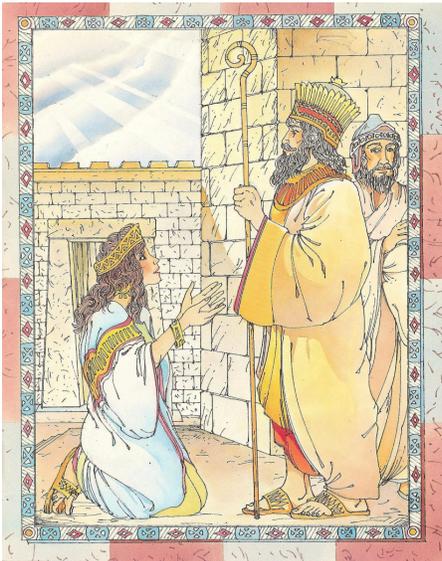


Great Days in the Bible



2011 – VBS
Old Hickory Church of Christ

Presented by Dwayne Gandy

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Great Days in the Bible

Creation – Day 6 – Relationships Established

Scripture Reading – Genesis 1:1-24

God Reaches out and Establishes a Relationship with Man

- Day 1 – God created _____.
- Day 2 – God created the clouds and the _____.
- Day 3 – God created vegetation.
- Day 4 – God created the _____, moon, and stars.
- Day 5 – God created the fish and the birds.
- Day 6 – God created land animals.

God created everything with man in mind.

Gen 1:26-27 *Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness; let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth." 27 So God created man in His own image; in the image of God He created him; male and female He created them*

The only recorded _____ we have between the members of the godhead was when it was time to make man.
They, the godhead, made man in their image.
The godhead also planned to give man _____ over the rest of creation.

Gen 2:7 *And the Lord God formed man of the dust of the ground, and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life; and man became a living being.*

Gen 3:19 *For out of it you were taken; For dust you are, And to dust you shall return."*

God made the physical body of man from dust. Adam was given a perfect body that was designed to live _____.
After sin, the body was destined to return to the _____. Even after the curse it was common for people to live over 900 years.
After forming Adam's body, God breathed into Adam his _____. This soul still lives forever!
It was this act of breathing the soul into Adam that started the _____ between the created and his creator.

Gen 2:8-11 *The Lord God planted a garden eastward in Eden, and there He put the man whom He had formed. 9 And out of the ground the Lord God made every tree grow that is pleasant to the sight and good for food. The tree of life was also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of*

the knowledge of good and evil. 10 Now a river went out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it parted and became four riverheads.

The next thing God planned for man was the Garden of Eden. God actually planted a garden for Adam that included:

1. Every tree that was _____ to the eyes and produced good tasting fruit.
2. Four rivers.
3. The tree of life.
4. The tree of the _____ of good and evil.

Gen 1:29-31 *29 And God said, "See, I have given you every herb that yields seed which is on the face of all the earth, and every tree whose fruit yields seed; to you it shall be for food. 30 Also, to every beast of the earth, to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, in which there is life, I have given every green herb for food"; and it was so. 31 Then God saw everything that He had made, and indeed it was very good. So the evening and the morning were the sixth day.*

Gen 2:15 *Then the Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it.*

After six days of preparation God solidified His relationship with Adam by _____ him the gift of His creation.

God Reaches out and Establishes the Relationship of Marriage

Gen 2:18-25 *And the Lord God said, "It is not good that man should be alone; I will make him a helper comparable to him." 19 Out of the ground the Lord God formed every beast of the field and every bird of the air, and brought them to Adam to see what he would call them. And whatever Adam called each living creature, that was its name. 20 So Adam gave names to all cattle, to the birds of the air, and to every beast of the field. But for Adam there was not found a helper comparable to him. 21 And the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall on Adam, and he slept; and He took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh in its place. 22 Then the rib which the Lord God had taken from man He made into a woman, and He brought her to the man. 23 And Adam said: "This is now bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man." 24 Therefore a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and they shall become one flesh. 25 And they were both naked, the man and his wife, and were not ashamed.*

The greatest gift God gave Adam on day 6 was his soul which enabled Adam to have a _____ with God.

The second greatest gift God gave Adam was the relationship of _____.

God knew that man lacked a _____.

Man's life started with something coming out of God, His _____.

Woman's life started with something coming out of man, his _____ **rib**.

God made the proclamation that a man should leave his father and his mother and be _____ to his wife.

They shall become one flesh. God established a very _____ relationship between a man and his wife.

Matt 19:4-6 *And He answered and said to them, "Have you not read that He who made them at the beginning 'made them male and female,' 5 and said, 'For this reason a man shall leave his father and mother and be joined to his wife, and the two shall become one flesh'? 6 So then, they are no longer two but one flesh. Therefore what God has joined together, let not man separate."*

God joins _____ marriage together.

We've already established that our relationship with God is an eternal relationship. Our relationship with our spouse is a _____ relationship.

Matt 22:29-31 *Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not knowing the Scriptures nor the power of God. 30 For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels of God in heaven."*

Marriage is over at death. It is the second longest relationship we are ever part of, but it is significantly shorter and _____ significant than our eternal relationship with God.

God Established the Relationship Between Parents and Children

Gen 1:28 *Then God blessed them, and God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply; fill the earth and subdue it; have dominion over the fish of the sea, over the birds of the air, and over every living thing that moves on the earth."*

God instructs Adam and Eve to have _____.

God introduces Adam and Eve to the _____ most important relationship on earth, the relationship between parents and children.

The duration of this relationship is usually until the parents die, but the intense part of the relationship is until the child _____ his/her parents and joins to his/her spouse.

Ps 127 *Unless the Lord builds the house, they labor in vain who build it; unless the Lord guards the city, the watchman stays awake in vain. 2 It is vain for you to rise up early, to sit up late, to eat the bread of sorrows; for so He gives His beloved sleep. 3 Behold, children are a heritage from the Lord, the fruit of the womb is a reward. 4 Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, So are the children of one's youth. 5 Happy is the man who has his quiver full of them; They shall not be ashamed, but shall speak with their enemies in the gate.*

Children are a blessing from the Lord. They are a _____ directly from God.

Eph 6:4 *And you, fathers, do not provoke your children to wrath, but bring them up in the training and admonition of the Lord.*

All three of these relationships require effort on our part. We have a responsibility to love, trust, and obey God. God has given us detailed roles in our marriages. The blessing of children comes with the responsibility of raising them in the _____.

Day 6 of creation is a great day because:

1. It was the day man's relationship with God started.
2. It was the day God gave us the relationship of marriage.
3. It was the day God gave introduced man to concept of having children.

Most of the great days in the Bible focus on establishing or restoring _____!

Great Days in the Bible

The Passover

The Background

Entering into Slavery

Ex 1:8-11 *Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. 9 And he said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we; 10 come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land."*

A drastic turn in the history of God's children was when there arose a king who _____ Joseph.

Other important providential moments:

1. The decree that all the male children under the age of two were to be killed.
2. The birth of Moses.
3. Pharaoh's daughter finding Moses in the river.
4. Moses being taken care of by his mother.
5. Moses living in Pharaoh's house.
6. Moses fleeing Egypt.
7. Moses becoming a shepherd.

Moses' first encounter with Pharaoh

Ex 5:1-2 *Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, "Thus says the Lord God of Israel: 'Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.'" 2 And Pharaoh said, "Who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, nor will I let Israel go."*

Pharaoh's response to Moses' request to let God's people go was an _____ to God. The ten plagues, especially the death of the firstborn, was an _____ to Pharaoh's question.

Ex 5:20-23 *Then, as they came out from Pharaoh, they met Moses and Aaron who stood there to meet them. 21 And they said to them, "Let the Lord look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us." So Moses returned to the Lord and said, "Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people? Why is it You have sent me? 23 For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people; neither have You delivered Your people at all."*

At first God's people did not accept God's _____. The children of Israel were not given God's plan for deliverance.

Ex 6:6-9 *Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the Lord; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. 7 I will take you as My people, and I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the Lord your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. 8 And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and I will give it to you as a heritage: I am the Lord.'* 9 *So Moses spoke thus to the children of Israel; but they did not heed Moses, because of anguish of spirit and cruel bondage.*

God communicates His plan to make a covenant with the Children of Israel and to _____ them from their bondage.

The First Nine Plagues

1. The water was turned to blood for seven days. Pharaoh did not let the people go.
2. Frogs over all the land. Pharaoh said he would let the people go, but he didn't.
3. Lice came over all the people and all every beast. Pharaoh would not let the people go. This was the first time the magicians could not duplicate the plague.
4. Moses goes to Pharaoh and announces swarms of flies in the Land of Egypt but not in the land of Goshen. He did this so Pharaoh would "know that I am the Lord in the midst of the land." Pharaoh said he would let the people go, but he didn't.
5. All the livestock of Egypt died.
6. Boils came on every man and beast throughout Egypt.
7. Hail came on all the land. Pharaoh said he would let the people go, but he didn't.
8. Locust destroyed what the Hail left behind. Pharaoh said he would let the people go, but he didn't.
9. Darkness came over the entire land of Egypt so they could not see each other and "they did not rise from their place." Pharaoh tried to negotiate with the Lord but he held fast and did not let the people go.
10. The firstborn in all of Egypt killed.

The First Passover

Ex 11:4-8 *Then Moses said, "Thus says the Lord: 'About midnight I will go out into the midst of Egypt; 5 and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the female servant who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the animals. 6 Then there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as was not like it before, nor shall be like it again. 7 But against none of the children of Israel shall a dog move its tongue, against man or beast, that you may know that the Lord does make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.' 8 And all these your servants shall come down to me and bow down to me, saying, 'Get out, and all the people who follow you!' After that I will go out." Then he went out from Pharaoh in great anger.*

Notice that God said _____ would go out among Egypt and kill the first born.

Ex 12:1-11 *Now the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, 2 "This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you. 3 Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth of this month every man shall take for himself a lamb, according to the house of his father, a lamb for a household. 4 And if the household is too small for the lamb, let him and his neighbor next to his house take it according to the number of the persons; according to each man's need you shall make your count for the lamb. 5 Your lamb shall be without blemish, a male of the first year. You may take it from the sheep or from the goats. 6 Now you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. 7 And they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it. 8 Then they shall eat the flesh on that night; roasted in fire, with unleavened bread and with bitter herbs they shall eat it. 9 Do not eat it raw, nor boiled at all with water, but roasted in fire — its head with its legs and its entrails. 10 You shall let none of it remain until morning, and what remains of it until morning you shall burn with fire. 11 And thus you shall eat it: with a belt on your waist, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. So you shall eat it in haste. It is the Lord's Passover.*

The day of Passover was so important their whole _____ started with this month.

They were to pick out a lamb on the _____ day of the month.

The lamb was to be without blemish, a male, and of the first year.

On the _____ day of the month the whole assembly was to kill their lamb at twilight.

They were to take some of the blood and put it on the doorposts. This was the first time in their lives they were given an opportunity to _____ their children.

They were to roast the lamb over fire. They were to eat unleavened bread and bitter herbs.

They were to burn up everything they did not eat. There was to be nothing left.

God would see the blood on the doorpost and pass over that house.

No one in Israel lost a firstborn son.

Ex 12:29-30 *And it came to pass at midnight that the Lord struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of livestock. 30 So Pharaoh rose in the night, he, all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not one dead.*

There was not one single house in Egypt that escaped _____.

Ex 12:31-34 *Then he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, "Rise, go out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. And go, serve the Lord as you have said. 32 Also take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also." 33 And the Egyptians urged the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste. For they said, "We shall all be dead."*

Pharaoh finally humbled himself before the Lord and agreed to let God's people go on _____ terms.

We know Pharaoh had a change of heart and attempted to recapture the Israelites to no avail. God delivered them through the crossing of the Red Sea.

Ex 14:24-31 *24 Now it came to pass, in the morning watch, that the Lord looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army of the Egyptians. 25 And He took off their chariot wheels, so that they drove them with difficulty; and the Egyptians said, "Let us flee from the face of Israel, for the Lord fights for them against the Egyptians." 26 Then the Lord said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the waters may come back upon the Egyptians, on their chariots, and on their horsemen." 27 And Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and when the morning appeared, the sea returned to its full depth, while the Egyptians were fleeing into it. So the Lord overthrew the Egyptians in the midst of the sea. 28 Then the waters returned and covered the chariots, the horsemen, and all the army of Pharaoh that came into the sea after them. Not so much as one of them remained. 29 But the children of Israel had walked on dry land in the midst of the sea, and the waters were a wall to them on their right hand and on their left. 30 So the Lord saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. 31 Thus Israel saw the great work which the Lord had done in Egypt; so the people feared the Lord, and believed the Lord and His servant Moses.*

Pharaoh finally realized who God was and why he should have _____ Him.

1 Cor 5:7 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

Christ is our Passover.

He was sacrificed for us.

On the Day of Judgment God will only accept those who have been washed in the blood of His Passover Lamb, Jesus Christ.

Great Days in the Bible

Crossing the Jordan

The Background – How'd we get here from there?

Num 14:11-12, 20-24 *Then the LORD said to Moses: "How long will these people reject Me? And how long will they not believe Me, with all the signs which I have performed among them? 12 I will strike them with the pestilence and disinherit them, and I will make of you a nation greater and mightier than they." ... 20 Then the LORD said: "I have pardoned, according to your word; 21 but truly, as I live, all the earth shall be filled with the glory of the LORD-- 22 because all these men who have seen My glory and the signs which I did in Egypt and in the wilderness, and have put Me to the test now these ten times, and have not heeded My voice, 23 they certainly shall not see the land of which I swore to their fathers, nor shall any of those who rejected Me see it.*

All the signs God performed did not cause the Israelites to _____ Him. How frustrating for God!

This is at least the second time Moses had to save the children of Israel from God's _____.

As a result of their unbelief, they _____ in the wilderness for 40 years.

Preparing the Leader

Deut 31:7-8 *Then Moses called Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and of good courage, for you must go with this people to the land which the LORD has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall cause them to inherit it. 8 And the LORD, He is the one who goes before you. He will be with you, He will not leave you nor forsake you; do not fear nor be dismayed."*

Joshua's training started long _____ Moses died!

Josh 1:1-2, 5-9 *After the death of Moses the servant of the LORD, it came to pass that the LORD spoke to Joshua the son of Nun, Moses' assistant, saying: 2 "Moses My servant is dead. Now therefore, arise, go over this Jordan, you and all this people, to the land which I am giving to them--the children of Israel. 5 No man shall be able to stand before you all the days of your life; as I was with Moses, so I will be with you. I will not leave you nor forsake you. 6 Be strong and of good courage, for to this people you shall divide as an inheritance the land which I swore to their fathers to give them. 7 Only be strong and very courageous, that you may observe to do according to all the law which Moses My servant commanded you; do not turn from it to the right hand or to the left, that you may prosper wherever you go. 8 This Book of the Law shall not depart from your mouth, but you shall meditate in it day and night, that you may observe to do according to all that is written in it. For then you will make your way prosperous, and then you*

will have good success. 9 Have I not commanded you? Be strong and of good courage; do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the LORD your God is with you wherever you go."

Joshua's training started long _____ Moses died!

God comforts Joshua by telling him:

1. _____ man would be able to stand before him all the days of his life.
2. God would be with Joshua the same way he was with Moses.
3. God would _____ leave him or forsake him.
4. God would make his way prosperous.
5. Joshua would have _____.

God instructs Joshua:

1. To be strong and courageous.
2. Do _____ recorded in the book of Moses.
3. Do not turn to the right or to the left.
4. That the Book of the Law should not depart from his mouth.
5. He needed to _____ on God's word.

Preparing the People

Deut 31:1-6 Then Moses went and spoke these words to all Israel. 2 And he said to them: "I am one hundred and twenty years old today. I can no longer go out and come in. Also the LORD has said to me, 'You shall not cross over this Jordan.' 3 "The LORD your God Himself crosses over before you; He will destroy these nations from before you, and you shall dispossess them. Joshua himself crosses over before you, just as the LORD has said. 4 And the LORD will do to them as He did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites and their land, when He destroyed them. 5 The LORD will give them over to you, that you may do to them according to every commandment which I have commanded you. 6 Be strong and of good courage, do not fear nor be afraid of them; for the LORD your God, He is the One who goes with you. He will not leave you nor forsake you."

Moses started preparing the people by introducing _____ as their new leader and reminding them that God was going before them.

Moses told them to be strong and _____. This is the same admonition he gave Joshua.

Josh 1:10-11 *Then Joshua commanded the officers of the people, saying, 11 "Pass through the camp and command the people, saying, 'Prepare provisions for yourselves, for within three days you will cross over this Jordan, to go in to possess the land which the LORD your God is giving you to possess.' "*

The leaders went out three days before they were to cross the Jordan and told the people to _____ provisions for themselves.

Josh 2:23-24 *So the two men returned, descended from the mountain, and crossed over; and they came to Joshua the son of Nun, and told him all that had befallen them. 24 And they said to*

Joshua, "Truly the LORD has delivered all the land into our hands, for indeed all the inhabitants of the country are fainthearted because of us."

Joshua also prepared the people by sending out two spies to bring back a report on the people in the Land. Both these men came back with a good report.

The Night before the Crossing

Josh 3:2-5 *So it was, after three days, that the officers went through the camp; 3 and they commanded the people, saying, "When you see the ark of the covenant of the LORD your God, and the priests, the Levites, bearing it, then you shall set out from your place and go after it. 4 Yet there shall be a space between you and it, about two thousand cubits by measure. Do not come near it, that you may know the way by which you must go, for you have not passed this way before." 5 And Joshua said to the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the LORD will do wonders among you."*

Joshua laid out clear and _____ instructions on how they were to cross the Jordan. Fear is diminished when people know what to expect and what is expected of them. Joshua also encouraged them by telling them that the Lord was going to do _____ among them.

The Great Day Dawns

God Speaks to Joshua

Josh 3:7-8 *And the LORD said to Joshua, "This day I will begin to exalt you in the sight of all Israel, that they may know that, as I was with Moses, so I will be with you."*

God not only assured Joshua of national success, He promised him _____ success.

Joshua Speaks to the People

Josh 3:9-13 *So Joshua said to the children of Israel, "Come here, and hear the words of the LORD your God." 10 And Joshua said, "By this you shall know that the living God is among you, and that He will without fail drive out from before you the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Hivites and the Perizzites and the Girgashites and the Amorites and the Jebusites: 11 Behold, the ark of the covenant of the Lord of all the earth is crossing over before you into the Jordan. 12 Now therefore, take for yourselves twelve men from the tribes of Israel, one man from every tribe. 13 And it shall come to pass, as soon as the soles of the feet of the priests who bear the ark of the LORD, the Lord of all the earth, shall rest in the waters of the Jordan, that the waters of the Jordan shall be cut off, the waters that come down from upstream, and they shall stand as a heap."*

Joshua calls God the _____ God and the God of all the earth. He said that God would without _____ drive the people out of the land.

The Moment Arrives

Josh 3:14-17 *So it was, when the people set out from their camp to cross over the Jordan, with the priests bearing the ark of the covenant before the people, 15 and as those who bore the ark came to the Jordan, and the feet of the priests who bore the ark dipped in the edge of the water (for the Jordan overflows all its banks during the whole time of harvest), 16 that the waters which came down from upstream stood still, and rose in a heap very far away at Adam, the city that is beside Zaretan. So the waters that went down into the Sea of the Arabah, the Salt Sea, failed, and were cut off; and the people crossed over opposite Jericho. 17 Then the priests who bore the ark of the covenant of the LORD stood firm on dry ground in the midst of the Jordan; and all Israel crossed over on dry ground, until all the people had crossed completely over the Jordan.*

When the priest, carrying the ark, first stepped into the water the water stopped flowing and heaped up. This heaping up of the water took place well upstream.

A Day to Remember

Josh 4:19-24 *Now the people came up from the Jordan on the tenth day of the first month, and they camped in Gilgal on the east border of Jericho. 20 And those twelve stones which they took out of the Jordan, Joshua set up in Gilgal. 21 Then he spoke to the children of Israel, saying: "When your children ask their fathers in time to come, saying, 'What are these stones?' 22 "then you shall let your children know, saying, 'Israel crossed over this Jordan on dry land'; 23 for the LORD your God dried up the waters of the Jordan before you until you had crossed over, as the LORD your God did to the Red Sea, which He dried up before us until we had crossed over, 24 that all the peoples of the earth may know the hand of the LORD, that it is mighty, that you may fear the LORD your God forever."*

The children of Israel entered the land on the tenth day of the first month. This was the day they were to select their _____ lamb!

Joshua built a memorial with twelve stones to serve as a _____ to their children forever.

This was done so people all over the earth would know that God is _____.

The Aftermath

Josh 5:1 *So it was, when all the kings of the Amorites who were on the west side of the Jordan, and all the kings of the Canaanites who were by the sea, heard that the LORD had dried up the waters of the Jordan from before the children of Israel until we had crossed over, that their heart melted; and there was no spirit in them any longer because of the children of Israel.*

God's deliverance caused people of the land to _____ for their lives.

How much easier the battle when the other side is scared to death!

Remember the Gibeonites? They were so fearful of the Israelites they saved their lives by becoming the Israelites slaves.

God can not be _____!

Josh 5:10-15 *So the children of Israel camped in Gilgal, and kept the Passover on the fourteenth day of the month at twilight on the plains of Jericho. 11 And they ate of the produce of the land on the day after the Passover, unleavened bread and parched grain, on the very same day. 12 Then the manna ceased on the day after they had eaten the produce of the land; and the children of Israel no longer had manna, but they ate the food of the land of Canaan that year. 13 And it came to pass, when Joshua was by Jericho, that he lifted his eyes and looked, and behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn in His hand. And Joshua went to Him and said to Him, "Are You for us or for our adversaries?" 14 So He said, "No, but as Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face to the earth and worshiped, and said to Him, "What does my Lord say to His servant?" 15 Then the Commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy." And Joshua did so.*

What a great day! It was a day of victory. It was a day of _____.

Great Days in the Bible

Dedication of the Temple

How it all began

1 Chron 17:1-4 *Now it came to pass, when David was dwelling in his house, that David said to Nathan the prophet, "See now, I dwell in a house of cedar, but the ark of the covenant of the LORD is under tent curtains." 2 Then Nathan said to David, "Do all that is in your heart, for God is with you." 3 But it happened that night that the word of God came to Nathan, saying, 4 "Go and tell My servant David, 'Thus says the LORD: "You shall not build Me a house to dwell in.*

The idea of building God a temple originated with _____. God never told anyone he wanted them to build him a temple.

God was pleased that David loved God so much that he wanted to build God a temple.

However, it was Solomon that was going to build the temple.

1 Chron 28:11-15 *Then David gave his son Solomon the plans for the vestibule, its houses, its treasuries, its upper chambers, its inner chambers, and the place of the mercy seat; 12 and the plans for all that he had by the Spirit, of the courts of the house of the LORD, of all the chambers all around, of the treasuries of the house of God, and of the treasuries for the dedicated things; 13 also for the division of the priests and the Levites, for all the work of the service of the house of the LORD, and for all the articles of service in the house of the LORD. 14 He gave gold by weight for things of gold, for all articles used in every kind of service; also silver for all articles of silver by weight, for all articles used in every kind of service.*

David gave the building plans to _____. He also provided the gold for the temple and all the items in the temple.

David gave 3000 talents of gold. The people collected over 5000 talents of gold. A talent of gold weighs about 65 lbs. At \$1523 an ounce, a talent is worth \$1,583,920. The 8000 talents of gold would be worth \$12,671,360,000

Solomon takes over

1 Kings 5:6 *Now therefore, command that they cut down cedars for me from Lebanon; and my servants will be with your servants, and I will pay you wages for your servants according to whatever you say. For you know there is none among us who has skill to cut timber like the Sidonians.*

Solomon started by making arrangements with the king of Tyre to secure the large amounts of _____ and cypress trees they needed.

1 Kings 5:13-17 *Then King Solomon raised up a labor force out of all Israel; and the labor force was thirty thousand men. 14 And he sent them to Lebanon, ten thousand a month in shifts: they were one month in Lebanon and two months at home; Adoniram was in charge of the labor force. 15 Solomon had seventy thousand who carried burdens, and eighty thousand who quarried stone in the mountains, 16 besides three thousand three hundred from the chiefs of Solomon's deputies, who supervised the people who labored in the work. 17 And the king commanded them to quarry large stones, costly stones, and hewn stones, to lay the foundation of the temple.*

Solomon collected a workforce of 30,000 men to go to Lebanon and help cut the timber. They would spend one month in Lebanon and two months at home.

Solomon had 70,000 men who carried burdens. He had 80,000 men who cut stone. He also had 3300 supervisors.

With just the people working on the temple project Solomon would be the 21st largest employer in America.

God speaks to Solomon while he is building the temple

1 Kings 6:12-13 *Concerning this temple which you are building, if you walk in My statutes, execute My judgments, keep all My commandments, and walk in them, then I will perform My word with you, which I spoke to your father David. 13 And I will dwell among the children of Israel, and will not forsake My people Israel.*

God makes a conditional promise to Solomon. God agrees to be with Israel as long as they keep his commandments.

The Temple – 1 Kings 6-7 and 2 Chronicles 3-4

The size of the temple was 90' X 30' X 45'.

The vestibule was 30 feet wide by 10 feet deep. It was _____ feet tall.

Solomon had all the stones cut and chiseled to size at the _____. No hammer or chisel or any iron tool was heard at the temple.

The Most Holy Place was 30 feet wide and 30 feet deep.

Inside the Most Holy Place were _____ cherubim. Each one had a wingspan of 15 feet. Their outer wings touched the walls and their inner wings touched each other. Under the wings of the cherubim was the Ark of the Covenant.

The walls were made of cypress wood and covered all the stone in the temple. Not one bit of stone could be seen inside the temple.

The cypress wood was then covered in _____. The gold in the Most Holy Place was 600 talents. That's approximately \$950,352,000 worth of gold today.

Even in the main part of the temple, the walls and floors were all covered with gold.

Outside the temple they built rooms all around. There were _____ stories. The first story was 7 ½ feet wide, the second story was 9 feet wide, and the third story was 10 ½ feet wide. All stories were 7 ½ feet tall.

The Day of Dedication

1 Kings 8:4-12 *Then they brought up the ark of the LORD, the tabernacle of meeting, and all the holy furnishings that were in the tabernacle. The priests and the Levites brought them up. 5 Also King Solomon, and all the congregation of Israel who were assembled with him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing sheep and oxen that could not be counted or numbered for multitude. 6 Then the priests brought in the ark of the covenant of the LORD to its place, into the inner sanctuary of the temple, to the Most Holy Place, under the wings of the cherubim. 7 For the cherubim spread their two wings over the place of the ark, and the cherubim overshadowed the ark and its poles. 8 The poles extended so that the ends of the poles could be seen from the holy place, in front of the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside. And they are there to this day. 9 Nothing was in the ark except the two tablets of stone which Moses put there at Horeb, when the LORD made a covenant with the children of Israel, when they came out of the land of Egypt. 10 And it came to pass, when the priests came out of the holy place, that the cloud filled the house of the LORD, 11 so that the priests could not continue ministering because of the cloud; for the glory of the LORD filled the house of the LORD.*

When the day came when the Lord was going to enter the temple the people offered sacrifices that could not be _____.

When the Lord entered the Most Holy Place the smoke filled the temple and the priests could not finish their service.

Solomon's Prayer of Dedication

He calls on God to keep His promise and always allow one of _____ descendants to sit on the throne.

Solomon goes on to make a list of many of the ways Israel could be separated from God. When Israel turned to the temple and prayed Solomon asked God to listen, forgive, and act. Here are some of the things Solomon referred to:

- When Israel is defeated before an enemy – _____, forgive, and act.
- When you take rain from us because we have sinned – hear, forgive, and act.
- When there is a famine in the land and we _____ – hear, forgive, and act.
- When a foreigner prays to you – hear and act.
- When your people lose in battle and are scattered and repent – hear and _____ their cause.
- Whenever we find ourselves at odds with you and finally come to our senses – hear, forgive, and act.

Solomon Blesses the Assembly

1 Kings 8:56-61 Praise be to the LORD, who has given rest to his people Israel just as he promised. Not one word has failed of all the good promises he gave through his servant Moses. 57 May the LORD our God be with us as he was with our fathers; may he never leave us nor forsake us. 58 May he turn our hearts to him, to walk in all his ways and to keep the commands, decrees and regulations he gave our fathers. 59 And may these words of mine, which I have

prayed before the LORD, be near to the LORD our God day and night, that he may uphold the cause of his servant and the cause of his people Israel according to each day's need, 60 so that all the peoples of the earth may know that the LORD is God and that there is no other. 61 But your hearts must be fully committed to the LORD our God, to live by his decrees and obey his commands, as at this time.

Solomon reminded the people that God _____ keeps His promises. His desire is for God to help the people turn their _____ to Him and obey His commands.

He wanted his prayer to stay before the Lord day and night. Solomon wanted this because he wanted all the earth to know that there is only one God and He is the God of Israel.

Solomon Dedicates the Temple

1 Kings 8:62-64 *Then the king and all Israel with him offered sacrifices before the LORD. 63 Solomon offered a sacrifice of fellowship offerings to the LORD: twenty-two thousand cattle and a hundred and twenty thousand sheep and goats. So the king and all the Israelites dedicated the temple of the LORD. On that same day the king consecrated the middle part of the courtyard in front of the temple of the LORD, and there he offered burnt offerings, grain offerings and the fat of the fellowship offerings, because the bronze altar before the LORD was too small to hold the burnt offerings, the grain offerings and the fat of the fellowship offerings.*

Solomon himself gave 22,000 cattle and 120,000 sheep as a sacrifice to the Lord.

Lesson for us:

1. God is _____!
2. God _____ our best.
3. God always keeps his promises.
4. As long as we follow after God, He will never forsake us.

The 14th and 15th Days of Adar

Points to Consider

1. The Plot to Kill the Jews
2. The Tables Turn
3. The Day of Deliverance

The Plot to Kill the Jews

Est 2:17-18 *The king loved Esther more than all the other women, and she obtained grace and favor in his sight more than all the virgins; so he set the royal crown upon her head and made her queen instead of Vashti. 18 Then the king made a great feast, the Feast of Esther, for all his officials and servants; and he proclaimed a holiday in the provinces and gave gifts according to the generosity of a king.*

After twelve months of beauty preparations the king _____ Esther to be queen.

Est 2:19-23 *When virgins were gathered together a second time, Mordecai sat within the king's gate. 20 Now Esther had not revealed her family and her people, just as Mordecai had charged her, for Esther obeyed the command of Mordecai as when she was brought up by him. 21 In those days, while Mordecai sat within the king's gate, two of the king's eunuchs, Bigthan and Teresh, doorkeepers, became furious and sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. 22 So the matter became known to Mordecai, who told Queen Esther, and Esther informed the king in Mordecai's name. 23 And when an inquiry was made into the matter, it was confirmed, and both were hanged on a gallows; and it was written in the book of the chronicles in the presence of the king.*

Mordecai uncovered a plot to _____ the king. This was recorded in the book of chronicles (Ahasuerus' book).

Est 3:2-6 *And all the king's servants who were within the king's gate bowed and paid homage to Haman, for so the king had commanded concerning him. But Mordecai would not bow or pay homage. 3 Then the king's servants who were within the king's gate said to Mordecai, "Why do you transgress the king's command?" 4 Now it happened, when they spoke to him daily and he would not listen to them, that they told it to Haman, to see whether Mordecai's words would stand; for Mordecai had told them that he was a Jew. 5 When Haman saw that Mordecai did not bow or pay him homage, Haman was filled with wrath. 6 But he disdained to lay hands on Mordecai alone, for they had told him of the people of Mordecai. Instead, Haman sought to destroy all the Jews who were throughout the whole kingdom of Ahasuerus — the people of Mordecai.*

Haman became _____ when Mordecai refused to bow down to him.

He decided to enact revenge by having _____ the Jews killed.

Est 3:12-13 *Then the king's scribes were called on the thirteenth day of the first month, and a decree was written according to all that Haman commanded — to the king's satraps, to the governors who were over each province, to the officials of all people, to every province according to its script, and to every people in their language. In the name of King Ahasuerus it was written, and sealed with the king's signet ring. 13 And the letters were sent by couriers into all the king's provinces, to destroy, to kill, and to annihilate all the Jews, both young and old, little children and women, in one day, on the thirteenth day of the twelfth month, which is the month of Adar, and to plunder their possessions.*

Haman, by lot, chose the day of the Jewish _____ to be the thirteenth day of the twelfth month.

On this day _____ Jews were to be killed and their possessions plundered.

The Jews started receiving the news of their total destruction the day the _____ lamb was scheduled to be killed. The decree was written on the 13th day of Nisan. The Passover lamb was selected on the 10th and killed on the 14th.

Est 4:13-16 *And Mordecai told them to answer Esther: "Do not think in your heart that you will escape in the king's palace any more than all the other Jews. 14 For if you remain completely silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise for the Jews from another place, but you and your father's house will perish. Yet who knows whether you have come to the kingdom for such a time as this?" 15 Then Esther told them to reply to Mordecai: 16 "Go, gather all the Jews who are present in Shushan, and fast for me; neither eat nor drink for three days, night or day. My maids and I will fast likewise. And so I will go to the king, which is against the law; and if I perish, I perish!"*

Esther was willing to risk her life to save _____ people.

She goes in to the king and requests that he and Haman attend a banquet prepared for them.

At the banquet she asked for them to come to another feast the next day.

_____ evening Haman goes home and discusses things with his family and friends. His wife suggests, "Let a gallows be made, fifty cubits high, and in the morning suggest to the king that Mordecai be hanged on it; then go merrily with the king to the banquet."

The Tables Turn

Est 6:1-3 *That night the king could not sleep. So one was commanded to bring the book of the records of the chronicles; and they were read before the king. 2 And it was found written that Mordecai had told of Bigthana and Teresh, two of the king's eunuchs, the doorkeepers who had sought to lay hands on King Ahasuerus. 3 Then the king said, "What honor or dignity has been bestowed on Mordecai for this?" And the king's servants who attended him said, "Nothing has been done for him."*

That _____ night the king could not sleep so he had the book of the records of the chronicles read to him.

He discovered that Mordecai had never been _____ for saving his life.

Est 6:4-6 *So the king said, "Who is in the court?" Now Haman had just entered the outer court of the king's palace to suggest that the king hang Mordecai on the gallows that he had prepared for him. 5 The king's servants said to him, "Haman is there, standing in the court." And the king said, "Let him come in." 6 So Haman came in, and the king asked him, "What shall be done for the man whom the king delights to honor?"*

The next morning Haman comes in to _____ that Mordecai be hung on the gallows he had built overnight.

Before he could make his suggestion, the king asked Haman's advice on how he could honor a man.

Haman, thinking the king was going to honor him, gives a long list of things the king could do to honor a man.

Est 6:10-11 *Then the king said to Haman, "Hurry, take the robe and the horse, as you have suggested, and do so for Mordecai the Jew who sits within the king's gate! Leave nothing undone of all that you have spoken." 11 So Haman took the robe and the horse, arrayed Mordecai and led him on horseback through the city square, and proclaimed before him, "Thus shall it be done to the man whom the king delights to honor!"*

Haman ends up _____ Mordecai instead of killing him.

Est 7:1-6 *So the king and Haman went to dine with Queen Esther. 2 And on the second day, at the banquet of wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request, up to half the kingdom? It shall be done!" Then Queen Esther answered and said, "If I have found favor in your sight, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me at my petition, and my people at my request. 4 For we have been sold, my people and I, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. Had we been sold as male and female slaves, I would have held my tongue, although the enemy could never compensate for the king's loss." 5 So King Ahasuerus answered and said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who would dare presume in his heart to do such a thing?" 6 And Esther said, "The adversary and enemy is this wicked Haman!"*

Esther tells the king that Haman is the wicked man responsible for putting her people in such a _____ situation.

Est 7:8-10 *As the word left the king's mouth, they covered Haman's face. 9 Now Harbonah, one of the eunuchs, said to the king, "Look! The gallows, fifty cubits high, which Haman made for Mordecai, who spoke good on the king's behalf, is standing at the house of Haman." Then the king said, "Hang him on it!" 10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the king's wrath subsided.*

Haman was hung on the gallows he had made to kill Mordecai.

The Day of Deliverance

Est 8:15-17 *So Mordecai went out from the presence of the king in royal apparel of blue and white, with a great crown of gold and a garment of fine linen and purple; and the city of Shushan rejoiced and was glad. 16 The Jews had light and gladness, joy and honor. 17 And in every province and city, wherever the king's command and decree came, the Jews had joy and gladness, a feast and a holiday. Then many of the people of the land became Jews, because fear of the Jews fell upon them.*

The decree went out that the Jews were able to _____ themselves. When the decree was read, the people rejoiced and declared a holiday.

Est 9:1-5 *Now in the twelfth month, that is, the month of Adar, on the thirteenth day, the time came for the king's command and his decree to be executed. On the day that the enemies of the Jews had hoped to overpower them, the opposite occurred, in that the Jews themselves overpowered those who hated them. 2 The Jews gathered together in their cities throughout all the provinces of King Ahasuerus to lay hands on those who sought their harm. And no one could withstand them, because fear of them fell upon all people. ... 5 Thus the Jews defeated all their enemies with the stroke of the sword, with slaughter and destruction, and did what they pleased with those who hated them.*

The Jews _____ those who hated them.

Est 9:20-25 *And Mordecai wrote these things and sent letters to all the Jews, near and far, who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, 21 to establish among them that they should celebrate yearly the fourteenth and fifteenth days of the month of Adar, 22 as the days on which the Jews had rest from their enemies, as the month which was turned from sorrow to joy for them, and from mourning to a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and joy, of sending presents to one another and gifts to the poor. 23 So the Jews accepted the custom which they had begun, as Mordecai had written to them, 24 **because** Haman, the son of Hammedatha the Agagite, the enemy of all the Jews, had plotted against the Jews to annihilate them, and had cast Pur (that is, the lot), to consume them and destroy them; 25 but when Esther came before the king, he commanded by letter that this wicked plot which Haman had devised against the Jews should return on his own head, and that he and his sons should be hanged on the gallows.*

These great days of victory and celebration happened _____ Haman plotted against the Jews.

Whenever people plot against God, the _____ usually happens.

What a Great Story!