

For many generations, God heard and *felt* the cries of **his** People, the Israelites, in slavery, under the Pharaoh, in Egypt. In today's world, we have learned that Egypt represents a state of mind as relates to spiritual terms. It does not refer to geography in this text. Egypt represents limitation. In human terms, limitation links us to bondage and ultimately, slavery. In the spiritual realm, we think of today's Pharaohs as present day task masters; the habits that we practice daily, recognized or not.

Let us go back in time, however, and retrace some of the steps that were taken by the Israelites after their families had experienced very difficult, life threatening, situations in their homeland due to famine. The Israelites, God's chosen people, found favor in Egypt. Quite a few years earlier, one of their favorite sons, Joseph, had been sold to highwaymen by his eleven brothers, and through the years had worked his way into the court of the Pharaoh.

Even though Joseph had lost his family, his homeland, and his multi-colored coat given to him by his father, Joseph had become the chief assistant to the King of Egypt. Most of us have heard the story of how, during famine, because of the drought, most of the eleven brothers visited Egypt to purchase grain. Ultimately they had their brother Joseph revealed to them.

Subsequently, the entire household moved to Egypt because of the tremendous favor they had, directly from the Pharaoh, through their relative Joseph. It was move or die.

26

The move was obviously due to security, prestige, and what is most important, Jacob's love for his long lost son Joseph, whom the Lord had greatly blessed during his personal hardship of separation and isolation from his family. It took extremely profound wisdom for Joseph to become the Pharaoh's number one man.

Over generations, or approximately four hundred years, the Israelites grew in such numbers that the Egyptian leaders became fearful of them, and tended to make their lives harder by giving them more difficult tasks to perform. In today's world, we would liken this to larger mortgage payments, bigger car payments, more expensive college education, and you name it. This occurs without changing the amount of time or pay that the easier tasks took; not having to provide the straw for the bricks that they made.

In his youth, even though he had been raised as the heir to the throne of the Pharaoh, Moses became angry and killed several Egyptians, which caused him to experience his own twenty-year exile. Finally, Moses went from his twenty year exile, his personal wilderness, to rescue his relatives. He had been given tremendous human understanding. After the personal wilderness, he was so frightened that God sent him to rescue the Israelites with the companionship of his brother, Aaron.

Later, after many displays of God's Power cancelling the plagues that He had warned the Egyptians about beforehand, the Egyptian army finally chased the Israelites out of Egypt. In this exodus, originally a short sabbatical to worship their God, since they were now leaving for good, they took all they could get their hands on - all of Egypt's finest gold, silver, jewelry, clothing, pottery, etc.

Even though the chosen were delivered from the land of Egypt, they were still in bondage because of their human experiences. Their human mind was still tied to Egypt, the land of limitation.

While in the wilderness, having left Egypt, it is true that Moses was given Ten Commandments on two stone tablets, for the good of the people that he was leading. Let us emphasize that the *laws were on tablets*. In other words, God's Laws, that were revealed to Moses, were on the outside of humanity, not created on the inside of us, yet!

Let us study the Scripture found in Deuteronomy 4:14; **Yes, it was at that time the Lord commanded me to issue the laws you must obey when you arrive in the Promised Land.**

Truly, it is impossible to live like God wants us to, until we get to a place in life that we are living for God rather than ourselves. The key word in the last Scripture is *when*. Whether it be the wilderness, Promised Land, or heaven, God provides only our needs at that juncture of the journey.

Let us summarize what we are exploring. God's chosen, Jacob's whole family, the Israelites, ended up in Egypt. Later generations ended up in slavery because they had lost favor with the new king. Their tasks became harder and harder, so they took the best they could find and started a journey. During the journey through the wilderness, hardship, they were exposed to ten laws. Wilderness also represents desert, waterless places, and Israelites in spiritual terms represent children of Israel. *Israel*, in the spiritual realm, *stands for those that prevail with God*.

Again, the truth for us is that we cannot live like God wants us to live until we arrive in the place that he has promised us. We learned that a journey is required to learn the truths that God can reveal. We also learned that we could never live like God wants us to as long as we were living lives forced on us by the eGo. The eGo dictates bondage which leads to slavery. Generally speaking, it is fun getting there. Sometimes it even represents the garden of Eden or pleasure to the five human senses. Let us remember that spiritual awakenings lead us into our wilderness so that we can learn how to live by our sixth sense. It is only through spiritual development that we can learn that God wants and needs us to be free of our old limiting ideas; the way the world in developed nations has lived by.

All whose lives start falling apart require a cocoon period - a wilderness time - or, if you prefer, a rebirth into the family of God through His Son's spirit. Another truth is that only God has created our true and free souls. If He had not created our true souls, we would not be spiritually alive, awakened to the seed of Christ. The eGo - carnal mind - is not our true and free soul.

We believe our *true and free* soul was given to His Son to hold on to until we could learn how to receive it, approximately two thousand years ago. By God's calendar two days ago. Now let there be clear understanding of John 1:1-5; **BEFORE ANYTHING ELSE existed, there was Christ, with God. He has always been alive and is himself God. He created everything there is - nothing exists that he didn't make. Eternal Life is in him, and this life gives light to all mankind. His light is the light that shines through the darkness - and the darkness can never extinguish it.**

We introduce this Scripture to let us know that there are many things that are an illusion to God, especially the eGo. Let us explain that our eGo, our Egypt or land of limitation, is not real to God. When we want out of our darkness, above everything else, the way will be provided.

Let us return to the Israelites. Even though they were chased out of Egypt, tremendous obstacles were ahead of them that they had to face, one day at a time. God's miracles always provided the way. All of the Israelites crossed the Red Sea. All were nourished with manna from heaven. All of their needs were supplied.

Along this journey, even though they were out of Egypt, limitation was not out of them. They were still in bondage, even though they had left slavery. They still had their carnal mind. After a little while in the wilderness, things seemed harder because they tired of the unknown.

At least they knew what to expect of their hard task master, when they were in slavery. Many of them wanted to go back. They found themselves moving around, packing and unpacking. Where will the water and food come from? All of the treasures they took with them when they left had, by now, become burdens. Again, through all of their wanderings, God provided daily manna, a cloud by day in the desert, and a pillar of fire at night to guide them.

All along this journey through the wilderness and desert - waterless places - the believers had hopes of the Promised Land. His chosen had no idea of the troubles ahead because the Promised Land had to be conquered - gained by force.

Some people think that once they turn to God, they are saved and that's all there is. Well, it is true that all who want a better way of life must turn to God, but in order to enjoy the calling that was given, we must change and be reborn. It is also true that once we make that decision, of turning to God through His Son's spirit, let us not be deceived, there is going to be quite an adventure ahead for all.

This will be true not only for those of us who have turned to Him, but also all who will turn to Him in the future. Certainly, there is a small grace period for us to learn what God wants to teach us. The way for us to be de-materialized is very difficult on the eGo, especially in materialistic consumer oriented developed nations or societies!

We have to have a good path established, with good habits being formed, before the time of Great Tribulation hits like a tornado or hurricane, with full force on all of the emotional nature, that is tied to this world and the way it operates.

We, in very recent years, have observed wars, famines, and earthquakes, in many places, which Jesus foretold of in Matthew 24:4-7. But now let us look at real truth which is in Matthew 24:8: *"But all this will be only the beginning of the horrors to come."* Friends, it might get real rough out in the world unless we find a safe haven, which is His Kingdom, for us.

Once we turn to God, away from slavery and bondage, and are corrected by letting the wreckage of the past be cleared away, the process of true reality begins in Kingdom Living. In our case, this is a sever path that lets us learn about and how to be corrected in order for us to be eligible to participate in the *privilege of Kingdom Living!*

Let us make one more observation. During the journey in the wilderness, Moses, which means drawn-out, was asked by Jehovah to provide water for the Israelites by **speaking to the rock** (Numbers 20:8). We believe that his tough or aggressive eGo might have surfaced, after God had told him to speak to the rock, and he **struck the rock twice** (Numbers 20:11).

Moses might have been thinking, "OK guys, watch this power of mine." For this *one* act of disobedience, God let **Joshua** take the people into the Promised Land rather than Moses, their original leader, after the death of Moses and Aaron. We now understand that we need spiritual victory, not brute force. Let us imagine how discouraged some might have been after close to forty years in the wilderness.

Some might have asked, "Why in heaven's name did we leave Egypt in the first place?" Others might have been said, "We are still lost and God has changed our leader." Keep in mind that battles and wars were ahead of them, and harder times. For this purpose, God killed all of the Israelites if they were unwilling to receive a new attitude.

One battle required praise, trumpets, and marching for seven days, and finally, the walls of Jericho fell. Another battle was so important that the Sun stood still to give his chosen a longer day in order to gain victory. The truth is that God always gave, and will always give, *victory to His chosen, but only for His plan and purpose!* That is just the way that it is.

We believe that all who are on a spiritual journey must have victory - for God's plan and purpose, not ours. We remember reading recently, something to the effect of, *"Wisdom should be desired, above all things, to discern between life's tribulations and God's ultimate plan and purpose."*

This is the only joy that we are finally interested in, after the heartache and torture that we experienced. For the process to be complete, perfect in God's Mind and Sight, we have to experience and understand the full internal realization of the Risen Lord Jesus Christ! Not just God, Jesus, Christ or even many experiences of the Holy Spirit. Needless to say, this occurred for us spiritually, not materially, over a long period of **RECOVERY**.

Many of us had found **"much of heaven,"** but we came to learn that this experience is the first baptism. This means the first comforter. The internal water baptism with the **living water** let us learn a repentant lifestyle, which required a lot of tears. These were our retribution years before the restoration years, which must precede Kingdom Living, even though we were given information about our real life in Christ as it relates to eternity. Based on what little we have experienced thus far, it is worth the difficulty.

We came to understand what it means to be born of water and Spirit; God's Spirit. This is the only safe haven that we know of! Once we understood the Risen Christ idea within, we knew we were making progress in kingdom living here on this earth. It was also during this period of time that we began to understand receiving our true soul that God had created, which His Son is responsible for holding onto, or saving, until we learn how to receive it.

During this revelation, we understood how slow the process is, "to sit at the right hand of God the Father," in order to wait for His bidding. Even though this was the most relaxed period in our life, some might call it perfect boredom and torment as relates to the way the world operates. It sure did irritate some of the people around us, however!

We had to learn and understand that our Father knows what is needed, and each of us has to play our assigned part in his plan as he sees it. Let us all understand that all journeys are required, so that all may end up where God wants all to be. Please keep in mind that we think that all believers will end up in **paradise, the third heaven**, no matter what.

We are just experiencing heaven on earth, and both shall pass away according to Luke 21:32-33 which states; ***"I solemnly declare to you that when these things happen, the end of this age has come. And though all heaven and earth shall pass away, yet my words remain forever true."***

So paradise is the ultimate destination, thank God! Rest assured, no one can make the journey of heaven on or in earth without vision. The reason we are making it is because of God's strength and Spirit, not ours. And our purpose is coupled with the heavenly vision.

We were desirous enough to want to experience the **Fullness** of God's Kingdom, here on this earth, above *all* else. We were not satisfied with just part of it, a lot of it, or most of it. Guess we are still just a little grasping and it shows doesn't it?

The truth is, we wanted, above all else, to be in His Kingdom. Once we got a taste of His Realm, nothing else could satisfy us. Let there be full understanding of Matthew 21:31-32: ***"Surely evil men and prostitutes will get into the Kingdom before you do. For John the Baptist told you to repent and turn to God, and you wouldn't, while very evil men and prostitutes did. And even when you saw this happening you refused to repent, and so you couldn't believe."***

The beginning of the chart, on page thirty-nine lists what we have turned from and to, so that we could experience his second heaven, His second coming. We call it the beginning of the millennium rule of Christ, the **Last Day**, and the Seventh Day of Creation.

It also shows what we had to walk out of by his grace. Paradise is the ultimate dimension and destination, however. Before we study and discuss the chart, since we will see some tremendously unattractive human traits, let us introduce a Scripture that will explain why we are willing to learn how to let the spirit pray, "Satan, get thee behind us."

This happens for us spiritually because of God's Spirit. It touched us on our shoulder blades for several years before we finally understood what it meant. Now let us fully appreciate Romans 3:23-25; **Yes, all have sinned; all fall short of God's glorious ideal; yet now God declares us "not guilty" of offending him if we trust in Jesus Christ, who in his kindness freely takes away our sins. For God sent Christ Jesus to take punishment for our sins and to end all God's anger against us.**

**He used Christ's blood and our faith as the means of saving us from his wrath. In this way, he was being entirely fair, even though he did not punish those who sinned in former times. For He was looking forward to the time when Christ would come and take away those sins.** What an absolute miracle!

We apologize for the brief interruption, but we did not want anybody to feel guilty, and even though we truly did not deserve His Mercy, we are grateful. Did you notice how God reversed the names in the last Scripture?

Some very important words were just mentioned concerning *repenting first*, and then turning to God. In other words, *until we have cleared away the past life that was so detestable to us, He will not even let us believe or have true hope.* We have been in hell and are writing this to let all who read this realize that whatever your status, you can also gain entry into God's Kingdom on this earth.

We mentioned earlier that the gifts with your name on them are waiting for you, in order to learn about eternal truth, if you have not already received them, but we are sure that a spiritual awakening *is positively required.* Let us also remember Luke 23:42-43; **Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your Kingdom." And Jesus replied, "Today you will be with me in Paradise. This is a solemn Promise."**

We believe and trust that all of God's perfect creation is already in the third heaven as mentioned in 2 Corinthians 12, which is paradise. We are just entitled to learn how to experience heaven on Earth, God's Kingdom, obviously his second heaven and second coming.

Let us assure you that there are religions that refer and speak of seven heavens. We take no issue with them because of the Scripture in Matthew 11:12; ***"Truly, of all men ever born, none shines more brightly than John the Baptist. And yet, even the lesser lights in the Kingdom of Heaven will be greater than he is!"***

What we are trying to relate is that we have no idea of how many levels the Kingdom contains, from least to most. However, there are different levels of spiritual achievement which relates to self-sacrifice, and if we will not learn about it now, because of rebellion or denial, we might be at the bottom level forever.

As we learn how to look at our own past life, and continue to seek out our activities, we learn to study our acts of omission, which are things that we did not do, and should have. We want to learn how to break that habit too. As we continue, we learn to focus on our acts of co-mission. Several of us remember that a few of us men have aided females, in abortions, through financial assistance, when they felt like they were not emotionally prepared to raise a child. Even though we were not the father, some of us men had participated in murder.

Both the Old Testament and the New Testament tell of how Moses himself killed several people. That is not the problem. These were experiences that taught us that, only God's grace, His love and forgiveness, are what we need.

It seems that we were always judged by our actions rather than our motives. We can remember that there were a lot of marriages generated because of pregnancy just several decades ago. Since many people, back then, had never even heard the word abortion, and had no idea of the consequences, they just went ahead and got married, anyway they could, and took some beastly trips into dreadful darkness or slavery.

Living a lie so long because we were afraid to tell anyone that we had gotten married because of pregnancy, caused by premarital sex, which we were taught was wrong, just let the darkness and trip into bondage or slavery continue. Several of us even remember that we tried to deceive other people by hiding the marriage certificate and celebrating the anniversaries on the wrong date, year after year.

In other words, we were afraid of what people might think about us. God forbid that they should ever find out the truth, and tell anybody, so we just put on a marvelous front. What frauds we were, thinking that we were getting away with it. Time caught up with us, though.

Let us think a moment about the word addiction, which simply means habitual. It is certainly a habit for us to breathe, eat, sleep, pay taxes, etc. All of us do these very same things to varying degrees. What we did not understand was that when we became allergic to some of the things that we had been doing, we had to start doing things differently or die.

We can either continue to seek the ways of the past, or we can turn toward God, with prayer through His Son's Spirit, if we desire real change! When anybody finds out that they have an addiction to something, and they are allergic, suggestions are always given. The choice of what must be done, ultimately has to be made by the individual, not their friends. At times, we have to wait until a person asks for needed help.

In looking back, we had no idea of how many habits we had formed that were destructive or negative in nature, rather than creative. Not only were they negative, many of the bad habits were destructive to others, or to ourselves. Some of us turned from suicidal emotions to homicidal emotions.

It has taken us many years to let all of the past be sorted in to the appropriate categories, and having let spiritual amends be made, we could finally let God's light shine on them. We remember hearing from a dear friend of ours, an American African, who told us of her addiction to illegal drugs which had taken away the problem of lust for her.

The spiritual adviser that she was working with told her, "Go back home and search your past until you find something that you did lust for!" After several months, she did realize, and told us, that she had lusted for clothes, money, and prestige.

Did you notice that some of the proud family, nationality, and cultural heritage people are finally admitting that we are American Italians, American Natives, and even American Japanese? We are in hopes that God is finally going to restore this nation of diversity into **One Nation**, during the millennium rule of Christ, that is spoken of in the Address at Gettysburg: **that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom . . .** At least we will not be the separatists, or separated people.

The upcoming chart has four basic categories. The third column from the left, fear, represents natural human birth. The first two columns represent what was learned in the world, and where we visited, but the last column, on the right, represents what is basically required for the rebirth. The large middle section *only* reads vertically, not horizontally, but the smaller sections read *both* vertically and horizontally.

Now let us observe the condition of a lot of mankind's ego and also the solution, which is a path that requires a journey. A dictionary was helpful to get a handle on a few of these not often discussed attributes.

<u>Slavery</u>	<u>Bondage</u>	<u>Emotion</u>	<u>Kingdom</u>
eGo	shame	guilt	spiritual
physical	mental	sickness	surrender
wicked	cursed	evil	heaven

<u>FearFull</u>	<u>FearLess</u>	<u>Fear</u>	<u>FaithFull</u>
addiction	abortion	ambition	glory
adultery	abuse	anger	servant
corruption	bankruptcy	arguing	charity
embezzlement	cheating	bigotry	hope
extortion	covetous	bitterness	faith
fraud	crime	cruelty	voluntary
homosexuality	defiance	debt	respect
incest	drunkenness	deceit	mercy
kidnaping	fornication	denial	trust
lawlessness	gambling	envy	goodwill
lesbianism	haughtiness	flattery	patience
molestation	jealousy	gluttony	tolerance
murder	obesity	gossip	humility
poverty	pornography	greed	balance
prostitution	profanity	hate	surrender
rapaciousness	rage	laziness	honesty
rape	seduction	lust	integrity
robbery	sensuality	lying	courage
terrorism	revenge	pride	repent
violence	thievery	rebellion	admission

<u>Rope</u>	<u>Trip</u>	<u>Birth</u>	<u>Rebirth</u>
obsession	compulsive	restlessness	rest
worldliness	loneliness	resentment	harmony
di-sease	illness	dis-ease	healing
hopelessness	helplessness	carelessness	helpful
self-will	self-centered	selfish	EgO

In surveying this chart, we assure you that many of us have been as far left as one can go. It does not matter where we are or if there is more than one problem that needs to be dealt with. Several of us had three or four habits that had become ropes, which were around our neck.

Needless to say, space prohibits a total and complete list of all of the human ills, but we do provide a comprehensive grouping of many of the ills that a lot of people suffer under, here at the close of the twentieth century. Please understand that it takes time to dig up all of the skeletons in our own closets, and we are surely not to be concerned about anybody else's skeletons; that is God's business and His responsibility.

At last, we finally were given some truthful understanding of what this world really offered us, and the direction in which it is headed, based on our so-called good intentions. The question is, where do we truly want to be?

Each must find their own answer, and each must make up their own mind as to what will be done about it. We believe that all want to be free. If this is your desire, we hope that you will continue with us. We are keenly aware of what tough journeys there are ahead of us.

The point is, this world is changing and we believe all need to find the right way to change. Above all else, it is of paramount importance that when we study this chart, we learn how to focus on "ourself" or "ourselves," not on others.

As an example, many of us men have literally prostituted our brain to obtain money for fame, fortune, property, and prestige. We have even heard that today's world has male prostitutes, that sell their body for sexual activity!

We have done most of the things in the preceding chart because we were just following the ways of the world and worldliness. Unless things are done to glorify God, we believe they are worldly or secular - without Christ. There is nothing wrong with buildings, property, or marriages, that is not our point. Without buildings there could be no study, business, manufacturing, or shelter, yielding only perfect chaos and much death due to the elements, and without marriages of some kind, there would have been no procreation at all.

It is our belief that anyone that has had a boss, business, or family, and has been a bread winner, has certainly been fettered with people pleasing, which is most of the time fear based. Unless it is to see how much can be given to any effort, rather than how much can be gotten out of such union, we suspect that our actions are routed in fear, rather than love. Please read Psalm 58 in *The Living Bible* if you would like to know what God thinks about those of us who enjoyed being popular, especially politicians. We think that there is a world of difference in our elder statesmen, though.

Our focus *now*, however, is to see that what we are involved in is aimed at the purpose of learning how to let the glory of God shine through us, rather than man's vain glory be shown through our actions. The biggest lesson that we had to learn was we had to quit being people pleasers who required popularity. As we journey with this approach to a new life, let us again mention and praise God for His true and Holy word in Ezekiel 39:25; **But now the Lord God says, "I will end the captivity of my people and have mercy upon them and restore their fortunes, for I am concerned about my reputation!"**

Again, our lives are now none of our business. We have a *new manager and employer!* We had revealed to us that our only hope of glory was to have "**Christ in our heart,**" and that "**man's only glory is his wife.**" Well, even though quite a few of us have experienced the institution of marriage, according to aggressive and liberated mentalities of this age, we had experienced all that we could stand.

Let us thank God for His Word in Colossians 3:2; **Your real life is in heaven with Christ and God. And when Christ who is our real life comes back again, you will shine with him and share in all his glories.** Considering what we have been discussing, in the last several pages, this is a most wonderful revelation for us.

The truth for us is that the seed of Christ is awakened in us and the Lord Jesus occasionally visits us in Spirit. In view of the fact that we are all created with an equal amount of faith, this Scripture requires perfect faith. In other words, as children, we always thought that we were of a particular faith or denomination, and wondered what other people believed.

Genesis 22, Romans 4, and Hebrew 11 give us excellent examples of faith. This type of faith requires understanding of Melchizedek or Christ. Both were never born, nor have they ever died. We learned that Melchizedek lets people visit Jehovah God and that Christ brings God to us. Absolutely no one can be acceptable to God without faith in their innermost being. All faith is a gift which cannot be earned, but it is created. Basically, desperation was the beginning of our need for faith. Later, we understood having faith in God's Son's awakened spirit, in spiritual growth and progress, after the casting out of demons.

**"These times of treachery and shame will all be in the past; they will be home again, in peace and safety in their own land, with no one bothering them or making them afraid."**

Let us assure you that we know what it means to be in control of a small fortune, which we had made over a long career, but finally decided to walk away from, or seemingly relinquish control, so that we could find our real place in eternal life.

We were given divine discontent, and had absolutely no idea at all about what we were doing, but we can now look back and see that it was necessary so that we could *truly* begin to learn how to *seek* God.

As much as we dislike having to put this Scripture in this book, it is important to God, the Lord Jesus, so here goes. When we were thinking that He wanted it included, and he judged our resistance, we were reminded that this is not our book.

We thank God for a full understanding of Matthew 19:21. When He was talking to the man about getting to heaven so he could have eternal life even though the man had not broken any of the law's of Moses; Jesus told him, "**If you want to be perfect, go and sell everything you have and give the money to the poor, and come, follow me.**" What *we* found in the anonymous fellowships was a path that let God's will, unfold for each of us, so that we did not put God to a foolish test, as mentioned in Luke 4:13!

We were so ill that, had we done what the Scripture advises, of our own volition, we would have done it for the wrong reason. As it turns out, the prayers that we were given to pray just let things happen on God's timetable.

Let us explain a little bit about the casting out of demons, at this juncture, so that we might better have an understanding of the *patience* that is available in Christ, mentioned in 2 Thes 3:5. Maybe you have heard some people say, "We could not live in our own skin."

After much spiritual growth in experiencing the love of God and loving our neighbor as ourself, at certain times, always unannounced, we would experience a certain type of trembling. Things were leaving our body and we would just absolutely just sit there and let the demonic emotion leave us to be sent to wherever God sends it. Literally dozens of this type of experiences have occurred to us over a decade of time. But, now back to the subject that we are investigating as it relates to our thinking that we are alone and separated from God because of limitation.

An important part of our journey to receive faith was to be willing to learn how to obey the laws of our government - even the speed limits on our highways and streets. We are not sure about seat belts except for little children, because we know of people that would not have been thrown clear of the murderous collision had they had their seat belt on. We do support air bags however, in addition to safety and seat belts for kids.

Now we thank God for letting there be clear understanding of Romans 13:1-3; **OBEY THE GOVERNMENT, for God is the one who has put it there. There is no government anywhere that God has not placed in power. So those who refuse to obey the laws of the land are refusing to obey God, and punishment will follow. For the policeman does not frighten people who are doing right; but those doing evil will always fear him.**

In time, we have learned how to appreciate this Scripture. No way could we carry around all the laws of all governments. The point is, however, in simple terms, the more we learn how to love God and our neighbor as ourself, the more in agreement and harmony we are with the government's laws.

Let us point out that there is a difference in being in agreement with politicians and their entitlements, and the government's laws. If we do not know who God wants us to vote for, then let us not vote. We do need to pray for God's will to be done in all governments, however, since we believe that Christ is finally going to be the ruler in the next thousand years, rather than the evil one, who has had the freedom to roam and control certain aspects of life on this planet for the last six thousand years.

By not voting for the wrong person, however, our conscience is always clear, and we are not guilty of helping to perpetuate ongoing wrongs. Again, let us address the word evil. Many spiritual teachers understand that evil is just wrong thinking. It is caused by the eGo state of being or carnal mind. We learned that the evil one does not have as much power as he thinks he has! *It was especially true for us that it was only the evil in our own heart that hurt us.*

Unfortunately, however, this eGo mind, the sub-conscious mind, has and will always cause all of mankind's misery. In spirituality, we learn that wrong thinking is correctable. While we experience the "**renewing of our minds,**" the eGo is punished, not us, because the carnal mind is being starved. The new freedoms of spirit are well worth the price that must be paid.

God's grace is extremely protective and forgiving. It is not that we recommend that anyone break the laws of any Government, but altruism is an unselfish interest in, and the devotion to, the well being of others.

This is of *primary necessity* to find any spiritual path. It is only in being unselfishly concerned about the well being of others that God is concerned about our well being. So, how we treat others is the way that God lets us be treated. Let us now confirm what we are about in Ephesians 2:...10; **and long ages ago he planned that we should spend these lives in helping others.**

We have all learned many painful lessons in our separate journeys. To share in His Glory, however, is worth this type lifestyle change in order to learn how to be of help to others. That is our experience.

Now let there be full understanding of 1 Peter 1:2;

**Dear friends, God the Father chose you long ago and knew you would become his children. And the Holy Spirit has been at work in your hearts, cleansing you with the blood of Jesus Christ and making you to please him. May God bless you richly and grant you increasing freedom from all anxiety and fear.**

Let us comment on the cleansing with the blood of Jesus Christ. To be in God's Family, we have to have the blood cleansed. It took between six and seven years for this process to be understood. One way for us to attempt to explain this is to say that we occasionally experienced tremendous cleansing of the feet and hands by sensing tingling sensations like blood beginning to recirculate again after a foot or hand had gone to sleep, but more about this in a later chapter.

We always find additional peace of mind, serenity, joy, and happiness with each painful episode of eGo deflation. Even though there has been unbelievable suffering, we consider this a privilege.

We understand that the eGo is being crucified, while the heart is being circumcised. We never understood why we had to experience any particular situation, we just finally understand that it was our duty. Mainly for the future privilege of the presence of, or, the glory of God.

Through these situations, we experienced the enduring strength of God's Spirit, and at last came to understand that we had been victimized by the fearful eGo, rather than by people, places, or things. We cannot mention enough that we have learned that evil is just wrong thinking, which is correctable, and wicked means cursed.

Now let us reveal the good news of the Scripture in Deuteronomy 23:5;... **instead, he turned the intended curse into a blessing for you, because the Lord loves you.** Again, let us assure you, wrong thinking has no permanence. It is a product of mankind's eGo. Our true soul, the one that God has in His Mind, is in heaven with Christ. Yes, it is free from sin and error.

When God is sure that we are serious about wanting our old limiting ideas to be changed into new creative ideas, and we are willing to let His Spirit change us, then and only then, can His grace have full implications. This change is available if He receives the glory, honor, praise, and credit. His Holy name and reputation is at stake, not ours. We even know of a few people that have driven their cars, for short periods of times, without a drivers license, in order to get to *meetings*, to learn how to stay alive, because they needed to learn of an altruistic way of life.

If we will consider the list of human ills in our chart again, many, who are a part of this book, were as any one can imagine, in unbelievable darkness. Current generations were destined to experience darkness, as never before, so that we could enjoy the light.

The way we enjoy the light is to share the appropriate part of our experience with those who want out of their darkness. We hope that many will, with the aid of this chapter, be able to see clearly where our individual humanism leads us. Some of us consider that we were terrible sinners.

Sin to us is the illusion that we are separated from God; this is not possible. It also stands for self imposed nonsense. We remember Matthew 19:14; **But Jesus said, "Let the little children come unto me, and don't prevent them. For such is the Kingdom of Heaven."**

Our conviction is that the time is coming, that if a child is not raised by parents which use the Bible as a guide to life, in conjunction with their religion, the small children are probably better off with our Lord Jesus in Paradise. Surely that is better than to be a party to more of the illegal, and mostly sick behavior, that some people have been raised in, here on this earth.

We are confident that an ungodly parent or parents raise ungodly adults. Most sick people are living proof of that! The sick part about it, is that all of us were in some form of religion that spoke of God, either as history or prophecy of the future. But we never believed that we could be helped, on a daily basis, in the here and now.

One last comment about abortion. Let us let Luke 23:29 explain it: **"For the days are coming when the women who have no children will be counted fortunate indeed."**

We have already heard that some states are changing and limiting their welfare programs, especially regarding the amounts of money paid to unmarried mothers, who seem to have thought that welfare was their only means of survival. Its another example of man's laws playing God.

Another part of human nature that is not well received, by the self righteous, because they are too busy seeing what is wrong in us, rather than looking for what is wrong in themselves, will be addressed in the next Scripture, but let us comment on several elements that have caused much animosity in recent years.

Considering some of what has been seen and heard, it is easy to understand why there might be gays and lesbians in today's so called civilization, if there is any understanding of the Bobbit deal or the Simpson ordeal; two publicized situations. Even though we cannot accept these normal characteristics of humankind, which are normal because of some blood lines, we truly do understand that the precious blood of the Lamb is the only thing that changed what was, and still might be wrong in us. The wrongs which will prevent us from enjoying God's Kingdom here on earth.

As a matter of fact, we understand that some of our human problems came through the blood line, and that is why we are not guilty, if we repentantly turn to God's Son. In case it has gone over your head, we were talking about the grotesque behavior that the opposite sex has done to each other. Our contention is though that we always placed ourselves in a position to be hurt or harmed, because we had not ever sought God's approval or wisdom on anything before we decided whether it would be good for us over the long haul.

**So it was that when they gave God up and would not even acknowledge him, God gave them up to doing everything their evil minds could think of. Their lives became full of every kind of wickedness and sin, of greed and hate, lying, bitterness, and gossip. They were backbiters, haters of God, insolent, proud, braggarts, always thinking of new ways of sinning and continually being disobedient to their parents. They tried to misunderstand, broke their promises, and were heartless - without pity.** Maybe we need to hear *Easy Does It!*

Fortunately, this is just the first chapter in the Book of Romans, but it does represent some of the chart, doesn't it? The remainder of Romans is not nearly as dreadful as the Scriptures we have just quoted. Hopefully also, the majority of the remainder of this book will focus more on the solution rather than the problem situations, which are only temporary.

Remember, God will let us help others get out of their darkness because of their future testimony of **His** grace, forgiveness, mercy, kindness and love, after we internally and spiritually realize these wonderful gifts of truthfulness, on the inside of our being. If you do have to go to some of the depths of slavery like we did, even though it is not necessary because we have already done it for you, God will always help you if you earnestly seek Him, no matter what happens. In this process, you learn how to depend on Him!

Before we leave the topic of limitation and slavery, let us understand that the Prophets of Old understood that for man to put anything before God was idolatry. That truth has not and will not change, if we want what He has to offer.

In reviewing our past, over a period of years, so we could have clear understanding, we could see that we had enjoyed everything that God had created to the point of worshiping it rather than God the creator.

One of the old attitudes that we lived by was, "We only live once, but if we do it right, once is enough." Even though we failed to realize that perpetuating some terrible attribute or habit was worship, we nonetheless let our actions prove what we believed, because that is always what we did.

Again, *our actions prove what we believed*, because that is what we did, and that was always, without fail, a self-centered exercise in futility. We highly recommend that the Book of Romans be studied because there are a lot of explanations and directions on how to overcome these habits, plus a lot of forgiveness. But let us now introduce an unattractive truth about a very small segment of us.

A few, but not many of us, were even guilty of the Scriptures in Romans 1:25-30, which are as follows: **Instead of believing what they knew was the truth about God, they deliberately chose to believe lies. So they prayed to the things God made, but wouldn't obey the blessed God who made these things.**

**That is why God let go of them and let them do all these evil things, so that even their women turned against God's natural plan for them and indulged in sex sin with each other. And the men, instead of having a normal sex relationship with women, burned with lust for each other, men doing shameful things with other men and, as a result, getting paid within their own souls with the penalty they so richly deserved.**

King Solomon, who had seven hundred wives, was not thrown out of his realm of kingship, until he started worshiping false gods. Some of his wives convinced him to worship them. But after he had repented, he was reinstated as King. Do we believe that it was because Adam obeyed Eve, rather than God, that all of humankind has ever since been under an intended curse? If it is true that when we become Christians, and the Bible says, "**that we must have only one wife,**" that sure will be the day.

But we will all have to play our assigned rolls correctly, if we want God's Heavenly blessings of His treasures and riches, which are hidden in Christ! We learned and now understand that man cannot separate what God has joined together, in *holy matrimony!* We came to believe in the Last Adam approach to our eternal helpmate which is mentioned in 1 Corinthians 15. We learned that we both had to be *created*, with true faith, **full and complete**, before we were suitable to be the *help mates* that God's vision of us *is*.

All that we human beings had been to each other had been hinderance mates. We also understood the Scripture in 1 John 2:6; **Anyone who says he is a Christian should live as Christ did.** The goal for us however, is to learn how to be a Jewish Christian, an Israelite, or reborn Gentile in the rebirth process, since none of us have walked on water yet.

When we can remember where we came from, on our chart, purely through God's grace, we are not apt to think that any of us are likely to walk on water in the near or foreseeable future either. Along this path, we did come to understand that Satan always gave us individuals our selfish wishes, but God always provides our needs.

It was very easy to be thankful and grateful to God after He had provided our food, transportation, and shelter for us when we were no longer able to provide it for our selves. The path that let us finally figure out our needs became perfectly clear when, our true needs were provided (clothing, food, and shelter), rather than our wants and human desires, which in the final analysis *always* got us into deeper trouble!

Part of the good news is that, as we learned how not to act on our negative human emotions and intense feelings of hate, we were practicing self-restraint. The more that we were given the opportunity to practice, the easier the victory. In time, we were given self-control, which is mandatory for character building. This is required in a repentant life. Quite a few times, many of us were sorely tempted to repeat some of our old human behavior, but God gave us a way out, *when we asked for it*.

The victories over our old lifestyles, because we asked for a way of escape during temptation, as compared to our losses, were more than compensated for by the good feelings that were created through His Spirit on the inside of us, in our inner being - our divine souls - which is what God created a long time ago, in **His mind**, when He just **thought** about us.

We believe that this is a good time to close chapter two with a Scripture that we need full understanding of which is John 11:40; ***"But didn't I tell you that you will see a wonderful miracle from God if you believe?"*** **Jesus asked her.** Our only comment is that believing is not knowing, at times.