Lessons of the Past

Lesson 10, 1st Quarter March 2-8, 2024.

Pastor Ricardo Bacchus

Sabbath Afternoon March 2

Memory Text:

"Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We shall not hide them from the children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done. KJV – Psalm 78:3,4

"Heaven's plan of salvation is broad enough to embrace the whole world. God desires every soul to become a member of his family. He desires that every person who has the opportunity to be the adopted who is heirs to his kingdom, shall be something higher and nobler than anything the world can offer. Constantly he is sending the Holy Spirit to those who, while surrounded by circumstances the most discouraging, pray in faith for some power higher than themselves to raise possession of them and bring deliverance and peace. In various ways God will reveal himself to them and will place them in touch with providences that will establish their confidence in the One who has given himself a ransom for all. That they might see their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments." Psalm 78:7, PK 371.1

"I was referred to the wrath of God which came upon the incredulous and disobedient of ancient Israel. Their duty to instruct their children was plainly enjoined upon them. It is just as binding upon believing parents in this generation. 'Give unto the Lord glory for his mercy, for his love in our time to the worlds of his mouth, I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old: which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us. We will not hide them from their children, showing to the generation to come the praises of the Lord, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done." ST 37.1

Sunday, March 3

The Lord's Unstoppable Faithfulness

Read Psalm 78. What three historical epochs are highlighted in this psalm? What recurring lessons does Asaph draw from each period?

"God directed the children of Israel to encamp in that place, where there was water and food. He had led them by a way they had not chosen, where they murmur as they had previously done. In view of what God had done for them in the past, they should have trusted in God. They should have been ashamed to doubt God, who had so long and so tenderly cared for them. They should with thirst, where he had promised to take unto himself as his people. But instead of entreating the Lord in humility to provide for their necessity, they murmured against Moses, and demanded of him, water. God had been continually ministering to power, and they had murmured against him. He made them understand that all the benefits which they received came from him. He had sought to bless them, and they had murmured against him. At times they had a full sense of this, and humbled themselves greatly before God. But they had forgotten his goodness. They had forgotten his wonderful works in the past, and had lost sight of God's power to deliver them from their murmurings. He inquired of the Lord what he should do; for the people were ready to stone him. The Lord bids him go forward with the rod of God and smite the rock. The cloud of his glory rested directly before the rock. "He clave the rocks in the wilderness, and gave them drink as out of the great depths. He brought streams also out of the rock, and caused waters to run down like rivers." Moses smote the rock, and God caused the waters to flow in abundance. Water to flow from the dry rock. The people tempted the Lord in their thirst, and God, in his wrath, could have smitten them with a plague, but he did not. Neither did he suffer them to perish. He knew that if he should smite the rock, and cause water to flow, the people would gratify their lust, and would murmur. The Lord tested the faith of Moses, and he did not fail. He was willing to be tried, and he was tried, and for water, and complained of Moses. Because of their unbelief, God suffered their enemies to make war with them, that he might manifest to his people from whence cometh their strength." 1SP 227.1

After Israel crossed the sea, and after the sea closed in on their enemies, they had sung the song of Moses. They had seen the Egyptians dead on the shore and no longer objects of fear but of interest, their trials, doubts, and fears were not yet at an end! Almost immediately after they saw the sea behind and the desert ahead they began to recriminate Moses for having brought them into the desert to starve them for want of water and food. A never entered their minds that God, who, by the sea, He can certainly food the desert and make it blossom as a rose. Notwithstanding their doubts and their murmurings God has performed an even greater miracle: He caused water to gush out of the rock and He brought manna from Heaven!

Monday, March 4

Remembering History and the Praise of God

Read Psalm 105. What historical events and their lessons are highlighted in this psalm?

"All who profess to be children of God I would invite to consider the history of ancient Israel, and to study the lessons of God's dealings with his people in the south, and the one hundred and seventy plagues. By carefully studying these lessons they will be able to appreciate more fully the goodness, mercy, and love of our God." RT 107.1

"With great power, and with a mighty hand, God brought His chosen people out of the land of Egypt. Exodus 3:11. He sent Moses to his servant, and Aaron whom he had chosen. They showed His signs among them, and wonders in the land of Egypt. Psalm 105:26, 27. He sent darkness, and made it dark; and they rebelled not against his word. He turned their waters into blood, and slew their sacrificial lamb. He gave them water in the desert, and made it run like a river in the dry place. He spoke, and there came a good land, a land which in comparison with other lands was a paradise. He gave them the land which they had not wrought, and they dwelt in it. He gave them the land which they had not wrought, and they dwelt in it. He gave them the land which God had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He gave them the land which God had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He gave them the land which God had promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob