

**Objective: to reveal
the 'terrain of
transition' and how to
negotiate it safely to
the other side.**

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NLBC a.m.

Crossing Over/Crossing Into – Pt. 9 Creating a Canaan Mentality In Yourself

Ex. 14:1-9; Num. 13:30; Ps. 112

Principle of God – the **process** is more important than the **provision**.
God led Israel to camp in the following location:

Baal-Zephon – a city where a temple was built for the demon, Baal-Zephon, the Lord of the North, a storm god; a place of worship; demonic worship

Migdol – a city that was part of the mountain range that blocked them connected to the Bitter Lakes that contained a tower to observe all that passed

Pi-Hahiroth – meaning “mouth of water” – a piece of land adjoining the Sea that looked like a great swallowing mouth

Eltham – meaning “shut in” -- confined and imprisoned in circumstances...facing a Red Sea that was 205 metres deep (Ex. 13:20)

A place of:

- Demonic evil oppression – a reminder of the slavery they had left – Egypt was the place they lived that extracted their very lives through the oppression of economic slavery – how appropriate that they have a reminder of the ‘life they were to leave’ to find a ‘place of rest’ and blessing in their work life
- Connected with bitterness – anger, resentment and sometimes even hate over disappointment at having been treated unfairly
- A place of confinement, restriction, limitation, blockage, shortage, barrenness, confusion,

God led them to this *location* to bring them an even greater deliverance. We all want *circumstantial deliverance*, but **internal freedom and growth** are much greater and more long-lasting than circumstantial deliverance. We were meant to have both.

Application:

- Decide today that you are finished with economic slavery. Some have developed such an 'appetite' for economic slavery they simply believe, "everyone is in the same 'rat race' so I might as well 'put my head down' and get on with working my guts out to 'make a living' and surrender the life I am to live because, 'that's just the only way to get ahead.' – pay my bills, buy a home, send my kids to university, and have a good retirement.
- Ask God to cleanse you in your spirit from all submission to the 'demon of economic slavery.' 2 Cor. 7:1. You wouldn't knowingly or consciously submit to an evil spirit but ignorantly allow it to take over your thought life, decision-making and lifestyle.
- Begin to seek God for the kind of employment that will allow you 'the good life' that He intended...time for Him, time for your family, time for His Church family, time for reaching the lost, and time for ministry or the *life-assignment* you have been given by Him.
- Put your faith into action by tithing, offerings, sowing, and giving generously – effectively stabbing to death the spirit of fear, doubt, and oppression. Shatter the 'shortage' thinking by your generous giving. Your spiritual inheritance begins here. Luke 16:11 says, "So if you have not been **trustworthy** in handling worldly wealth, who will trust you with true riches?" Stop "tipping" God occasionally and begin to consistently **tithe** and then move on to offerings and 'sowing.' 2 Cor. 9:8-12.
- Forgive **everyone** in your entire life that has ever wounded, betrayed, abused, disappointed, slandered, falsely accused, maligned, mis-treated and hurt you. Matt. 6:14-15 says, "For if you forgive men when they sin against you, your heavenly Father will also forgive you. But if you do not forgive men their sins, your Father will not forgive your sins." Col. 3:13; Eph. 4:30-32-5:2. Stamp out the 'spirit of suspicion and evil speculation.'
- Establish your **heart**, your **mouth**, and your **actions** in faith. 2 Cor. 5:7. Plant the promises, speak the promises, and root out all negativity. Declare boldly, "I am crossing over (in any and all circumstances) to the other side!"

Summary

Certainly, the significance of these places is larger than we have examined today. Whatever other places of oppression, demonic harassment, limitation, or unforgiveness there may be,

don't neglect to deal with them. Don't end up 'wandering in the wilderness' in some area of your life.

Crossing Into -- Num. 35:10; 36:13; Deut. 12:10

Life is a journey of transitions...you enter this world at birth and leave this world in death, resurrection or rapture. You enter school and leave school. You enter a job and leave it. You enter your work life and retire. You enter a home and leave it. You enter a room and eventually head for the exit of that room. Three modes of our journey in life—entrance, the land between (the distance between entrance and exit) and exit. The story of God's covenant people, Israel, was in four parts: 1)Egypt/Red Sea 2)Wilderness 3)Wilderness/Jordan 4)Canaan

The first part of Israel's journey was getting '**out of Egypt**' and the second part of their journey was '**getting into Canaan.**' To complete transition, we must both 'leave Egypt' by recognition, forsaking, and repentance and we must 'enter Canaan' by **truly believing** that Canaan is our new address. Ex. 6:3-9; Deut. 1:32-36.

Joshua 23:14-15 NCV says, "You know and fully believe that the LORD has done great things for you. You know that he has not failed to keep any of his promises. Every good promise that the LORD your God made has come true, and in the same way, his other promises will come true."

Some people don't want to believe that others can gain more than they have simply by the use of their faith when what they have has been by 'all that hard work, education, and pursuit.' In their view, the 'arm of flesh and the legs of man' are greater to produce than mere faith in the promises of God.

Has God done great things for you? Sit and recount them with your family as we prepare to go to a 'new place in God' and a new place to gather.

Canaan Land – Num. 33:51, 53; Ps. 105:10-11

Christ *died* to give us His life, Heaven-life on earth, not just the cleansing of our sins. Deut. 8:7-10 NCV says, "The LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with rivers and pools of water, with springs that flow in the valleys and hills, a land that has wheat and barley, vines, fig trees, pomegranates, olive oil, and honey. It is a land where you will have plenty of food, where you will have everything you need, where the rocks are iron, and where you can dig copper out of the hills. When you have all you want to eat, then praise the LORD your God for giving you a good land."

John 10:10 tells that we were given 'life abundant.' There is a generation that will live in **all** that God has provided lest the Cross be seen as a failure, to produce fully, what God intended. Will you be part of that generation?

Joshua 5:12 speaks of the transition from the manna that had become the 'same old, same old' to the full fruitfulness of Canaan, the Promised Land! You are to have a 'change of diet!'

Canaan represents a life characterised by the following:

- The land of 'milk and honey' – "the truly good life" Ps. 112. Sixteen times the phrase, 'milk and honey' is used to describe the place God was taking them. Deut. 6:10, 11

- The land of rest as opposed to the land of slavery – labour but **not** life-debilitating labour—sweet sleep, productivity and fulfilment (Josh 24:13) – no longer ‘running with the rats in the great rat race’ to get and keep the almighty pound, but trusting in His promotion and His abundance, meanwhile, bearing witness to others of His life...ie. Joseph – Ps. 3:5-8; Ps. 4:8; Ps. 127:2; Prov. 3:23, 24; Heb. 4:8-10
- Your own home and financial blessing – Deut. 8:10-13; Josh. 24:13
- No disease – Divine health...the true HHS...Ex. 15:26; Deut. 7:15; Matt. 8:17; Isa. 58:8; 3 John 2; Jer. 30:17-20
- Generational blessing – 1 Chron. 28:8; Ps. 112

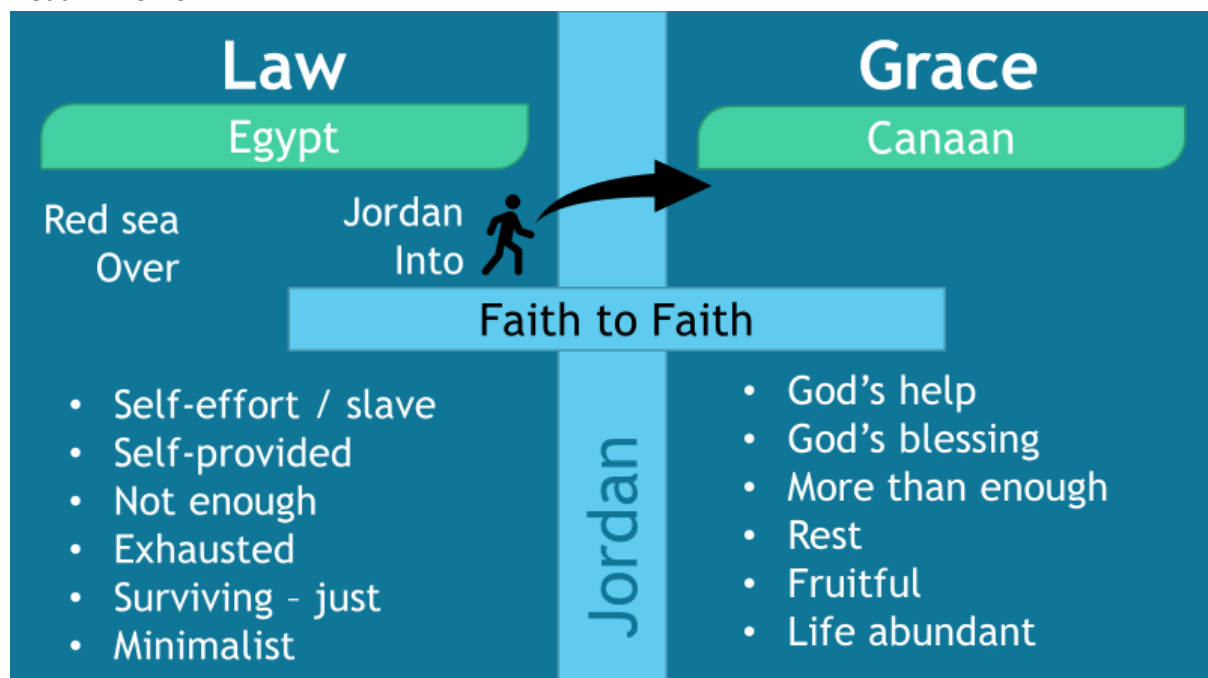
Reluctant Travelers – Num. 32:5,6

“I want Canaan life and blessing, but I don’t want to die for it, go after it, pursue it, make changes for it, believe for it and move toward it in the acquisition of faith.” *Lazy believers die in the wilderness trying to suck the good life out of the desert and other believing believers. They fail to recognise and embrace that it is really their ‘inner life’ that God is after. Some conclude, I am ‘happy enough,’ financially comfortable enough, and I’m o.k.—no changes needed here.’*

The Two Tests...Deut. 30:16-20

Leaving Egypt is a test...

Living in Canaan is a test...the one you come to after you believed and entered into the “blessing” of Canaan’s wild and awesome promises! Only men and women of true, steadfast character remain “in the land.” Others become fixed (worshipping) on the blessings and lose their way and drift into nominalism, lukewarmness, and spiritual destitution. (Man who was a “oil millionaire” and lost it all). Deut. 11:13-16.



Crossing Into Canaan -- Joshua 1

After Israel crossed “over the Red Sea,” they crossed the Jordan River during flood stage *into* the Promised Land. Only faith could enable them to **fully leave** Egypt and **cross** over the Red Sea. Only faith can enable us to **cross into** the Promised Land or the Land of Promises...the ‘place’ we were intended to live according to Divine provision and Divine promise. Internal prosperity first is God’s order of blessing. It is what sustains our external prosperity or material blessing.

Developing a “Canaan-Mentality”

Just a living as a ‘new creation’ in Christ involves a radical change in the way we think as believers, so also does living in ‘Canaan.’ Our previous life and the world’s system programmes us to live with its values, instincts, and methods. Canaan, in the Bible, speaks of God’s grace—His unmerited, unearned favour upon our lives. We could not save ourselves. Only He could. We could not secure blessing on our lives by human effort. Only He can. What we secure by human effort must be sustained by human effort and is filled with the great dangers of pride, fear, selfishness and wrongful independence. The striving of human effort wears out the body, the face, the soul, the spirit and brings exhaustion with no real relief. This is because it is wrong, wrong, wrong. Nothing can change the harvest of a life constructed on the basis of Egyptian ‘human effort.’

God said He would provide...Deut. 6:10-12; Josh 24:13. To ‘cross over into’ Canaan is to cross into a life of Divine provision.

God told Israel through Moses and Joshua, to ‘spy out the land.’ He told them to discover the ‘blessing’ that He had pre-provided for them. He called it a land of “rest.” Are you living there yet? Gen. 12:5 speaks of our journey to fully possess and settle in what is so opposite to the world in which we live.

It is only ‘faith and obedience’ that can enable us to ‘cross into’ the land of Canaan, the land of rest, the land of Divine provision. If we fail to make **conscious decisions** to trust the Lord in every area of life, we live in unbelief, human effort, fear and vulnerability.

Developing a Canaan Mentality

God intended His people to develop a ‘Canaan mentality.’ He wanted them to think and embrace a new way of living based on **His provision**, not the slavery of self-provision. Josh. 1:6-9; Rom. 12:1-2.

Things that oppose the ‘Canaan Mentality’

- Feeling guilty for being blessed – making excuses for God
- Hiding blessing for fear of being discovered and rejected
- Fear of backsliding over blessing – Ps. 112:3
- Believing it is wrong for me to desire blessing while others are struggling with far less than I have

Principle: **Its Ok For Me To Be Greatly Blessed**

DEVELOPING A CANAAN MENTALITY	
Egypt	Canaan
Survival Not enough Toil Oppression Works	Abundance – John 10:10 Generous – 2 Cor 9:8,11 Labour with rest – Ecc 3:22 Promotion - 1 Chron 29:17 Ps 113:7-8 Grace – Deut 6:10-12 Eph 1:7-8
DEVELOPING A CANAAN MENTALITY	
Egypt	Canaan
Worry, fear, anger Pursuing material things – Mt. 6:31-34	Righteousness, peace and joy – Rom 14:17 Enjoying material - Ps 37:19 - Ps 106:5 - Eph 6:3 - 1 Tim 6:17-19

DEVELOPING A CANAAN MENTALITY

Egypt

Canaan

Fear abiding

Continual safety and security

'Take-away' relationships

- Ps 3:3

'Buffet' of self offering

- 2 Cor 5:15

- Josh. 1:14, 15

Sickness and disease

Divine health

- 3 John 2

- Matt 8:17; Ps. 107:13, 14, 20

DEVELOPING A CANAAN MENTALITY

Egypt

Canaan

Nomadic – Num. 32:13; Job
12:24

Homes to settle

- Deut 6:10, 11

- Deut 8:12, 13

Vulnerable

Invincible/Formidable

- Josh. 1:5; 2:24

- Luke 10:19

- Isa. 52:12

Developing a 'Canaan Mentality' requires reading the 'terms of the inheritance covenant, meditating in them, speaking them and actively 'going after them.' Josh. 1:6-9; Heb. 4:2. Make a list of the promises you have found in the Word of God from which God has spoken to you—personalised them to you! Say them aloud! Keep them in your mind! Get a Word-inspired, Word-created-imagination picture of them.

How Do I “Get Across My Jordan?”

In crossing the Red Sea, the Israelites had but simply to believe and put one foot in front of the other. They had to **believe** God that the walls of water on each side wouldn't, suddenly, collapse and swallow them up, simply because they had obeyed the word to, “go forward.” Ex. 14:15 NKJV. But now facing the Jordan at “flood stage,” God had designed a different process. Their history only informed their journey in that it revealed that God would keep His word if they simply believed. It did not provide a “template” for ‘how to do this.’ Josh. 3:4

- Make a **definite decision** that you are going to ‘cross over into’ your Canaan possession – Josh. 3:1 “...early...they ‘set out’.
- Pause in the **busyness of life** to hear and prepare for leaving the ‘place’ you were never meant to live...Josh. 3:1 they went ‘to the Jordan’ and “camped out.” Camping is a term that speaks of a ‘temporary position.’ Deut. 1:6-7 says, “The Lord our God said to us at Horeb, “You have stayed long enough at this mountain. Break camp and advance....”
- Remember **the ‘Cross.’** Israel’s journey was *three days* (symbol pointing to Christ’s work on the Cross). It was the Cross where all the provision and enabling work was done. It is the Cross/Resurrection that gives you success in ‘this crossing.’ Josh. 3:1,2.
- Wait for **specific orders**. Of course, do things you already know to do...get out of bed, wash, eat, go to work, etc. But wait for the ‘word that brings’ instruction.’ Josh. 3:3. Orders were given to the people.

- Follow the **‘leading of the Spirit.’** Israelites followed the ‘priests carrying the Presence (the Ark).’ Josh. 3:3. You will need to hear, in order to move. You have never been ‘here’ before.

- **Respect** the Presence. Josh. 3:4. If you do not honour the Presence of the Lord in your life, you will be ‘too familiar’ with His Presence and downgrade its value and significance in your life. How do you respect the Presence? Respect defined: *“admiration felt or shown for someone or something that you believe has good ideas or qualities...”*
 1. Worship
 2. Pray
 3. Speak in tongues
 4. Obey
 5. Believe i.e. **use** your faith
 6. Protect the “abiding of His Presence” – Eph. 4:30
 7. Co-operate with Him in forgiving others, loving others, witnessing to others, listening to Him, consulting Him, loving on Him...

- **Step Into The Waters of Change with the First Step**

*“God did not hold back the water for Israel before they put their feet in. It is only after they stepped into the water that God acted. The waters do not part until we step out in faith, until our feet are dipped in that impassable river. God can only work with what we give him. Standing on the bank waiting for answers, waiting for a better time and place, or waiting for the flood to subside offers God nothing with which to work. God will not act, the river will rage, and we will remain stuck. That first step, however, gives God something to work with.

One step is all it takes. One step. As soon as Israel's feet were "dipped in the edge of the water," God acted, the flowing waters stood still, there was dry land, and all the people crossed over. With that one step we follow the ark of God's presence into the Jordan." We all have that one step, that first step, that needs to be taken. Take that first step and you have offered God something with which to work. The flood waters of your life will be parted, dry land will be revealed, and the way forward will be opened to you." We all have that one step, that first step, that needs to be taken. Take that first step and you have offered God
` go of anger or resentment. Maybe your life is unmanageable We all have that one step, that first step, that needs to be taken. Take that first step and you have offered God something with which to work. The flood waters of your life will be parted, dry land will be revealed, and the way forward will be opened to you.

What is that first step for you? There are as many first steps as there are circumstances of life. Maybe the first step is to offer another forgiveness and reconciliation. Maybe your one step is to let go of anger or resentment. Maybe your life is unmanageable and that first step is just one of twelve. Sometimes the first step is to simply be quiet, be still, and listen. Perhaps yours is to let go of having to be right or in control. Maybe it means you no longer let fear dominate your life. Perhaps the first step for you is to risk intimacy and vulnerability. feet wet. When or how you will cross your Jordan, I do not know, but I know it happens. Get your feet wet.

Canaan Conquest and Canaan Warfare

Canaan Lifestyle

Canaan Dangers

Canaan Opportunities

*(taken from Interrupting the Silence by Michael Marsh)

