

BLESSINGS AND CURSES

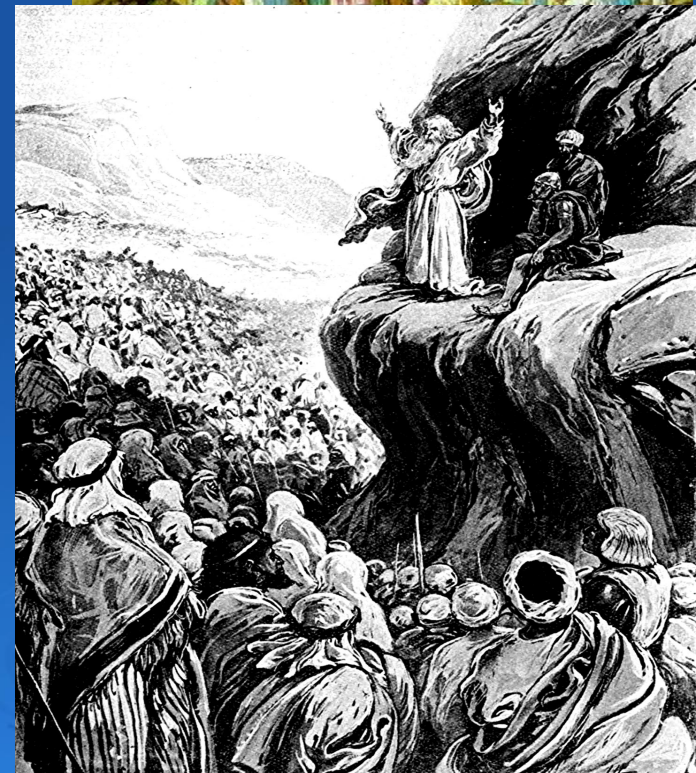
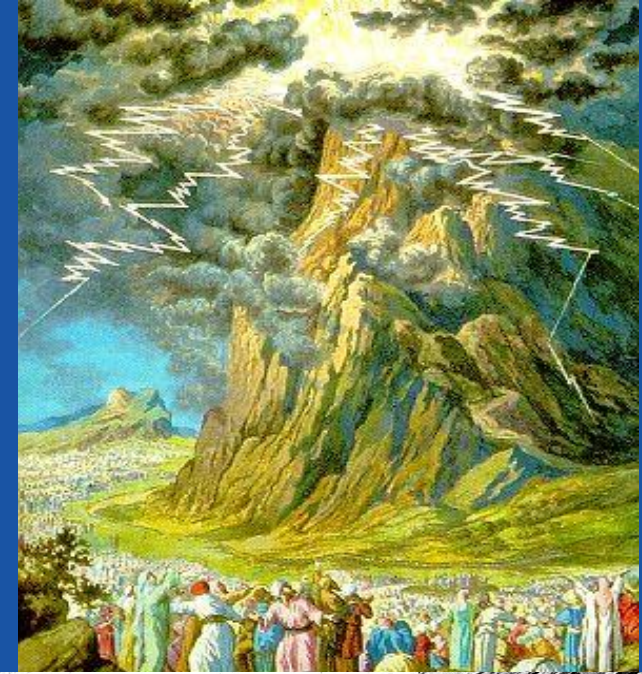


- Israel was to “listen” to God via the Laws and Commands of the Torah
- Most answers about God’s will for our lives is already established for us to read in His Word
- Curses are the opposite of blessings
- ***Tokhehah*** = Warning



THE 2nd GENERATION RECEIVES THE LAW

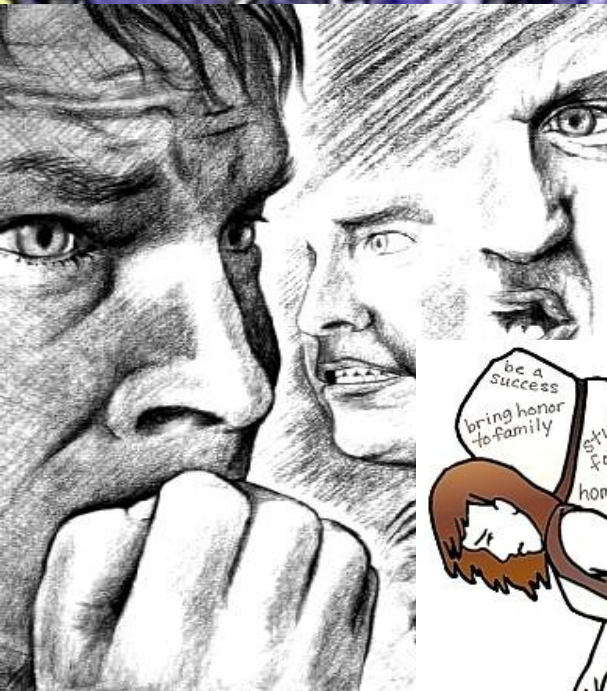
- Moses is re-teaching the Law
- 1st Exodus generation is dead
- PRINCIPLE: We are redeemed NOT by what our parents agreed to and did, but what WE agree to and DO!
- First 6 curses are mirror opposites of the first 6 blessings
- Obedience and disobedience brings opposite results





➤ Curse, cumbrance, and confusion

← Me'erah = curse, bearing a calamity



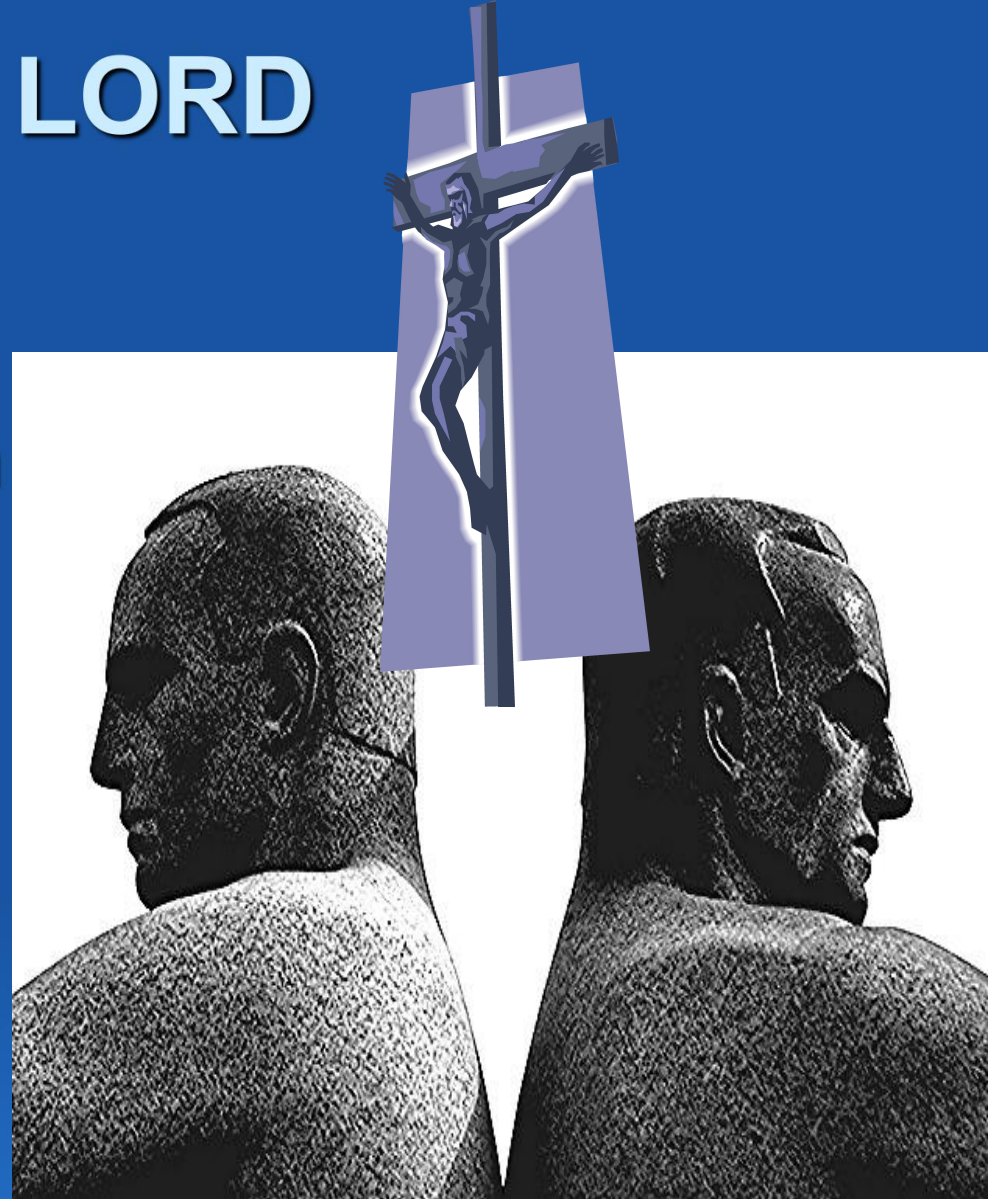
← ➤ Mehumah = confusion, panic and chaos



▶ Mig'eret = cumbrance, a heavy burden, frustration

FORSAKING THE LORD

- Abandoning God
- Does NOT mean to completely renounce Him
- Does NOT mean to exchange Yehoveh for another god
- Means to turn our backs on Him, quit obeying
- Dilute our lives with things of the world that have no place in the life of a Believer!

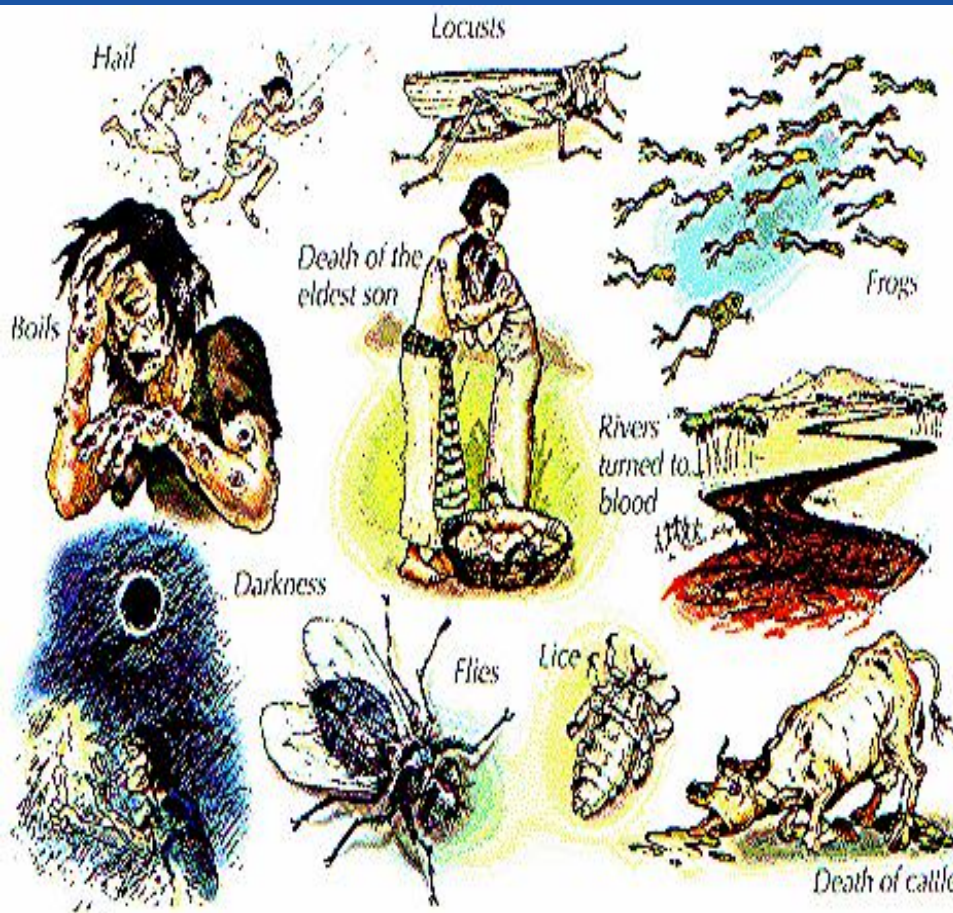


DISEASE, DROUGHT, WAR



- Diseases called: *Shahafet, kaddahat, dallaket*
- We're not sure of their modern equivalents
- Brass sky, iron earth means no rain and parched ground
- *March in by 1 road, flee by 7 roads* means Hebrews will be running for their lives
- So many dead, the birds will eat the corpses before they can be buried!

CURSES OF EGYPT UPON ISRAEL



- 2nd generation had not witnessed the horrors of Egypt
- God threatens Israel with the same plagues if they rebel against Him
- Israelites will become psychologically tormented
- “blindness” does not mean loss of eyesight; it means spiritual blindness
- The absence of God

...nothing will make sense anymore.....

- Your worst fears will be realized
- People will hate you, but WHY?
- **EXILE!!**
- This becomes inevitable
- Prophetic
- Israel taken captive by a nation that did not exist at the time of the Patriarchs



ISRAEL IS DIVIDED INTO TWO KINGDOMS



➤ Solomon dies in 925 B.C.

Judah controls the south
Judah absorbed Benjamin

Ephraim controls the north
Ephraim absorbed the other 10 tribes

CURSES WILL FOLLOW ISRAEL INTO EXILE

- Jonah chapters 1 & 2
- There is NO running from God, ONLY running TO Him!
- Ancients (including Israel) believed their gods were bound by territory
- Jonah was trying to escape Yehoveh's jurisdiction
- Jonah was NOT renouncing YHWH



ROLE REVERSAL

- God had ordered Israel to lend to the foreigners
- Now the foreigners would lend to Israel
- Conquest by other nations
- Starvation, poverty, servitude
- All of these curses because Israel did not “SHEMA” to God
- The calamities upon Israel will serve as a “sign and wonder”



GOD THREATENS TO REVERSE ISRAEL'S SALVATION HISTORY!

- To receive the blessing of the Lord but have no joy, to not be grateful for our redemption by means of obedience is to invite God's curses!
- The New Testament warns that some who believed Messiah would renounce Him!
- Luke 8:13 “*...those seeds who fell on rocky soil.....believe for a while....then fall away..*”
- Rom. 11:22 “*.....to you God's kindness if you continue.....otherwise you also will be cut off.....*”

OBEDIENCE TO THE LAW DOES NOT BRING JUSTIFICATION!!

- Gal. 5:4 *“....you who are trying to be declared righteous....through legalism....have severed yourself from Messiah...”*
- Rev. 2:4 *“....you have lost your first love...remember where you were before you fell.....otherwise I will come and remove your menorah.....”*
- 1 Tim. 4:1 *“....in later times some will fall away.....paying attention to.....doctrines...”*

THERE IS HOPE IF YOU'VE FALLEN AWAY!!



- A Believer who renounces his faith CAN return
- James 5:19 *“...if one of you wanders from the truth.....whoever turns a sinner from his wandering path will save him from death..”*

THE FALL OF ISRAEL

- Siege warfare is described
- Cannibalism
- Extra-Biblical records show that these acts of desperation to avoid starvation actually occurred
- Vs. 68 states that the covenants of Horeb and Moab both stand (as they are the same)
- God does NOT form a new covenant by revoking the previous one
- Matt.5:17

