

Gleanings from the Pentateuch

The Unfolding Story of the Kingdom of God

The Kingdom of God

“God’s people in God’s place under God’s rule and blessing”

The Kingdom of God

Begins with Abraham:

- His people – the seed of Abraham
- His place – the promised land
- His blessing – His favor and presence

The Kingdom of God

Exodus: God’s *“coming down”*

- He acts on the basis of His kingdom promise given to Abraham
- He promises His presence with His people (*Yahweh* – “I will be”)

God calls Moses to be His deliverer

The Call of Moses

Moses’ Reluctance

“Who am I?”

“Who are You?”

“What if they will not believe Me?”

“I am not eloquent”

“Please send someone else”

The Call of Moses

Principles:

1. God’s presence is the essential to accomplishing His purposes

- not an issue of our abilities or inabilities
- He delights to use weak vessels

The Call of Moses

Principles:

2. God is gracious in His patience and provision for us

- He aims to grow us in our dependence upon Him
- He often stretches us beyond our comfort zone

The Call of Moses

Principles:

3. God will not indulge disobedience to His word

The Call of Moses

A Strange Encounter...

➤ *The Lord sought to kill Moses!*

- reason – he had not circumcised his son
- remedy – Zipporah circumcised their son and secured Moses' release
- reaction – Zipporah expressed anger at the Lord (?) for the law of circumcision

The Call of Moses

A Strange Encounter...

➤ *The importance of circumcision*

- the outward sign of one's covenant relationship to God
- the distinguishing mark of God's people – pointing to their "holiness"

The Call of Moses

Principles:

3. God will not indulge disobedience to His word

- God is forming a holy, separate people
- God often grows us in holiness by refining us