

March 10, 2021

Read Exodus 40

Key verse: Exodus 40:38

For the cloud of the Lord was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in the cloud by night, before the eyes of all the house of Israel at each stage of their journey.

“We Have Seen His Glory” (John 1:14)

Our life is a journey, a journey that we can take with our eyes open to God’s presence or with our eyes shut, oblivious to God’s presence. When our eyes are open to God’s presence, we realize that God does not sit still. He invites us to go where he wants to take us. Often the road gets rough, and we grow weary of the journey. And God gives us rest when we need it. God led the Israelites through the wilderness for forty years preparing them for the day when they would enter The Promised Land.

But the story didn’t end when the people entered and occupied the new land. In fact the story is still in progress; the journey continues. I’m concerned that many Christians think of Church as a stagnant entity, a building that never moves where we go somewhat regularly to remind ourselves of God’s existence, but never truly recognizing God’s presence, *Christ’s* presence, a presence that lingers and leads us. Some may say, as John does, “We have seen his glory,” and the memory of that event may sustain their faith throughout their lives.

God is not a past event, and Christ has risen. God continues to lead us toward a Promised Land that we as a people may not reach in our own lifetime, but if we don’t pick up our tent stakes and break camp and follow the glory of the Lord, we will only postpone our entry, and future generations’ entry, into The Promised Land.

So seek God with all your heart, mind, strength and spirit until you see God’s glory, and once you’ve seen it, keep your eyes upon it. It may start to move, and it invites you to move with it.

Prayer: Glorious God, like the Israelites we can be a stiff-necked people. We can be stubborn. We can insist upon our own ways. We can stagnate. Help us to seek your glory and follow that glory so that we may remain in your presence and help bring future generations into the knowledge of your glory. Amen.