

You've Been Here Long Enough — 10/17/21

TEXT- Deu 1:1-6 *The LORD our God spake unto us in Horeb, saying, Ye have dwelt long enough in this mount:*

Deu 2:3 *Ye have compassed this mountain long enough: turn you northward.*

INTRO — Israel is ready to enter the Promised Land. God is reminding them of the Law. There is a new generation that has seen the hand of God preserve them and now they can see the hand of God lead them and protect them.

- When we constantly find ourselves caught up in cycles, going through the same battles, recovering the same territory; it is then apparent that the plan of God is not being followed
- You may have found yourself dealing with the same old demons, facing the same old challenges, experiencing the same limited breakthroughs, and running from the same giants—and you keep saying “here we go again”

The nation was gathered on the Plains of Moab “on this side of Jordan.” It had taken them forty years to get there, yet Deut. 1:2 states that the journey should have taken eleven days!

This is the tragedy of unbelief: it wastes time, energy, and manpower; Moses began to “declare” God’s Law, and this word “declare” literally means “to engrave.” He wanted to make it clear, to write it on their hearts.

I. God Taught Them Everything They Needed To Know

- A. He gave them the law – How to worship
At Mt. Horeb or Mt. Sinai
- B. Salvation was obtained through the priesthood and their sacrifices.
- C. Sabbath’s and feast days were instituted
- D. God was fulfilling His covenant with His people.

II. God Had Something More For Them

- A. The Christian life should be one of progress
- B. They benefited by being in Horeb but they needed to move forward – “They had been there long enough.”
- C. We must avoid apathy and staleness

A man stated, “The two greatest problems of the day are Apathy and ignorance.” His friend replied, “Frankly I don’t know, and I don’t care.”

Psa 78:41 *Yea, they turned back and tempted God, and limited the Holy One of Israel.*

There are several matters we must deal with as we move forward in our Christian lives.

- **Sin**

A roller coaster in Japan known for its “super death” acceleration to triple-digit speeds was reportedly shut down after riders suffered serious bone fractures. Multiple cases of fractures in the back or neck linked to the Do-Dodonpa coaster at Fuji-Q Highland Park including a “cervical fracture and a spine fracture.” Japan’s Mainichi newspaper said the riders needed up to three months to recover from their injuries. The theme park billed the coaster as having the world’s fastest acceleration, hitting 112 mph in just 1.56 seconds — or what the company called “super death” acceleration.

- **Complacency**
- **Fear**
- **Unbelief**
- **Following God’s calling**
- **Being a witness**
- **Being a student of the Bible**
- **Becoming a good steward**

Heb 6:1 *Therefore leaving the principles of the doctrine of Christ, let us go on unto perfection; not laying again the foundation of repentance from dead works, and of faith toward God,*

III. We Can Easily Stay Too Long Where We

A. Too lazy to move

Pro 10:4-5 *He becometh poor that dealeth with a slack hand: but the hand of the diligent maketh rich. 5 He that gathereth in summer is a wise son: but he that sleepeth in harvest is a son that causeth shame.*

B. Too satisfied to change

2 Pe 3:18 *But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen.*

Complacency is a blight that saps energy, dulls attitudes, and causes a drain on the brain. The first symptom is satisfaction with things as they are. The second is rejection of things as they might be. “Good enough” becomes today’s watchword and tomorrow’s standard. Complacency makes people fear the unknown, mistrust the untried, and abhor the new. Like water, complacent people follow the easiest course -- downhill. They draw false strength from looking back.

C. Too comfortable to change

The preacher’s job is to comfort the afflicted and to afflict the comfortable.”
Amos 6:1 *Woe to them that are at ease in Zion, and trust in the mountain of Samaria, which are named chief of the nations,*

The reason we don't have revival is: **1. We are content to live without it**
2. The cost is too high.

IV. We need a Renewed Commitment

Jos 24:15 Joshua stated . . . *as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.*

1 Sa 17:29 David cried: . . . *Is there not a cause?*

1 Co 15:31 Paul made clear . . . *die daily.*

Heb 11:16 The men and women of Hebrews 11 . . . *But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly:*

What can we do?

- **Commit your life to Him.**
- **Search the Scripture**
- **Pray**
- **Faithful to church**
- **Dare greatly**

“It is not the critic who counts: not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles or where the doer of deeds could have done better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood, who strives valiantly, who errs and comes up short again and again, because there is no effort without error or shortcoming, but who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, who spends himself in a worthy cause; who, at the best, knows, in the end, the triumph of high achievement, and who, at the worst, if he fails, at least he fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who knew neither victory nor defeat.” -- Theodore Roosevelt

CONCL – Perhaps we have stayed too long where we are today.

Maybe we need to move forward.

- **Open your Bible and read it**
- **Take some tracts**
- **Get involved in a ministry**
- **Start giving faithfully**
- **Confess your sin and recommit your life!**