

“FIRST STEPS TO FREEDOM”
EXODUS 13:17-22

I GOD’S PLAN IS ALWAYS BEST FOR HIS CHILDREN (13:17-18)

A. IT MIGHT CONTRADICT WHAT APPEARS TO BE THE LOGICAL CHOICE

1. The Israelites were not prepared for battle at this time

a. The Christian life is a spiritual battle

1) Ephesians 6:11; 1 Timothy 1:18; 2 Corinthians 10:4

a) 1 Chronicles 5:18-22 - “believing prayer is prevailing prayer”

b. Application to Christian youth – Psalm 127:3-4

1) The danger of being spiritually unprepared

2. They needed to learn some difficult lessons in the wilderness

a. Many died in the wilderness (Hebrews 3:14-19)

1) The sin of unbelief was paramount

II. GOD’S PRESENCE IS ALWAYS WITH HIS CHILDREN (19-22)

A. THE PILLAR WAS THE VISIBLE PRESENCE OF THE INVISIBLE GOD

1. It served to protect them from temperature extremes

2. It protected them from their enemies (Exodus 14:20)

3. It guided them continuously

4. It was the manifestation of God’s glory