



“Then Moses went up to God, and the Lord called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel: ‘You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how I carried you on eagles’ wings and brought you to Myself. Now if you obey Me fully and keep My covenant, then out of all nations you will be My treasured possession. Although the whole earth is Mine, you will be for Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.” (Exodus 19:3-6 -NIV)

Prayer: Lord God, protector of all the faithful, You alone make me strong, You alone make me holy. Continued to demonstrate Your mercy and forgive my sin day after day. Guide me through my earthly life so that I do not lose the things You have prepared for me in heaven, through Your Son, Jesus Christ my Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. AMEN



Order of Worship – The Common Service With L.S. – pg. 15

Greeting by the Pastor

- Invocation (Liturgy pg. 15)

Opening Hymn **C.W. 478 / TLH 540** sung by the Congregation

- Confession of Sins

- Absolution

- Prayer and Praise (pg. 16)

- Prayer of The Day (pg. 17)

First Lesson – Exodus 19:1-8

PSALM OF THE DAY Psalm 100 (C.W. pg. 104 – Sung In Unison)

Second Lesson – Romans 6:1-14

Gospel Lesson – Matthew 9:35-38

Nicene Creed by the Congregation: (Liturgy pg. 18)

Sermon Hymn: **C.W. 469 / TLH 400** sung by the Congregation

Sermon Text: Exodus 19:1-8

Sermon Theme: Gods Treasured Possession –
A Kingdom of Priests and a Holy Nation

"Create in Me" – (pg. 20)

Offering (The plates will not be passed but are at the entrance doors)

Offering Prayer

Prayer of The Church

Lord's Prayer

Communion Liturgy (Liturgy - pg. 21)

Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy – Liturgy pg. 22)

Words of Institution (Liturgy pg. 23)

Communion Hymn **C.W. 309 / TLH 307** sung by the Congregation after everyone has communed including the Pastor

Nunc Dimittis (Song of Simeon - Liturgy pg. 24)

Collect / Prayer (pg. 24)

Benediction

Closing Hymn **C.W. 462 / TLH 416** sung by the Congregation.

SERMON TEXT: Exodus 19:1-8

Vs. 1 - In the third month after the Israelites left Egypt—on the very day—they came to the Desert of Sinai.

Vs. 2 - After they set out from Rephidim, they entered the Desert of Sinai, and Israel camped there in the desert in front of the mountain.

Vs. 3 - Then Moses went up to God, and the LORD called to him from the mountain and said, “This is what you are to say to the house of Jacob and what you are to tell the people of Israel:

Vs. 4 - You yourselves have seen what I did to Egypt, and how **I carried you on eagles’ wings** and brought you to myself.

Vs. 5 - Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations **you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine,**

Vs. 6 - you will be for me **a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.**’ These are the words you are to speak to the Israelites.”

Vs. 7 - So Moses went back and summoned the elders of the people and set before them all the words the LORD had commanded him to speak.

Vs. 8 - The people all responded together, “We will do everything the LORD has said.” So Moses brought their answer back to the LORD.

GREETING: I pray that out of His glorious riches, God may strengthen you with power through His Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith.

So, where have you hidden your most treasured possession? What is it?

What is God’s Treasured Possession?

In this section of Scripture, we hear that the Lord would have the people of Israel as His treasured possession.

Even though the **WHOLE** earth is His, the people of Israel would belong to Him as they obey the Lord and keep His covenant.

In Exodus 12:40 – We are told that the people of Israel lived in Egypt **for 430 years.**

When did they begin to serve the Egyptians as slaves?

In Exodus 1:6-11 – We are told that Joseph and his brothers and all that generation died but the people of Israel were fruitful and multiplied greatly! Then a new Egyptian king came into power who did not know that Joseph was the tool that God used to spare Egypt from starvation and so the Egyptians put slave masters over the people of Israel and made them do forced labor.

How many years of slave labor?

Joseph lived to be 110, and he was sold by his own brothers into slavery when he was very young.

Maybe $430 - 80 = 350$ years.

After all those years of slavery in Egypt, the Lord God “Saw” the misery of His people in Egypt and *heard* their cry because of their slave drivers. So the Lord God was going to rescue His people, and Moses was going to be His chosen leader. (Exodus 3:7-10)

As we know, the Lord God delivered His people from slavery in Egypt by using the 10 plagues.

After these 10 plagues to Egyptian Pharaoh and the people drove the children of Israel OUT of Egypt, giving the Israelites plunder / stuff.

However after the people of Israel had left Egypt, the Egyptian Pharaoh had a change of heart because his slave labor was gone, so he went after the people of Israel with the Egyptian army.

By that time, the people of Israel were camped at the Red Sea, and so they were trapped!

But the Lord God divided the Red Sea, and the people of Israel crossed over on dry ground.

The Egyptian Army followed, and the Lord God closed up the waters and killed, destroyed the entire Egyptian army.

Exodus 14:30-31 – That day THE LORD saved Israel from the hands of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians lying dead on the shore. And when the Israelites saw the great power of the Lord displayed against the Egyptians, the people feared the Lord and put their trust in Him and in Moses His servant.”

The people of Israel = God’s Treasured Possession. God treasured them so much that He delivered them from slavery and one of the most powerful armies in the world at the time.

The people of Israel saw God’s Power, yet when they were traveling in the **Desert of Shur** and they did not find water. And the water that they did find was undrinkable.

So what did the people of Israel do? They grumbled.

Then the Lord directed Moses to throw a certain piece of wood into the water, and it was suddenly sweet & drinkable!

Then as the people of Israel were traveling in the Desert of Sin, on the 15th DAY of the 2nd month *after* they came out of Egypt, they grumbled again saying to Moses: “If only we had died by the Lord’s hand in Egypt! There we sat around pots of meat and ate all the food we wanted, but you have brought us out into this desert to starve this entire assembly to death.” (Exodus 16:3)

What did the Lord do?

The Lord gave the people of Israel Manna & Quail to eat. The Lord God not only provided for the people of Israel for that day, but He provided Manna & Quail for the people of Israel for the entire 40 years that they wandered in the wilderness. (Exodus 16:4-35)

The people of Israel = God's Treasured Possession. Despite their grumbling, God treasured them so much that He provided them with water and food.

God also provided the people of Israel with Water from the Rock when they first arrived at Rephidim, because they grumbled again. (Exodus 17:1-7)

The people of Israel = God's Treasured Possession. Even when the people of Israel grumbled against the Lord, not only does God call the people of Israel His treasured possession but also:

Vs. 6 - you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation -

The Creator of the universe, made the people of Israel His treasured possession!
And a kingdom of priests and a Holy Nation!

To be a PRIEST of God, means that we have been chosen by God to be His elite work force.

To be a HOLY nation, means that we have been made perfect, all our blemishes have been washed away, our sins and flaws have been covered. We of course have been covered with the Holiness and perfection of Jesus.

There are not many people that I know who would enjoy being someone's possession, even if they are a *treasured* possession.

Yet, as children of God, we know that being God's possession is WAY better than the alternative.

If someone is not God's possession, then they are property of Satan. (Lk. 11:23)

This concept of being a kingdom of priests and a holy nation, as well as God's possession is expanded upon by the Apostle Peter where he has written in **I Peter 2:5-6; 9-12;**

“You also, like living stones, are being built into a spiritual house to be **a holy priesthood**, offering spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. 6 - For in Scripture it says: “See, I lay a stone in Zion, a chosen and precious cornerstone, and the one who trusts in him will never be put to shame.” 9 - But you are a chosen people, **a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to God**, that you may declare the praises of him who called you out of darkness into his wonderful light. 10 - Once you were not a people, but now you are **the people of God**; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy. 11 - Dear friends, I urge you, as aliens and strangers in the world, to abstain from sinful desires, which war against your soul. 12 - Live such good lives among the pagans that, though they accuse you of doing wrong, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day he visits us.”

As the Apostle Peter wrote these words of our Lord, he was writing to New Testament believers as we learn in the first two verses of **First Peter 1:1-2:**

“To God’s elect, strangers in the world, scattered throughout Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia, who have been chosen according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, through the sanctifying work of the Spirit, for obedience to Jesus Christ and sprinkling by His Blood.”

God in His grace and mercy has brought you to faith in Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God Who taketh away the sin of the World.

God has won heaven for you in Christ Jesus our Risen Savior.

My friends in Christ, as New Testament believers in Christ Jesus, **you also are God’s Treasured possession.** As believers in Christ Jesus, the Promised Messiah, we are children of Abraham, and hence part of New Testament Israel. (Gal. 3:7)

As God’s Holy Nation and Priests in His kingdom, and His Treasured Possession we live our lives here and now to His glory, as we look forward to serving and living with Him forever in Heaven.

And all of this is because of Jesus, Our Risen Savior, Who bought us with His Holy Precious Blood. AMEN