



Date: February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

Title: Qadech

1. From bondage to freedom
  - a. Brief review of Israelite history from Egypt to Qadech
  - b. Qadech
    - i. The 12 spies proposed by the people and approved by God.
    - ii. 10 v 2 on the report
      1. "We went to the land where you sent us..." We might already sense the report will be given according to a human perspective, not according to God's perspective.
      2. Unbelief often presents itself as being "factual" or "practical" or "down to earth." Yet, the most factual, practical, and down to earth thing we can do is trust the word of the living God.
      3. Significantly, two men saw the exact same sights (the same grapes, the same men, the same land, the same cities) but came away singing in faith. Ultimately, faith or unbelief does not spring from circumstances or environment, but from our hearts.
    - iii. Return to Egypt??
    - iv. Caleb refused, reminding us of Rom. 3:4, "Let God be true but every man a liar."
      1. The people rage against Caleb and Joshua to the point of wanting to stone them.
    - v. God angry, people double disobey and lose many lives.
  - c. 1 year for every day; 40 years in the desert.
2. Our Qadech(s)
  - a. Eph. 2:10, "For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them."
  - b. Word & Worship; James 4:8, "Draw near to God and He will draw near to you."
    - i. Hear
      1. Ps. 81:8-16, "Hear, O My people, and I will admonish you! O Israel, if you will listen to Me! There shall be no foreign god among you; nor shall you worship any foreign god. I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt; open your mouth wide, and I will fill it. But My people would not heed My voice, and Israel would have none of Me. So I gave them over to their own stubborn heart, to walk in their own counsels. Oh, that My people would listen to Me, that Israel would walk in My ways! I would soon subdue their enemies, and turn My hand against their adversaries. The haters of the LORD would pretend submission to Him, but their fate would endure forever. He would have fed them also with the finest of wheat; and with honey from the rock I would have satisfied you."
      2. Ps. 119:2-3, "Blessed are those who keep His testimonies, who seek Him with the whole heart! They also do no iniquity; they walk in His ways."
    - ii. Respond
      1. Dt. 5:31-33, "But as for you, stand here by Me, and I will speak to you all the commandments, the statutes, and the judgments which you shall teach them, that they may observe them in the land which I am giving them to possess." "Therefore you shall be careful to do as the LORD your God has commanded you; you shall not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. You shall walk in all the ways which the LORD your God has commanded you, that you may live and that it may be well with you, and that you may prolong your days in the land which you shall possess."
      2. Is. 30:1-33, "Woe to the rebellious children, says the LORD, who take counsel, but not of Me, and who devise plans, but not of My Spirit... who walk to go down to Egypt, and have not asked My advice, to strengthen themselves in the strength of Pharaoh, and to trust in the shadow of Egypt! Therefore the strength of Pharaoh shall be your shame... for the

*Egyptians shall help in vain and to no purpose... this is a rebellious people, lying children, children who will not hear the law of the LORD; who say to the seers, "Do not see," and to the prophets, "Do not prophesy to us right things; speak to us smooth things, prophesy deceits... thus says the Lord GOD, the Holy One of Israel: "In returning and rest you shall be saved; in quietness and confidence shall be your strength." But you would not... therefore the LORD will wait, that He may be gracious to you; and therefore He will be exalted, that He may have mercy on you... blessed are all those who wait for Him... He will be very gracious to you at the sound of your cry; when He hears it, He will answer you... your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, "This is the way, walk in it"... you will also defile the covering of your images of silver, and the ornament of your molded images of gold... Then He will give the rain for your seed with which you sow the ground, and bread of the increase of the earth; it will be fat and plentiful... in the day that the LORD binds up the bruise of His people and heals the stroke of their wound... the name of the LORD comes from afar, burning with His anger... to sift the nations with the sieve of futility... you shall have a song as in the night when a holy festival is kept, and gladness of heart as when one goes with a flute, to come into the mountain of the LORD... the LORD will cause His glorious voice to be heard... and in every place where the staff of punishment passes... it will be with tambourines and harps... for Tophet was established of old... He has made it deep and large; its pyre is fire with much wood; the breath of the LORD, like a stream of brimstone, kindles it."*

3. Take aways
  - a. God has done all to deliver us
  - b. God provides His Word & Grace
  - c. We need to listen and seek the Word of God
  - d. God wants to teach, if we're willing
  - e. We need to respond in worship and faith to His Word
  - f. Unbelief often presents itself as being "factual" or "practical."
  - g. Not all is as it appears
  - h. In God, nothing is impossible
  - i. God desires to dwell with His people in the Promised Land.