

Building on Biblical Foundations

“The Clash of Kingdoms”

Breaking Free - A study through EXODUS

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We have seen from the beginning there is a conflict between good and evil, between darkness and light, between The Lord God Almighty and his seed and Satan and his agents.

This clash of kingdoms has been documented throughout history, and we have already seen it played out in the first book of the bible – Genesis. From the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden, to the killing of Abel, to the struggle between Jacob and Esau, even in the conduct of Joseph’s brothers – casting him into a pit with the intent to kill him.

There has been (and still is) a dark agenda to kill the purposes of God, to destroy the people of God and to frustrate the cause of Christ.

Jesus warned us. . .

John 10:10

‘The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

This was Jesus’ purpose . . . to defeat the devil and destroy his work.

1 John 3:8

The one who does what is sinful is of the devil, because the devil has been sinning from the beginning. The reason the Son of God appeared was to destroy the devil’s work.

This has been the goal of Satan from the beginning to destroy the people of God. One way he does this is to murder the children – before they can even grow into the people God has created them to be. Zero sum game. IF he is successful at killing the children, the work is finished. He doesn’t have to work at deceiving them later in life, keeping them from discovering the Truth of Christ, or living victoriously.

This murderous intent resurfaced in Egypt.

We begin Exodus with an account of how the children of the 12 tribes multiplied. And then a King came to the throne who did not know of Joseph. He saw these Hebrews as a potential threat to the

peace and order of his kingdom – due to their strength under adversity. For even when they increased the work load, still the Hebrews prospered. And so, the new Pharaoh told the midwives if a male Hebrew was born they were to immediately kill it, but the females could live. However, the midwives feared God and would not kill the babies.

The Pharaoh questioned the midwives and their response was the Hebrew women delivered their children so quickly that the midwives did not arrive in time to do harm.

Exodus 1:22

“And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river, and every daughter ye shall save alive.”

Did you catch that. . .the Pharaoh decreed that ALL Egyptians were to kill the male Hebrew babies (not just the soldiers). They were to be thrown into the Nile.

This infanticide is not a new concept, nor has it been relegated to the Egyptians. There is much evidence of infant and child sacrifices to various ‘gods’.

Baal, Molech, including the Carthaginians and Phoenicians, practiced child sacrifice as a form of worship to Baal, a deity associated with fertility, storms, and the earth. This practice was often linked to times of crisis, such as famine, drought, or natural disasters.

In this instance. . . the destruction of the sons of the Hebrews wasn’t just to decrease the potential threat of uprising, but to feed their river god.

The Nile was the Egyptians source of water but it was also viewed as a god; and the casting of Hebrew sons into the River could be viewed as offerings to the Nile, or to Savak, the crocodile headed god, of whom each crocodile was an emblem.

The Nile was swarmed with crocodiles throughout its whole course, the bodies were tolerably sure to be devoured before they became a health hazard.

This is the first time we encounter infanticide in the Bible but we will see it again and again through the scriptures. Even Jesus’s parents escaped Herod’s death edict but taking Jesus to Egypt. – Ironic.

Infanticide – the murder of babies, sacrificing children to appease pagan “dieties” – or rather demons - is documented throughout history including in other Old Testament accounts. This was (and still is) one of Satan’s evil schemes. It comes wrapped in religion. In ancient times, it was disguised as the worship of several different demonic “gods” Baal, Molech, Kronos, Saturn by the Romans, Greeks, Mayans, Aztecs, Phoenicians, Canaans, Eskimos, Africans, Chinese, Ammonites,

In one historic account it was noted that:

“Out of reverence for Kronos (the Greek equivalent of Ba'al Hammon), the Phoenicians, and especially the Carthaginians, whenever they [sought] to obtain some great favor, [would] vow one of their children, burning it as a sacrifice to the deity if they [were] especially eager to gain success.

Another Account:

“A second and third century A.D. Roman lawyer and Christian apologist who was a native North African and spent most of his life in Carthage, Tertullian, wrote:

Saturn (the latinized African equivalent of Ba'al Hammon) did not spare his own children; so, where other people's were concerned, he naturally persisted in not sparing them; and their own parents offered them to him, were glad to respond...”

In I Kings 11:7, Molech is identified as "the detestable god of the Ammonites" and recent archeological evidence in the former territory of the Ammonites from the period of the Conquest supports biblical testimony that child sacrifice was practiced in Jordan roughly contemporarily with Moses."

We see this in our modern times too. It has come wrapped in different packages today. We don't see altars in front of stone statues of demons in the town square – where folks are burning their children as a gift to the demon. Instead we have clinics and health centers performing medical procedures to “eliminate a pregnancy.” We have children sold into slavery by their own parents. We have thieves stealing children from their parents. . .children getting lost in the foster care system – never to be seen again. We may not see it as throwing babies into the river to feed a crocodile, but the result is the same, and the motive is the same.

Truly there is nothing new under the sun. How does God feel about this? Well the Bible is clear:

Leviticus 18:21

“Do not give any of your children to be passed through (the fire) to Molech for you must not profane the name of your God. I am the Lord.”

Leviticus 20:1-5. – Just read – not on a slide

The Lord said to Moses, say to the Israelites: "Any Israelite or any alien living in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech must be put to death. The people of the community are to stone him. I will set my face against that man and I will cut him off from his people; for by giving his children to Molech he has defiled my sanctuary and profaned my holy name. If the people of the community close their eyes when that man gives one of his children to Molech and they fail to put him to death, I will set my face against that man and his family and will cut off from their people both him and all who follow him in prostituting themselves to Molech. (Leviticus 20:1-5)

[2 Kings 17:17](#)

They sacrificed their sons and daughters in the fire and practiced divination and soothsaying. They devoted themselves to doing evil in the sight of the LORD, provoking Him to anger.

Psalm 106:37

They sacrificed their sons and their daughters to demons.

Psalm 106:38

They shed innocent blood--the blood of their sons and daughters, whom they sacrificed to the idols of Canaan, and the land was polluted with blood.

Jeremiah 7:31

They have built the high places of Topheth in the Valley of Hinnom so they could burn their sons and daughters in the fire--something I never commanded, nor did it even enter My mind.

We can sacrifice our children in so many more ways than laying them on a physical altar. We lay them on altars just the same:

The altar of Entertainment: allowing them unfettered access to mind bending philosophies, demonic influences, secular worldviews and pagan belief systems.

The altar of Self (selfishness): Where pop psychology has replaced the knowledge of God, teaching our children that they alone are the most important person in their world, greater than all others including God.

The altar of Autonomy: Rejecting God's sovereign rule over our lives. The pervasive Americanism that says *I will do it my way*. Get out of the way.

The altar of Worldly Wisdom: Replacing the wisdom of the Word of God with secular knowledge that contradicts what the Bible says, and attempts to deconstruct the immutable laws of God.

I could go on and on. . .but there is only one altar that we should lay our children upon. . . we should lay ourselves upon. . . **the altar of our God.**

When we sacrifice ourselves on his altar, he takes our carnal, earthly life and infuses it with his eternal holiness, empowering us to stand for truth, to shelter and protect our innocent ones, to shine for his kingdom.

There are times when it seems the kingdom of darkness is winning, and then. . . just when it seems all is lost. . . light overcomes the darkness. Surely, we saw it when they laid Jesus in the tomb. . .yet 3 days later he rose just as he said he would.

The darkness hung over Egypt as babies were fed to the river. And then light broke through in the life of one baby boy pulled from the river and raised in Pharaoh's own household.

God is always one step ahead. His plans never fail. The hard part is standing and believing as the shadows around us grow. But light will break forth in our time, just as in days of old. The Lord will faithfully perform His word.

Isaiah 60:1-3

**“Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the Lord rises upon you.**

**² See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the Lord rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.**

**³ Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.**

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