

# STUDY NOTES FROM KAREN HOERDEL'S "MORE STUDIES" TEACHING SERIES

## WHICH WAY IN THE WILDERNESS

Many are in a dry place. We are trying to go to the old things that worked; they're not working.

Exodus 12:38

The Jews came out of Egypt into the wilderness. There was much trial and tribulation in Egypt. Time for "the escape" was led by Moses. We've all come out of Egypt and we rejoiced as the Lord saved us and He brought us out of the world. Egypt is a symbol for the world.

As God took us out of the world we thought, "Hurray! We've escaped! Here we go. We're on a journey to the promised land."

But the Jews went into the wilderness.

A mixed multitude; people that were not Jewish, people that were not of God, went along with them. We are in the same situation today.

We have a mixed multitude in our churches. This is the idea of pollution and temptation and other doctrines and ideas coming along with the people of God into this wilderness experience.

Exodus 13:17-18,21 - Perhaps a 2 or 3 day journey, God led them around a long way. God's plan was 2 years. (It became 40 because of unbelief.)

Reason #1

God's plan in this wilderness is to grow us up; to get us to a place where we won't run right back when things get tough. We are in a war and some people are running to Egypt.

Even though it is a wilderness - God is leading.

Reason #2

To test us - Exodus 16:4

Whether we will walk in obedience and faith or not, obey or fall away, prove faithful or not, or give up.

Are you murmuring against brothers and sisters, churches, pastors, leaders? When we do that we are murmuring against God. Repent.

*Oh, Lord, I see that you were with me all the time. Please forgive me. I break these judgments and murmurings that I have made against You. I have sinned against You, Lord.*

Psalms 106 - The Church has mingled with the world; there is a mixed multitude in the

Church. Idols, goals, aspirations from the heathen have been brought into the Church and Christian names have been attached to them. Some idols of our land are pleasure, convenience, wealth, comfort, materialism, and comfortable gospels (i.e. "health and wealth"). We can repent for our lives - and for the Church.

II Corinthians 6:14 - God requires separation from the mixed multitude which is traveling right along with you mixed in among you in this wilderness experience. They are lusting. We're looking at them and we are tempted to that same lust.

Hebrews 3:7-9, 12-14

Go all the way to the end. Endure. Do not walk in unbelief.

### **Which Way In The Wilderness? Scripture References**

God has His people in a wilderness.

Amos 8:11-12

Exodus 12:38; 13:17-18, 21; 14:11-12, 19 (cp II Corinthians 10:1-4)

Exodus 16:1-4, 7-8, 12-15 (cp John 6:32, 35, 41, 48, 51)

Numbers 11:1-6, 10, 18-20, 31-34

Psalms 106: 13-15, 24-25, 35-42

I Corinthians 10:6-14

II Corinthians 6:14, 7:1 - come out

Philippians 2:14-16 - shine as lights

Hebrews 3:7-9, 12-14 - walk in faith

Isaiah 43:15-16, 19 - a way in the wilderness

John 14:6 - Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

Jeremiah 14:7 - "O Lord, though our iniquities do testify against us...; for our backslidings are many; we have sinned against Thee."

This is a wilderness time all over the world for the Church. I see a lot of people trying to wiggle out of the wilderness because it is not comfortable. Don't try to wiggle out - but submit under God's leading. Let Him lead you wherever He wants. Give Him permission. Repent. Cleanse yourselves from all idolatry and mixture. Walk in faith and holiness. That's the way through the wilderness.