



## **God Leads His People**

**Exodus: The Way In | Part II of our Journey through Exodus**

**Exodus 23:20-33 | May 24th - 30th, 2015**

**Warm Up:** In your estimation, what characteristics or actions make a great leader? What does it take for you *personally* to follow a leader?

- ❖ In considering our study of **Exodus** thus far what are some of the key characteristics and actions God has used to establish His leadership? You might peruse the following verses to spark your memory: (**Genesis 12:1-3, 15:13-14, Ex 3:6-8, 6:6-8, 13:17-18 & 21-22, 15:25-26, 16:4,13, 18:25-26, 19:5-6**)
- ❖ During their 40 years in the wilderness God provided His Angel, a cloud and pillar of fire, and the Ark of the Covenant to lead his people. Today, we are led by God differently. Namely, *through* Jesus Christ, the Holy Spirit, and The Bible.
  - What are the key differences between how God led the Israelites and how He leads us now?
  - What result did God want to achieve in the way He led the Israelites? (See **Ex. 19:6, 22:31, Deut. 7:6-8, I Kings 8:56,60, Isaiah 49:6**)
  - What does God want to achieve with us today? (See **I Peter 2:9, Romans 12:1-2, Ephesians 5:1-2, Acts 1:8**)
  - What response does God ask of both the Israelites and us? (**Ex. 19:5, John 14:15**)
- ❖ Commentating on **Exodus 23** Peter Enns writes, “God goes before His people. He is not just with them; He is the dominant presence. God does not move whenever Israel does; rather, Israel moves when He does! At every step along the way, God takes the lead, bringing His people to the goal He has planned for them. It is God’s journey, God’s people, God’s plan, and God’s honor.” (Exodus The NIV Application Commentary, p. 476, 477)
  - In what ways do these comments ring true to how the Lord desires to work in our lives today?
  - What happens to a person when he or she lives with the mindset that this life is really “God’s journey, God’s people, God’s plan, and God’s honor”? In short, that it’s *truly ALL* about Him?

**Wrap Up:** Pastor George gave us a wonderful truth from God's Word. Read **Ephesians 1:3-14** and look at God's wonderful plan. Spend some time soaking up the truth of these words. *This is a God we can follow!* Close your time in prayer seeking and asking God to lead, praising Him that we can trust Him to guide, and asking for the empowerment of His Holy Spirit to enable us to follow.