

Get Out of Egypt!

*Here's a quick look back at one of the most eye-opening messages of 2006—**BISHOP EDDIE L. LONG** delivers a true revealing of the Egyptian system of bondage that enslaves God's people today. This message, "Walking in the Kingdom," is available in its entirety at Called to Conquer Bookstores.*

Where are we now? In Egypt. What does "Egypt" mean? In Hebrew and Arabic, the word is derived from a verb, which means to bind; to enclose within a bundle; a sense of squeezing and putting under pressure; to limit; to distress; to enclose with a border or a boundary; to confine; to cramp; to besiege; to be an adversary; to assault. It also means to fashion and to mold. Its root speaks of land confinement, a place of intense pressure—so intense that whoever lives in Egypt is fashioned and molded into the ways of Egypt, the spirit of the age, and above all, the mindset of Egypt.

Where we live, the systems of the world rule, and we're pawns being manipulated in stuff we didn't choose. We've become content with the results of the pressure. Why? Because pharaoh—the system of this world—always takes care of us. He feeds us; clothes us; provides medicine for us; shelters us and gives us an illusion of financial provision...even social security upon retirement. We are accustomed to this fantasy. We like being "taken care of." Just like Joseph, we have fallen into the pit. But most of us are comfortable there and don't want to find our way out. We're in a mindless cycle where our work for pharaoh becomes perpetual and we're stuck in it; we are constantly under the pressure and the stress of this Egypt system.

We live this way and we think we have no other choice. We've subjected ourselves to the limits and bounds of what we see, never really knowing that there is a higher Kingdom order that God has ordained that frees us. Instead of buying into the Kingdom, we've bought into the American Dream—by any means necessary, within the very system that bounds us.

Isaiah 31: 1, 3 warns, *"Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many, and in horsemen because they are very strong, but who do not look to the Holy One of Israel, nor seek the Lord! Now the Egyptians are men, and not God; and their horses are flesh, and not spirit. When the Lord stretches out His hand, both he who helps will fall, and he who is helped will fall down; they all will perish together."*

I ask this question...If Jesus came to destroy the works of the devil, and He hung on the cross and said, "it is finished," then were the works of the devil truly finished? Were the works of Christ complete? *Did He destroy the works of the devil?* I have to believe He did. Then what are we really battling? A mentality.

You and I have built nations in our minds that need to be pulled down through the word of God. But we love to blame someone else for our own thoughts and actions. We say, "The devil made me do it" when the reality of it truly begins and ends in the heart of man. We spend too much time glorifying the devil. Everything I lost, I lost it out of abuse and ignorance. I am not going to give the devil credit for my ignorance. "My people perish for a lack of knowledge"...it was because of my lack of knowledge and being a misused servant and steward. The devil is not a factor in this.

The Bible says be not conformed to this world. World means “age.” There are different ages—we’ve come through the Stone Age and the industrial age and now we’re in the electronic age. All the technology and advancements, 400 cable stations, cell phones, ipods, sitcoms that show us that any kind of lifestyle is right, it is programming us to the pharaoh Egyptian bondage system that is killing and destroying us and we’re all conformed to this age. Trying to be set free and thinking because we just stopped by worship that God’s supposed to fix it, when he says, “I have already empowered you and given you My spirit and I dwell in you. Did you not know you are the son of the King? Did you not know that you are supposed to rule and reign with me? Did you not know that you cannot spend only 30 minutes with Me and 23 and a half hours with the world and think you’ll walk spiritual, talk spiritual, act spiritual?”

We’re still stuck with the first Adam. When do we begin to rule instead of being ruled?

God open our eyes. We shall press through this darkness. And this nature that we’ve been holding on to from Adam, you said in Adam all men die, but in Christ all come alive. I am speaking to an “alive” body. Let us break that Egypt system we have in our own homes where we’ve invited pharaoh to further enslave us and program us in many different ways. We shall study and show ourselves approved. Now God I pray a special grace to relieve us from the bondage of habit and thought and imaginations that have been passed through us from generation to generation. Holy Spirit we give you permission to do what You were assigned. Lead us into all truth and show us things to come. And it is so in the mighty and wonderful name of Jesus, Amen.