

"TAKEN OUT AND TAKEN IN"**Introduction**

1. Moses preaching – look back
2. We need to look back as Christians
3. TEXT: "OUT --- IN"

1. GOD BRINGS HIS PEOPLE OUT OF THE SAD AND LOST STATE OF SLAVERY IN WHICH BORN

- 1) This true of Israel in Egypt: Bondage – Exodus – Passover – Wilderness – Promise.
- 2) So God takes his people out of this world:
 - (i) once we were at home in it like others
 - (ii) then God began to stir us up to leave:
ILLUSTRATION: the eagle and its nest
 - (iii) God makes life bitter for us: restlessness of soul / changes come upon us:
ILLUSTRATION: Thomas Chalmers / McCheyne
OBSERVE: "Because they never changes have..."
(Ps 55:19).
- 3) We have experiences that are new:
 - (i) The Lamb of God
 - (ii) We are no longer at home on earth
 - (iii) God's people are new ones:
ILLUSTRATION: Ruth
 - (iv) the pilgrim journey out of our comforts into the wilderness
 - (v) now among God's people on the journey
APPLICATION: Is this not our experience?

2. THE REASON WHY GOD TAKES US OUT

- 1) Israel did not always appreciate this:
 - (i) they turned back in heart

- (ii) they remembered their "blessings"
- (iii) they doubted God's goodness

- 2) But God has a work to do in us here.
 - (i) To humble our proud hearts
 - (ii) To make us spiritually-minded
 - (iii) To teach us to hate sin
 - (iv) To prove to us his power and faithfulness
 - (v) To school us in a life of obedience
 - (vi) To discipline us to pure worship
 - (vii) To teach us to live by faith
OBSERVE: The Christian is a wonder to himself!

- 3) God's ultimate plan is to take us IN:
 - (i) Before us is the land of promise: Heb. 11
 - (ii) We understand that grace leads to glory
 - (iii) We remind ourselves of the glory (Exx)
 - (iv) There is to be perfect holiness there
 - (v) The vision of God is there
 - (vi) Eternal life / peace / rest / joy is there
 - (vii) The endless enjoyment of God

CONCLUSION

See how kind God is!

ILLUSTRATION: Stonewall Jackson

PSALM

71: 3 – 9

66: 7 – 12

16: 8 – 11