

A sunset over the pyramids of Giza. The sky is a mix of dark orange, red, and black, with some clouds. The sun is a bright yellow-orange orb partially obscured by the pyramids. The pyramids are dark silhouettes against the bright sky.

Going Home to Egypt

Hebrews 3:12-19

Going Home to Egypt

- The land of Egypt in Bible usage appears to be a type of the world.
 - It holds the people in bondage
 - It leads to immorality and death for the righteous
 - It is ruled over by an evil tyrant (2Cor. 4:4)
 - It had an inexplicable pull over those who escaped it only to be drawn back toward it

Going Home to Egypt

- It was a problematic place for God's people
 - Abraham went down to Egypt during a time of famine and got into trouble - Gen. 12:10-20.
 - Jacob did the same thing, and his offspring ended up slaves for two hundred years - Gen. 42:1-3.
 - When Hagar wanted a bride for Ishmael, she took him a bride from Egypt, and it wasn't long after that the Ishmael and his descendants abandoned Jehovah - Gen. 21:21.
 - Even after Israel had been delivered from bondage in that land, they longed to return to Egypt.

Israel Dominated By Egypt

- Pain of their domination - Ex. 1:10-22
- The bondage endured by the captives of this world
 - Eph. 2:1-3 - “And you He made alive, who were dead in trespasses and sins, 2 in which you once walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit who now works in the sons of disobedience, 3 among whom also we all once conducted ourselves in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, just as the others.”

Israel Dominated By Egypt

- Progression of their domination - Ex. 5:5-19
- Sin is not static
 - 2Tim. 2:16 - “But shun profane and idle babblings, for they will increase to more ungodliness”
 - 2Tim. 3:13 - “But evil men and impostors will grow worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived.”

Israel Dominated By Egypt

- Product of their domination - Ex. 2:1-10
 - John 1:10-11 - “He was in the world, and the world was made through Him, and the world did not know Him. 11 He came to His own, and His own did not receive Him.”
 - Luke 4:18-21 - “The Spirit of the LORD is upon Me, Because He has anointed Me To preach the gospel to the poor; He has sent Me to heal the brokenhearted, To proclaim liberty to the captives And recovery of sight to the blind, To set at liberty those who are oppressed; 19 To proclaim the acceptable year of the LORD. 20 Then He closed the book, and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all who were in the synagogue were fixed on Him. 21 And He began to say to them, Today this Scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Israel Delivered From Egypt

- Delivered by the plan of God
 - Ex. 3:7-10, 16, 4:21-23
 - Gen. 15:13-14 - “Then He said to Abram: Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. 14 And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions.”

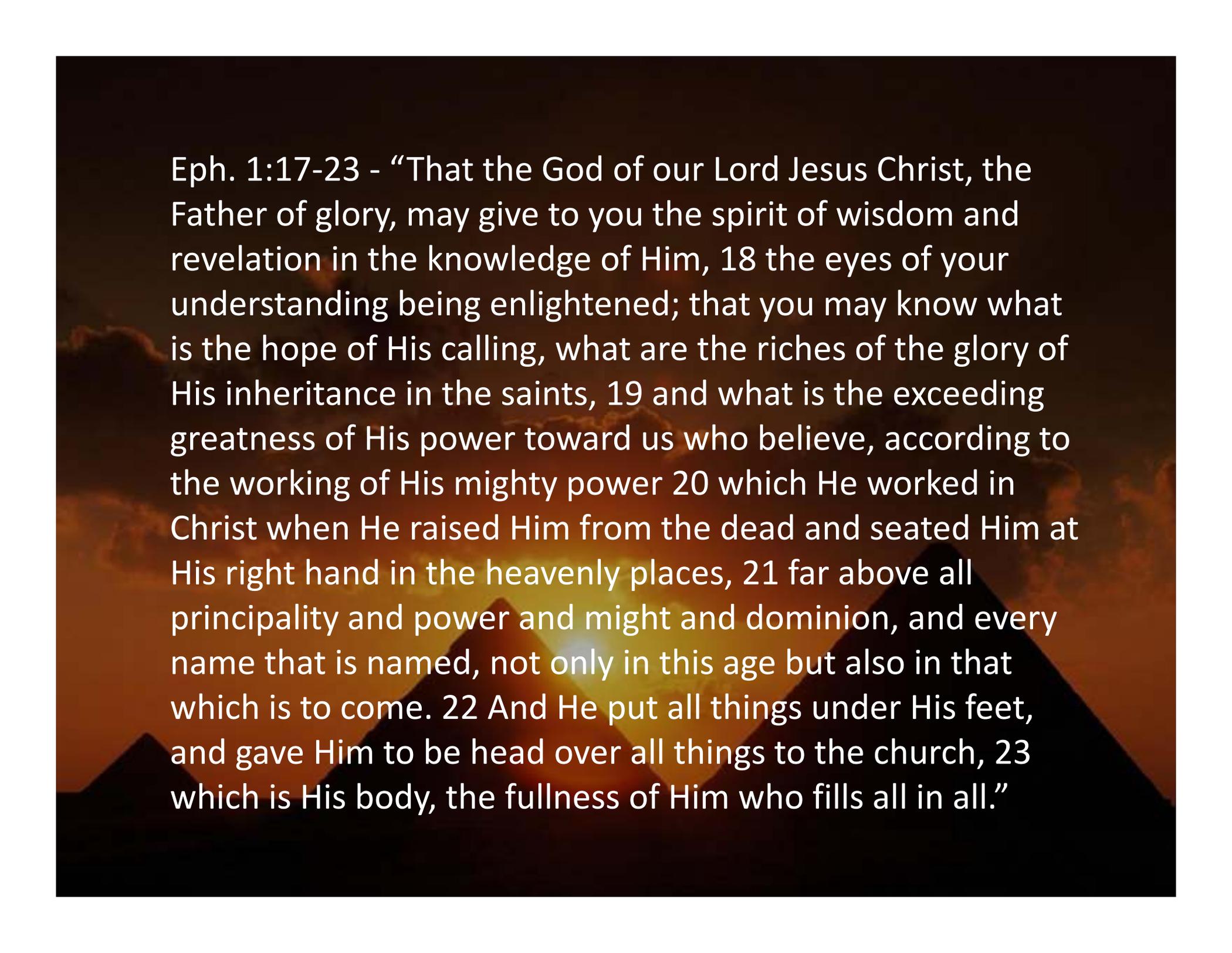
Israel Delivered From Egypt

- Since before the foundation of the world, there has been but one plan to save the lost
 - Rev. 13:8 - “All who dwell on the earth will worship him, whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.”
 - Eph. 2:8-10 - “For by grace you have been saved through faith, and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God, 9 not of works, lest anyone should boast. 10 For we are His workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand that we should walk in them.”

Israel Delivered From Egypt

- Delivered by the power of God - Ex. 5-13
- Even greater power in our salvation
 - Eph. 1:17-23



The background of the slide features a sunset scene with three pyramids silhouetted against a sky of orange, yellow, and red. The sun is positioned behind the central pyramid, creating a bright glow. The overall mood is warm and majestic.

Eph. 1:17-23 - “That the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give to you the spirit of wisdom and revelation in the knowledge of Him, 18 the eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that you may know what is the hope of His calling, what are the riches of the glory of His inheritance in the saints, 19 and what is the exceeding greatness of His power toward us who believe, according to the working of His mighty power 20 which He worked in Christ when He raised Him from the dead and seated Him at His right hand in the heavenly places, 21 far above all principality and power and might and dominion, and every name that is named, not only in this age but also in that which is to come. 22 And He put all things under His feet, and gave Him to be head over all things to the church, 23 which is His body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.”

Israel Delivered From Egypt

- Delivered in praise of God
 - Ex. 14:8 (KJV) - “And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued after the children of Israel: and the children of Israel went out with an high hand.” (great boldness and joy)
 - Acts 8:39 - “Now when they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord caught Philip away, so that the eunuch saw him no more; and he went on his way rejoicing.”
 - Acts 5:41 - “So they departed from the presence of the council, rejoicing that they were counted worthy to suffer shame for His name.”

Israel Desired Egypt

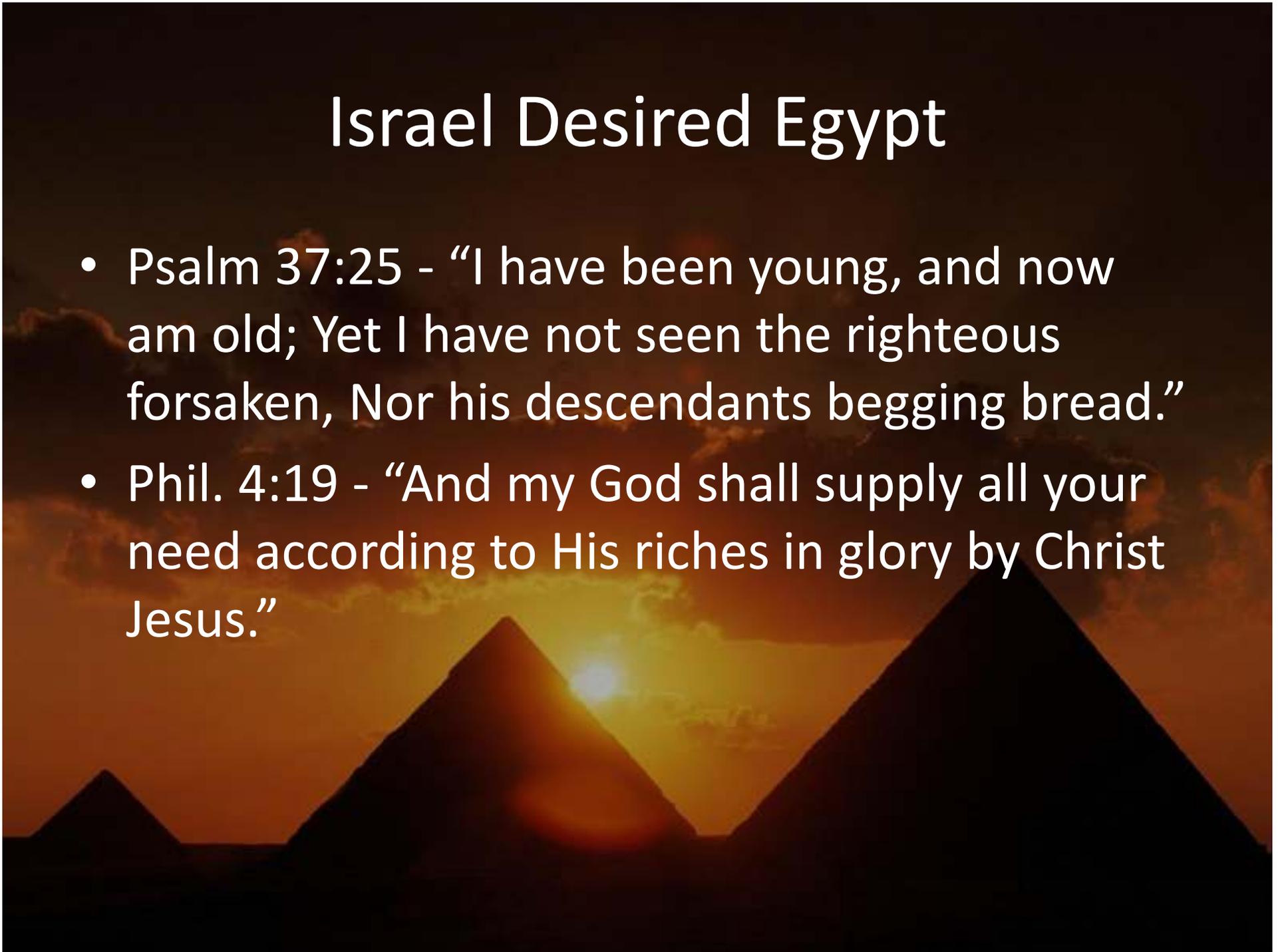
- Desired the worldly safety of Egypt
 - Ex. 14:10-11 - “And when Pharaoh drew near, the children of Israel lifted their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians marched after them. So they were very afraid, and the children of Israel cried out to the LORD. 11 Then they said to Moses, Because there were no graves in Egypt, have you taken us away to die in the wilderness? Why have you so dealt with us, to bring us up out of Egypt?”

Israel Desired Egypt

- Desired the supplies of Egypt
 - Ex. 16:2-3 - “Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. 3 And the children of Israel said to them, Oh, that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”
 - Ex. 17:3 - “And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses, and said, Why is it you have brought us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?”
 - Num. 20:4 “Why have you brought up the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our animals should die here?”

Israel Desired Egypt

- Psalm 37:25 - “I have been young, and now am old; Yet I have not seen the righteous forsaken, Nor his descendants begging bread.”
- Phil. 4:19 - “And my God shall supply all your need according to His riches in glory by Christ Jesus.”



Israel Desired Egypt

- Desired the spirits of Egypt
 - Ex. 32:1-8
 - Luke 9:62 - “Jesus said to him, No one, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God”
 - 2Peter 2:20-22 - “For if, after they have escaped the pollutions of the world through the knowledge of the Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, they are again entangled in them and overcome, the latter end is worse for them than the beginning. 21 For it would have been better for them not to have known the way of righteousness, than having known it, to turn from the holy commandment delivered to them. 22 But it has happened to them according to the true proverb: A dog returns to his own vomit, and, a sow, having washed, to her wallowing in the mire.”

Israel Desired Egypt

- Desired the stability of Egypt
 - Num. 21:4-5 - “Then they journeyed from Mount Hor by the Way of the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; and the soul of the people became very discouraged on the way. 5 And the people spoke against God and against Moses: Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and our soul loathes this worthless bread.”

Israel Desired Egypt

- The question becomes, do you prefer stability here for a little while or stability forever in heaven?
 - Heb. 12:1-4 - “Therefore we also, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us lay aside every weight, and the sin which so easily ensnares us, and let us run with endurance the race that is set before us, 2 looking unto Jesus, the author and finisher of our faith, who for the joy that was set before Him endured the cross, despising the shame, and has sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. 3 For consider Him who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls. 4 You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.”

Israel Desired Egypt

- Despised the savior from Egypt
 - Deut. 1:27 - “You complained in your tents, and said, 'Because the LORD hates us, He has brought us out of the land of Egypt to deliver us into the hand of the Amorites, to destroy us.’”
 - Heb. 6:6 - “if they fall away, to renew them again to repentance, since they crucify again for themselves the Son of God, and put Him to an open shame.”
 - Heb. 10:28-29 - “Anyone who has rejected Moses' law dies without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. 29 Of how much worse punishment, do you suppose, will he be thought worthy who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, counted the blood of the covenant by which he was sanctified a common thing, and insulted the Spirit of grace?”

Israel Dying To Egypt

- The majority died in a polluted land
 - Num. 14:3 - “Why has the LORD brought us to this land to fall by the sword, that our wives and children should become victims? Would it not be better for us to return to Egypt?”
 - Num. 14:29 - “The carcasses of you who have complained against Me shall fall in this wilderness, all of you who were numbered, according to your entire number, from twenty years old and above.”

Israel Dying To Egypt

- Heb. 10:26-27 - “For if we sin willfully after we have received the knowledge of the truth, there no longer remains a sacrifice for sins, 27 but a certain fearful expectation of judgment, and fiery indignation which will devour the adversaries.”



Israel Dying To Egypt

- Heb. 3:12-19 - “Beware, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief in departing from the living God; 13 but exhort one another daily, while it is called Today, lest any of you be hardened through the deceitfulness of sin. 14 For we have become partakers of Christ if we hold the beginning of our confidence steadfast to the end, 15 while it is said: Today, if you will hear His voice, Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion. 16 For who, having heard, rebelled? Indeed, was it not all who came out of Egypt, led by Moses? 17 Now with whom was He angry forty years? Was it not with those who sinned, whose corpses fell in the wilderness? 18 And to whom did He swear that they would not enter His rest, but to those who did not obey? 19 So we see that they could not enter in because of unbelief.”

Israel Dying To Egypt

- The minority died in the promised land
 - Num. 14:30 - “Except for Caleb the son of Jephunneh and Joshua the son of Nun, you shall by no means enter the land which I swore I would make you dwell in.”



Israel Dying To Egypt

- Phil. 3:13-15 - “Brethren, I do not count myself to have apprehended; but one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind and reaching forward to those things which are ahead, 14 I press toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus. 15 Therefore let us, as many as are mature, have this mind”
- Phil. 1:21-22 - “For to me, to live is Christ, and to die is gain. 22 But if I live on in the flesh, this will mean fruit from my labor; yet what I shall choose I cannot tell.”

Israel Dying To Egypt

- 2Tim. 4:6-8 - “For I am already being poured out as a drink offering, and the time of my departure is at hand. 7 I have fought the good fight, I have finished the race, I have kept the faith. 8 Finally, there is laid up for me the crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous Judge, will give to me on that Day, and not to me only but also to all who have loved His appearing.”

Going Home to Egypt

- It can happen to us.
 - Gen. 19:26 - “But his wife looked back behind him, and she became a pillar of salt.”
 - Luke 17:32 - “Remember Lot's wife.”
 - Heb. 11:15 - “And truly if they had called to mind that country from which they had come out, they would have had opportunity to return.”