

SERMON NOTES
FREEDOM
Exodus 13:17-22 & 14:21-25, 31

- i. Moses did all the right things for all the right reasons and it wasn't turning out very well—Until today!
 - ii. Jesus did all the right things for all the right reasons and it didn't turn out well—Until today!
 - iii. How about you? Have you done all the right things for all the right reasons only to watch it not turn out well? That can **CHANGE TODAY!**
 - iv. The Elements of a Great Story according to Donald Miller in his new book *Building a Story Brand*:
 - a. A hero/heroine, has a problem, who enlists a guide, to create a plan, that calls them to action to avoid failure and survive and thrive—so that everyone is transformed.
- I. **TWO TEST CASES TO DETERMINE IF THIS IS TRUSTWORTHY & TRUE: MOSES & JESUS**
- a. Moses
 - i. The less than perfect hero (like Luke Skywalker)
 - ii. Has a problem/villain: Pharaoh (Darth Vader)
 - iii. Is enlisted by God as **THE GUIDE** (Yoda)
 - iv. Who creates the plan to seek the freedom of God's people from oppression (train Luke in the ways of Jedi knight).
 - v. Moses is called to action and take on Pharaoh (destroy the Deathstar)
 - vi. And Fails multiple times (avoids many failed attempts at Jedi-hood)
 - vii. Until Today: any God can part the sea but not any God can create confusion by releasing the wheels of the chariots to fall off while parting the sea. (Good triumphs over evil)
 - viii. They survive and go on to thrive with everyone transformed and congratulated (Happily ever after or until the next sequel)
 - b. Jesus
 - i. The hero (Katniss)
 - ii. Has a villain: The Adversary, the Romans, the religious establishment of traditions, laws and expectations (Katniss must survive to save democracy from tyranny)
 - iii. Jesus enlists the guides of the Spirit and the Father (Haymitch)
 - iv. The Godhead creates a plan-unbeknownst to Jesus or the Spirit (Katniss endear)

- v. Called to die for the sins of everyone and enter into the plight of human suffering of the oppressed. (Katniss competes)
 - vi. And fails by being crucified
 - vii. Until Today: “He is risen! He is not here.” Mark 16:6 (Katniss lives and District 12 goes down
 - c. This story is trustworthy and true!!
- II. What about You??
- a. You are the less than perfect hero
 - b. Who encounters a problem, obstacle, villain on regret, anxiety, hurts, habits and hang-ups. WHAT is yours??? symbolized by this chain
 - c. Enlist your Guide whose name is Jesus, the Christ, to Son of God.
 - d. We all can be free today by walking these steps on the road to FREEDOM:
 - i. Turn toward Christ as your guide...just take the first step to the new land
 - ii. The road will not be the shortest route, but it will get you there.
 - iii. Surrender your life to Jesus and watch him go before you and behind you
 - iv. Watch him do the big (part the sea) and small (cause the wheels to fall off)
 - v. When you get to the other side, be in awe and trust that it will continue to be so.
 - e. Jesus is calling you to take this action today. If you will raise your hand...
 - f. You will avoid failure and survive and thrive so that all will be transformed.

Happy Easter to you and yours!!