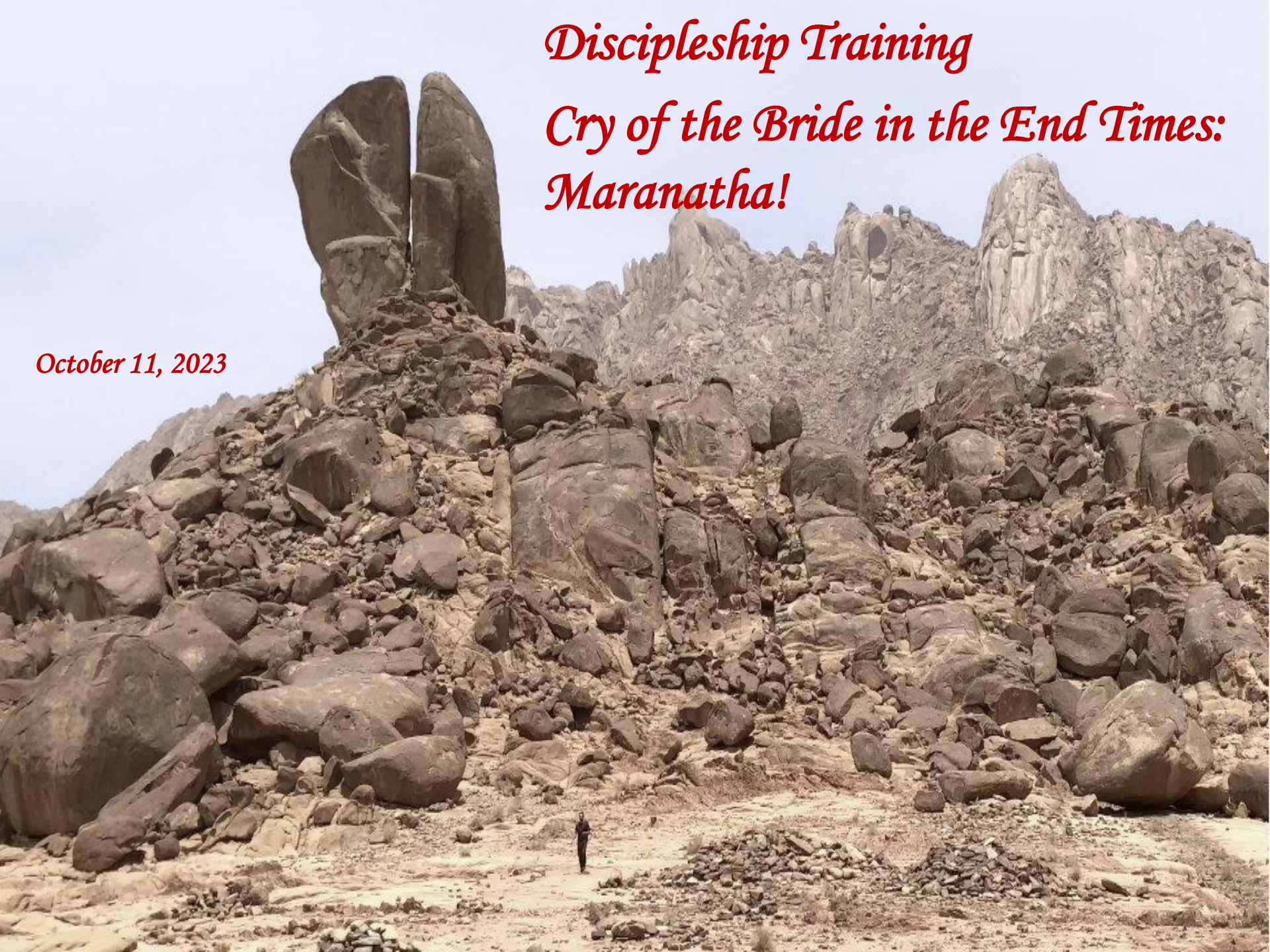


Discipleship Training

Cry of the Bride in the End Times: Maranatha!

October 11, 2023



A grayscale photograph of a rocky, mountainous landscape. In the foreground, a person stands on a dirt path, providing a sense of scale. The middle ground is filled with large, dark boulders and smaller rocks. In the background, several jagged, rocky peaks rise against a light sky. The overall scene is desolate and rugged.

Sinai to Zion
by Joel Richardson

Assigned reading: Part 3 of the Book

- Chapter 21 A Highway in the Desert

Video:

- Episode 31 The Messianic Highway Through the Desert
- Episode 32 A Highway in the Desert
- Episode 33 Jesus the Blood-Soaked Warrior

Assignment:

- Give your insights on any topic in any episode

October 11, 2023 (PST) Discipleship Class

Facilitator: Angelo

To discuss insights and takes:

- **Marielle**
- **Francis**
- **Abegail**
- **Nona**
- **Patricia**
- **Grace**
- **Prayer Leaders: Percy, Myra, Clarence, Lily**

Episode 31 The Messianic Highway Through the Desert

ISAIAH'S GRAPHIC DESCRIPTIONS AND ABILITY TO TIE IN MANY PREVIOUS PROPHECIES AND EXPOUND ON THEM IS INCREDIBLE. THERE ARE SO MANY PASSAGES TALKING ABOUT THE MESSIAH THAT IT HAS LED SOME TO NICKNAME IT "THE FIFTH GOSPEL."

I. A HIGHWAY THROUGH THE DESERT

- A. [Psalm 68:9-10](#)
 - 1) the imagery is of the Lord pouring out rain on His people in the desert in their poverty, using both poetic and literal language. The rain reflects the action of God blessing the poor and causing the dry things to sprout and blossom in the desert
- B. [Isaiah 35:1-2](#)
 - 1) the figurative language points to very literal realities
 - 2) creation itself reflects the emotional state of God's people as they are being set free
 - 3) one minute they were prisoners and the next they will be shouting with joy
 - 4) it begins with the redeemed seeing the glory of the Lord with their eyes
 - 5) in the same way that Israel's chastisements were literal – they were literally sent into exile, etc – and Jesus' ascension into heaven was literal, all these poetic descriptions concerning His return are literal
- C. [Isaiah 35:3-4](#)
 - 1) many in the church pretend that they are victorious when in reality, they might be spiritually, emotionally, and/or physically exhausted
 - 2) across the board, Christians filled with the Holy Spirit, feel the burden of this age
 - 3) the day is coming when the exhausted, weak, and feeble will be filled with strength
 - 4) one of the most consistently repeated themes throughout all of these prophecies is that the righteous are waiting for deliverance and His justice is coming

Episode 31 The Messianic Highway Through the Desert

- D. [Isaiah 35: 5-7](#)
- 1) on that day, EVERYONE in Christ gets healed. In present day, the miracle is not always released and not all are healed, but we are called to wait for the Day when everyone will receive His healing
 - 2) in [Acts 3:21](#), Peter talks about this period of the restoration of all things: of Eden, the kingdom of David, the cosmos, our bodies, etc.
 - 3) in [Romans 8:18-25](#), Paul teaches that we will go from being in slavery to corruption and sin and the curse to the freedom of the glory of the children of God
- E. [Isaiah 35:8-10](#)
- 1) holiness is not something to be taken lightly. No one will just accidentally wander onto that highway; only the holy will be there
 - a) to be clear, it is only by the blood of Jesus that we are saved - we cannot earn it ourselves - but we have to partner with His grace faithfully and not reject it in our lives
[\(Hebrews 10:26\)](#)
 - 2) sighing, groaning, depression, and oppression WILL come to an end. [Psalm 30:5](#) can apply to seasons of our life but is ultimately speaking of the Day of the Lord. **The darkness of this current age will end**
 - 3) if you are in Christ, this is your destiny ([Colossians 3:4](#)). The redeemed will be with Him in the royal procession on the Highway of Holiness

Episode 32 A Highway in the Desert

I. ISAIAH 40

A. Isaiah 40:1-2

- 1) on an individual level, we let Israel know that in Messiah their sins can be forgiven in this age, but Israel will experience massive warfare again before Jesus' return
- 2) [Isaiah 12:1](#)
- 3) the comfort this verse speaks of is not until after Jacob's trouble, after God has forgiven Israel's corporate iniquities

B. Isaiah 40:3-4

- 1) the language is both figurative and literal
- 2) it is speaking of a literal road and also of bringing down the lofty and arrogant and lifting up the poor and needy
- 3) mountains are often used to refer to nations and hills to refer to Gentiles
- 4) it is also speaking of preparing our hearts spiritually for Jesus' coming

C. Isaiah 40:5, 10

- 1) ["the glory of the Lord will be revealed"](#)
 - a) the previous verses are applied to John the Baptist in the Gospels ([Matthew 3:3](#), [John 1:23](#)). there was a partial fulfillment of these verses with regard to John the Baptist but that was not the ultimate fulfillment
 - i. we see another example of the nature of Hebrew prophecy in [Acts 2:16-21](#)
- 2) the glory of the Lord will be visibly seen by all people, not simply spiritually perceived
- 3) ["with His arm ruling for Him"](#) Jesus is the arm of the Lord, the manifest presence of God on the earth
- 4) He will come with both reward and recompense: judgement for the wicked and salvation and rewards for the righteous

Episode 32 A Highway in the Desert

D. Jesus' return will be visible

- a) Isaiah 33:17
- b) Isaiah 35:2
- c) Isaiah 52:8, 10
- d) Isaiah 66:14–15
- e) Zechariah 12:10
- f) John 12:37–38

i. "the arm of the Lord" is always applied to God the Son, both before and after the incarnation

E. Isaiah 40:11

- 1) the Lord is a Shepherd. Just as He was both strong and mighty but also caring and compassionate back in the exodus, so also in the Day of the Lord He will execute punishment for the wicked and gently lead His sheep

Episode 32 A Highway in the Desert

II. ISAIAH 42

A. Isaiah 42:10-11

- 1) we will all be singing a different song than we sing in this current age
- 2) Kedar and Sela are highlighted because that is currently the region of the children of Ishmael, the Arabs; it is northwest Saudi Arabia, the land of the Sinai, the desert of the exodus

B. Isaiah 42:13

- 1) the Bridegroom is not just our Husband, He is a Warrior *on our behalf*
- 2) He will execute the vengeance of God, the perfect justice of the perfect One, against His enemies, all those who do not love righteousness
- 3) Exodus 15:3-4
 - a) Pharaoh is a type of the antichrist; Ezekiel (29:3) and Isaiah (27:1) refer to him as a leviathan
 - b) the Lord drowned the best of the best - the elite forces of the day - like it was nothing
 - c) the Lord says to remember the mighty things He's already done (Psalm 105:5) so that we have confidence concerning the things yet to come. This is one of the main ways that we strengthen our hope in the days to come

Episode 33 Jesus the Blood-Soaked Warrior

WHILE MOST MODERN CHRISTIANS VIEW JESUS ALMOST EXCLUSIVELY AS THE MILD SHEPHERD FIGURE RENDERED BY NUMEROUS ARTISTS, IN TRUTH, WHEN THE BRIDEGROOM RETURNS, HE WILL ARRIVE TO HIS WEDDING SOAKED IN THE BLOOD OF HIS ENEMIES AND THE ENEMIES OF HIS BRIDE.

I. ISAIAH 63

- A. Isaiah 63:1
 - 1) "Bozrah"
 - a) Deuteronomy 33; Judges 5; Psalm 68; Micah 2
 - 2) Isaiah 59:17 spoke of "the arm of the Lord" putting on "garments of vengeance" and "zeal as a mantle"
- B. Isaiah 63:2-3
 - 1) in Isaiah 34:7-8, Isaiah had already spoken of the eschatological slaughter in the land of Edom
 - a) "for the Lord has a day of vengeance, a year of recompense, for the cause of Zion"
 - 2) one of the driving reasons for the Lord's return is the hatred against His people
- C. Isaiah 63:4-6
 - 1) "I looked, and there was no one to help...so My own arm brought salvation to Me" Jesus is the only one worthy to - and the only one who will - accomplish the vengeance of God
 - 2) Isaiah 59:15-16
 - a) the Gospel

Episode 33 Jesus the Blood-Soaked Warrior

II. Isaiah 66

A. Isaiah 66:15-16

- 1) "the Lord will come in fire" fire consumes. On Mount Sinai, when the Lord came down in fire, the whole top of the mountain was consumed
 - a) Exodus 19:16-18
 - b) Exodus 24:17
- 2) "those put to death by the Lord will be many" many believers have a hard time reconciling the fact that Jesus will kill the wicked when He returns
 - a) Psalm 110
 - b) Revelation 19:11, 21

- B. Isaiah takes the imagery of these things from the previous prophecies and gives us the most graphic, vivid, and gruesome description of the victorious Divine Warrior in the whole Bible.

PRAYER POINTS

Isaiah 35:3-6 Pray for strength for those that are spiritually, emotionally, and/or physically exhausted, to be strong and wait for God's vengeance is coming; there will be healing on that day

Isaiah 40:1-5 Pray for Israel's comfort after Jacob's trouble; make straight and smooth the desert highway (literal and spiritual) and for hearts be made ready as the gospel is preached and the glory of the Lord will be revealed.

- **Pray for the fear of the Lord be upon every believer ; to live a holy and godly life because Jesus will not only return as our Bridegroom King but He will also return as a Warrior who will destroy all His enemies and His bride's enemies.**
- **Pray for any of the topics discussed as the Holy Spirit leads.**