***Why Seeing God is Critical in the End Times***

As we have seen in the study of Sinai to Zion and focusing on the book of Exodus, God appeared to Israel! His presence tangible and powerful and full of provision and gave protection.

In spite of such display of love and care, and all that a loving God was and is willing to give, we are confronted with a seeming ungrateful response!

I see this narrative as a warning, an example of how we should be when going through difficult a situation.

Several possibilities may contribute:

* 400 plus years of slavery and captivity in a foreign land.
  + I call our attention to this terrible attitude. Many of us think the same: “How can this people act so terribly in a time where God was so present?”
* Years of enslavement can form an attitude of anger and resentment towards God who you know should have rescued you.
* The culture of the land easily controlled one’s perception and identity.
* Again, this can also be the aftereffects of their sin in Numbers 13:25-28, where they refused to enter the promised land God promised to their fathers. They saw the evidence of the milk and honey, and huge produce in the land. They also saw the giants.
* The voice of the 10 spies overwhelmed the people while they ignored the confession of faith in the 2 men who saw God’s beautiful promised land. Most of all, they knew God is well able to protect them from the giants.

Let us hear what the Apostle Paul had to say:

“Moreover, brethren, I do not want you to be unaware that all our fathers were under the cloud, all passed through the sea, all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, all ate the same spiritual food, and all drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and that Rock was Christ. But with most of them God was not well pleased, for their bodies were scattered in the wilderness. Now these things became our examples, to the intent that we should not lust after evil things as they also lusted. And do not become idolaters as were some of them. As it is written, “The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.”

Nor let us commit sexual immorality, as some of them did, and in one day twenty-three thousand fell; nor let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed by serpents; nor complain, as some of them also complained, and were destroyed by the destroyer. Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come. Therefore let him who thinks he stands take heed lest he fall. No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it. Therefore, my beloved, flee from idolatry. I speak as to wise men; judge for yourselves what I say.”  
I Corinthians 10:1-15 NKJV