

Dear Open Door Family,

TALK IS CHEAP. That is one of those famous sayings which makes the point that what you say is not nearly as important as what you do. At a wedding couples exchanged their vows. They promise each other many things. Yet the proof of what they say will be seen in the way that they actually treat each other. Will they love, honor, and cherish each other even when things are going badly? Will they respect, appreciate, and give of themselves to the other even in the middle of serious difficulties? The nation of Israel promised to honor God and obey His Law yet time after time they did the opposite. They turned away from God and pursued evil. Yet God in his Amazing Grace would discipline them in love and draw them back to Himself. Psalm 106 is a reminder of some of the amazing things that God has done for Israel as well as a reminder of how badly they had turned away. Let's look at these verses together.

Psalm 106 (NET) [2] *Who can ADEQUATELY RECOUNT the LORD's mighty acts, or relate ALL HIS praiseworthy deeds?*

I love this question. Who can actually recount ALL the acts of the Lord? Who can tell the wonders He has performed? How often do we stop and actually COUNT our blessings and the Grace God has demonstrated to us? In this Psalm we are shown the wonders of God's Faithfulness even though His people constantly turned away.

Verse seven shows that they failed to value what God had done for them. They forgot about the plagues of Egypt and the Deliverance of God and started to complain (Ex. 14:11).

[7] Our ancestors in Egypt failed to APPRECIATE your miraculous deeds, they failed to REMEMBER your many acts of loyal love, and they rebelled at the sea, by the Red Sea.

God's plan included the complete and total destruction of the Egyptian army and freedom for the people of Israel.

[10] He DELIVERED them from the power of the one who hated them, and rescued them from the power of the enemy.

But the sad truth comes out in the next few verses. In a matter of months these incredible events had been forgotten.

[13] They QUICKLY FORGOT what he had done; they did not wait for his instructions.

When they finally arrive at Mt. Sinai and they are going through the process of receiving the Old Testament Law through Moses. They totally abandon God while Moses is on the mountain in God's presence.

[19] They made an image of a calf at Horeb, and worshiped a metal idol. [20] They traded their majestic God for the image of an ox that eats grass.

Instead of entering the promised land as God had commanded they grumbled and complained. They REFUSED to Believe God's promises so in judgment God sent them back into the wilderness for 40 years.

[24] They rejected the fruitful land; they did NOT BELIEVE his promise. [25] They GRUMBLED in their tents; they did NOT OBEY the LORD.

Joshua finally led them into the Land of PROMISE but after he died they disobeyed and forgot all about God.

[35] They mixed in with the nations and learned their ways. [36] They worshiped their idols, which became a snare to them.

