

Phase III

WHAT'S IT ALL ABOUT?

I have been asked a few times “what is Phase III?” “What’s it all about?” I can honestly say the name was brought to me as God had been dealing with me on my life goal. Names in and of themselves have very little excitement to me as most of them are just titles to spark interest in something, and now days we put names, titles, labels and avatars on just about anything just so others will look. In fact the name Phase III in and of itself came first but it spoke to me, I could not at first understand why. I thought at first it could be that, I too, have bought into the whole labeling fad and just didn’t realize it. None the less I found myself thinking more and more about this title and why I had such a fascination about it.

Here goes, let me first say that Phase III is not a name but a lifestyle. Let me explain.

1 Peter 2:9b

His own special people, that you may proclaim the praises of Him who called you out of darkness into His marvelous light

PHASE I

If I were to break my walk down over the years into phases of understanding God, Phase I would be very similar to the liberation of the Hebrews from Egypt. Salvation came to them to bring them out of darkness into the freedom of the light of God. So Salvation, starting a walk with God is the first phase. Easy enough, right?

PHASE II

We then see the Hebrews moving out and forward on their exiting journey into the wilderness to experience a walk that would teach them obedience to God through faith. Just like the Hebrews we too make many rebellious mistakes wondering in the wilderness, forsaking God to please ourselves and finding our lack of faith leading us into difficult times. This phase is the second and most common phase in most Christians today. We have such a hard time getting out of phase II, looping back around to find that we have just been here and will we ever get out of this conditioning of obedience? As I sit now in Starbucks pondering that very thing as I have many time done before. *“How long will I let doubt keep me from moving out of this lifestyle.”* Sometimes knowing is not half the battle, it IS the battle.

Hebrews 3:7-8

7 Therefore, as the Holy Spirit says “Today, if you will hear His voice,
8 Do not harden your hearts as in the rebellion, In the day of trial in the wilderness,
9 Where your fathers tested Me, tried Me, And saw My works forty years.

PHASE III

It isn’t until the Hebrews give up their own selfish wills to do things their way that we see God say today is the day that you will go in and possess the land that I have promised you. With the power of God and a willingness to obey they became a force that would be unstoppable and their enemies hearts would melt at the sound of their footsteps. This is Phase III. Every Christian wants and desires to be victorious against their enemy, and the enemy of phase II is self but the enemy of phase III is the enemy of those who are living in darkness and before we can go in and possess the land that we seek to conquer we must first conquer self.

So Phase III is a quest, a goal, a lifestyle that is more the only “working out one’s own salvation”. So please join me as I explore the endless possibilities that God has for His very special people