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HISTORY

“Listen to Me, you who follow after righteousness, You who seek the Lord: Look to the rock from which you were hewn, And to the hole of the pit from which you were dug.”
(Isaiah 51:1)

As Christians, we ought never to overlook our heritage. An awareness of our Christian heritage helps us to understand our identity, and it gives us a sense of where God is leading us.

The Israelites had a rich heritage. Their nation began as a result of Abraham and Sarah’s faithfulness. The generations that followed included Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph as their faithful leaders. God richly blessed His people and made them prosper. **God continued to show favor on the Israelites by leading them out of Egypt into a prosperous land of their own.** God established His nation through some of the most awesome miracles in history. God continued to provide strong leaders, such as Moses, Joshua, Gideon, Deborah, Samuel, David and Solomon. He sent mighty prophets such as Elijah, Isaiah, and Jeremiah. **Ultimately, in Isaiah’s day, God’s people had reached a point where they had forgotten their heritage.** They lived as spiritual paupers rather than as heirs to a rich heritage and members of a royal priesthood.

Your spiritual heritage is even richer than that of Isaiah’s generation. Your spiritual ancestors include Mary the mother of Jesus, John the Baptist, the disciples, the Apostle Paul, and a host of saints down through the ages. **Even more important, you look to Jesus as the author and finisher of your faith. (Hebrews 12:2)** You may have a family history of faithfulness that goes back several generations.

Do you see the full picture of God’s redemptive work? God’s plan involves you, just as it has included each Christian throughout the centuries. **God wants you to participate in His continuing work to redeem a lost world.** *Your* obedience today will provide a legacy of faithfulness to the generations that follow. **AMEN.**

Experiencing God Day-By-Day,
Henry T. Blackaby and Richard Blackaby

“And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen.” Matthew 28:18 – 20

