

## **PART 1 - THE WILDERNESS DILEMMA**

What happens when God takes us out of, or takes away from us, all we have perceived as Him, and puts us into a brand new reality called the “Wilderness”, for the purpose of testing us, to see how much we truly “Know Him” and are being built by Him?

This truly is the “wilderness dilemma” which every follower must be prepared to journey through and not around, if we are to truly enter into the fullness of an eternal life He has for us now. The Father wants way more for us than just a justified life in Him. His will and desire is that we will become the full reflection and expression of His Son now. For this to occur we must all be prepared to be taken into the wilderness for our open heart surgery, where He removes all the leaven and gives us His best life.

Jesus said it this way, “I don’t want your burnt offerings and sacrifices, but your heart.”

The wilderness is a place where we are faced with the hard core facts, that nothing of man or man-made lives and exists there. It's the place we bring absolutely nothing with us apart from a broken spirit and a contrite heart. It's the place where our strength, abilities, talents and attributes are futile and have no value. It's a place where man's sensual pleasures don't exist.

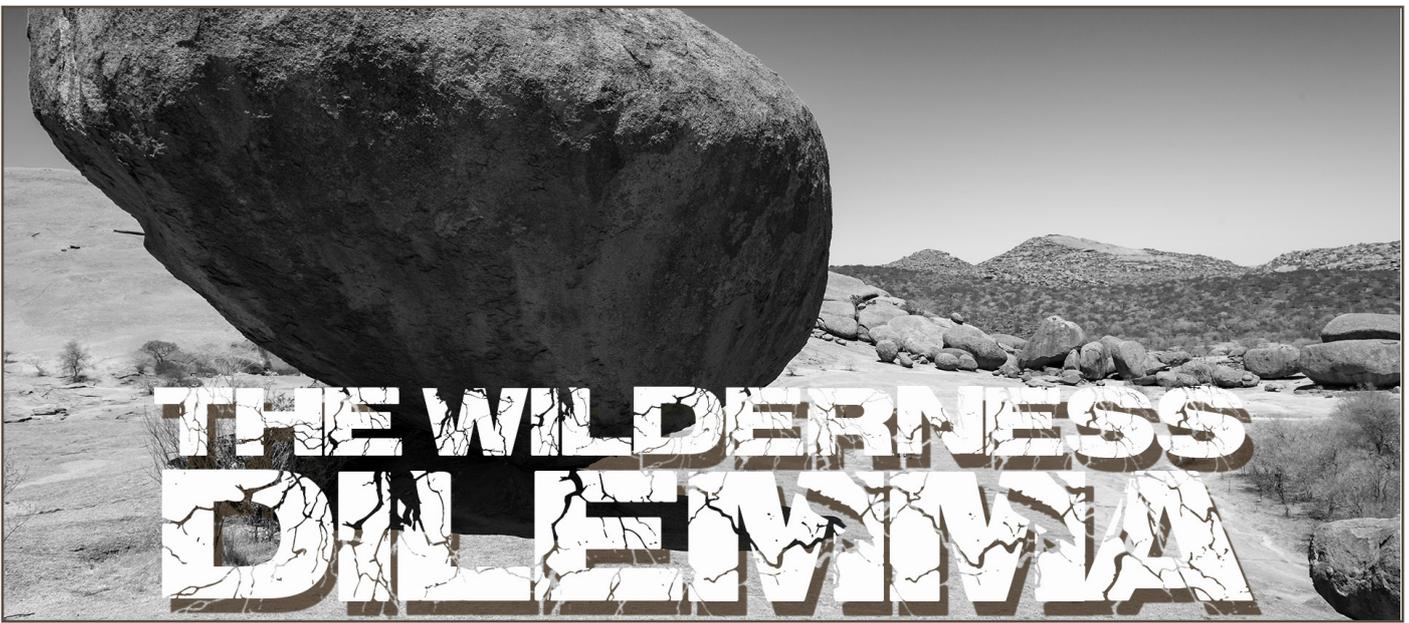
This is the reality one must accept, receive and believe if one is to lay hold of the abundance of life in the wilderness. Anything less than this and there is an extremely high percentage rate that we will either die in the wilderness or leave it, returning to all we know, our forms of godliness, the very thing God is leading us out of.

What does one do when one is led into the wilderness and confronted with the eternal truth, that one can not do anything eternal? Does one continue to do all they know how to do, getting the same results? Does one continue to control the narrative and refuse to take their hands off the steering wheel of one's life, setting up camp on the opposite side of the river to Him, without ever knowing this is what we are doing?

Are we prepared to yield all of us unto Him, acknowledging there is nothing of man or man-made in the wilderness, truly losing our life for His sake to find life, or will we attempt to find our own life and so in turn, lose the life we were created for? This is the wilderness dilemma for every follower. How far am I prepared to go?

***Matthew 16:25 For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it; but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.***

The reason the Spirit brings us into the wilderness is to bring us into a life which is truly based on the



eternal food that only Jesus gives, but are we prepared to leave everything to discover this life we have been created for?

This is what the wilderness dilemma and this resource is all about. Declaring to us the promise of the life that is concealed in the wilderness, for all those who are willing to trust Him and others and walk this out together. A bold and courageous spirit is required for all those who will undertake this journey of the unknown, and allow God to reveal the wilderness which is flowing with milk and honey, while being concealed in a barren and dry land.

This passage in 2 Corinthians 12:9-10, must become our living testimony if we are to thrive in the wilderness and make it the place we abide and reside in.

***2 Corinthians 12:9-10 And He has said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for power is perfected in weakness." Most gladly, therefore, I will rather boast about my weaknesses, so that the power of Christ may dwell in me. Therefore I am well content with weaknesses, with insults, with distresses, with persecutions, with difficulties, for Christ's sake; for when I am weak, then I am strong.***

### **QUESTIONS**

1. Why does one require a bold and courageous spirit when it comes to entering into the wilderness dilemma?
2. What is the purpose for God leading us into the wilderness?
3. Why does the wilderness test us so much for what we either do or don't have?
4. Why is weakness the key to being strong in Him?
5. What can we receive if we fully embrace the wilderness dilemma?