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## **Character: The Future Mindset** **(Forward Thinking)**

### **Believing For A Better Future, More Than Celebrating The Past**

**Exodus 14:15-16,21-22** - *Then the LORD said to Moses, “Why are you crying out to me? Tell the people to get moving! <sup>16</sup> Pick up your staff and raise your hand over the sea. Divide the water so the Israelites can walk through the middle of the sea on dry ground...<sup>21</sup> Then Moses raised his hand over the sea, and the LORD opened up a path through the water with a strong east wind. The wind blew all that night, turning the seabed into dry land. <sup>22</sup> So the people of Israel walked through the middle of the sea on dry ground, with walls of water on each side!*

### **Future Thinkers Face The Unfamiliar With Faith And Expectation**

**Isaiah 43:18-19** - *Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past. <sup>19</sup> See, I am doing a new thing!*

### **Future Thinkers Prepare For Where They’re Going, Not Where They’re At**

**Joshua 1:6-9** - *“Be strong and courageous, for you are the one who will lead these people to possess all the land I swore to their ancestors I would give them. <sup>7</sup> Be strong and very courageous. Be careful to obey all the instructions Moses gave you. Do not deviate from them, turning either to the right or to the left. Then you will be successful in everything you do. <sup>8</sup> Study this Book of Instruction continually. Meditate on it day and night so you will be sure to obey everything written in it. Only then will you prosper and succeed in all you do. <sup>9</sup> This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the LORD your God is with you wherever you go.”*

### **God’s Rule Isn’t A Substitute For Human Responsibility**

### **Forward Thinkers Not Only Hear From God, But Carry Out His Commands**

**Matthew 11:11-15** - *I tell you the truth, of all who have ever lived, none is greater than John the Baptist. Yet even the least person in the Kingdom of Heaven is greater than he is! <sup>12</sup> And from the time John the Baptist began preaching until now, the Kingdom of Heaven has been forcefully advancing, and violent people are*

attacking it. <sup>13</sup> For before John came, all the prophets and the law of Moses looked forward to this present time. <sup>14</sup> And if you are willing to accept what I say, he is Elijah, the one the prophets said would come. <sup>15</sup> Anyone with ears to hear should listen and understand!

**Micah 2:12-13** - *"Someday, O Israel, I will gather you; I will gather the remnant who are left. I will bring you together again like sheep in a pen, like a flock in its pasture. Yes, your land will again be filled with noisy crowds! <sup>13</sup> Your leader will break out and lead you out of exile, out through the gates of the enemy cities, back to your own land. Your king will lead you; the LORD himself will guide you."*

**The Kingdom Of Heaven Is Breaking Forth Like Dynamite And People Are Finding Liberty And Freedom**

**Forward Thinkers Are Excited About The Prospects Of The Future**

**Luke 9:62** - *"Anyone who puts a hand to the plow and then looks back is not fit for the Kingdom of God."*

**Philippians 3:13-14** - *...I have not achieved it, but I focus on this one thing: Forgetting the past and looking forward to what lies ahead, <sup>14</sup> I press on to reach the end of the race and receive the heavenly prize for which God, through Christ Jesus, is calling us.*

**Our Past Is Never An Excuse For Quitting, Or Avoiding Spiritual Growth**