

FINAL STUDY NOTES - EXODUS CHAPTERS 4-6 10/7-8/24

CLASSROOM LOCATION AND ZOOM – SIGN IN INFORMATION:

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PLEASE NOTE WE WILL CONTINUE TO NEED A PASSCODE TO JOIN THE ONLINE (ZOOM) STUDY!

MONDAY 7 PM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 PM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada)
THE MONDAY NIGHT STUDY WILL BE MEETING ON ZOOM ONLY UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE!

MEETING ID# - 878 5864 4763 Passcode: 087484

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TUESDAY 7 AM Bible Study - Time: 07:00 AM DAYLIGHT SAVING Time (US and Canada).

- Beginning Tuesday, June 4, 2024, TUES MORNING MTG PLACE:
- 1201 KEY WEST, CORONA DEL MAR (shown as 1201 KW, Corona del Mar, CA 92625) on Global Positioning System (GPS) in automobiles. For driving directions from your starting point, suggest using *WAZE* (waze.com/live-map) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com),
- AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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OPENING PRAYER

EXODUS – Chapter 4 – Miraculous Signs for Pharaoh – (vs. 1-17); Moses Goes to Egypt – (vs. 18-31); Chapter 5 – First Encounter with Pharaoh – (vs. 1-21); Israel’s Deliverance Assured – (vs. 22-23); Chapter 6 – Israel’s Deliverance Assured - Continuing – (vs. 1-13); The Family of Moses and Aaron – (vs. 14-27); Aaron is Moses’ Spokesman – (vs. 26-30)!

REVIEW:

(Exo 3:9-14) So because the Israelites' cry for help has come to me, and I have also seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them, [10] therefore, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh so that you may lead my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." [11] But Moses asked God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and that I should bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" [12] He answered, "I will certainly be with you, and this will be the sign to you that I am the one who sent you: when you bring the people out of Egypt, you will all worship God at this mountain." [13] Then Moses asked God, "If I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what should I tell them?" [14] God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you."

Exodus 4-6:

- **God is looking for a volunteer to go and stand before Pharaoh**, representing God, and demanding the release of God's people. God has chosen a man who is eighty years old, who knows the Pharaoh's court well. He spent his first forty years there. He knows the protocol. He has spent his last forty years, however, as a shepherd, watching his father-in-law's sheep there in the wilderness of Midian. God has spoken to him out of the burning bush, and He is still speaking as we come into chapter 4.
- **Moses, first of all, protests his own inabilities.** To that, God answers that He will be all-sufficient for Him. He protests that the people will not believe that God sent him, then he protests that the Pharaoh will not listen to him, and again, he protests his own inefficiency, getting to the real problem: "I just don't want to do it."

Moses Given Powerful Signs

Exo 4:1 Then Moses answered and said, "But suppose they will not believe me or listen to my voice; they say, 'The LORD has not appeared to you.'"

- **It is amazing how many projects of God are halted because of "supposes."** But suppose this, and, you know, people can imagine more problems. That is part of the difference between being an optimist and a pessimist. A pessimist has the capacity of seeing every kind of a situation that might arise. Something comes along and I am gung-ho, 'let's go for it,' and the pessimist says, "But have you stopped to think: what about this? What if that should happen? What if this should happen?" So, God, for example in marriages, put two together to balance the situation.
- **Moses is figuring out everything that might go wrong.** Suppose, LORD, they will say to me, 'Ah, the LORD didn't really appear to you.'"

Exo 4:2 So the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A rod."

- **A rod. It was the shepherd's staff.** That staff that the shepherd always carried as he was watching the sheep. Just the rod.

Exo 4:3 And He said, "Cast it on the ground." So he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from it.

- **Although the serpent was a symbol of Egypt's and Pharaohs' power and authority over life in Egypt, here God is communicating that His power and authority is much greater and that it will be powerless to hurt Moses.**

Exo 4:4 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail" (and he reached out his hand and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand),

- **The snake incident for Moses is to indicate to him that God is giving him greater power than that of Pharaoh and is greater than the power of Egypt to do what He is calling Moses to do!**

Exo 4:5 "that they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

- **If they question you, if they doubt, then just throw your rod on the ground. The first sign!**

Exo 4:6 Furthermore the LORD said to him, "Now put your hand in your bosom." And he put his hand in his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous (type of sin), like snow.

- **The flesh was leprous, rotted. It turned white as rotten flesh will do. The second sign!**

Exo 4:7 And He said, "Put your hand in your bosom again." So he put his hand in his bosom again, and drew it out of his bosom, and behold, it was restored like his other flesh.

- The second sign is leprosy, which was a dreaded disease in Egypt, because there was no cure for it. All the gods of Egypt could not cure leprosy! Here, the second sign is to show Moses that God is greater than all the gods in Egypt because He can heal leprosy!

Exo 4:8 "Then it will be, if they do not believe you, nor heed the message of the first sign, that they may believe the message of the latter sign.

- God is giving Moses signs by which the people may know that indeed, God has appeared to him.

Exo 4:9 And it shall be, if they do not believe even these two signs, or listen to your voice, that you shall take water from the river and pour it on the dry land. The water which you take from the river will become blood on the dry land." The **third sign**- changing the water to blood!

- Now, the third sign is changing the mighty Nile, which was revered in issues as a source of sources for food and all, which the flooding would bring, and now they are going to change it to blood. This is another indication that the power of God is much greater than all the gods of Egypt!
- Here God is indicating to Moses, called to deliver His people from Egypt, is basically over his head, but that God will supernaturally give him whatever is required to do the job! Nothing that Moses encounters will be too great, that God is not able to overrule and accomplish what He wants to do.

Exo 4:10 Then Moses said to the LORD, "O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue."

- God erased the excuses of "what if they say the LORD did not appear to you? God gets rid of that excuse. "I will be with you! I will work signs! I will prove that I indeed appeared to you. Now Moses comes up with another excuse. (Act 7:22) So Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in his speech and actions.

Exo 4:11 So the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD?

- Here Moses is complaining because of his inability to articulate words clearly. I cannot talk very clearly. What he is saying is that my speech is "heavy," or "dull of tongue," more literally. "I am not eloquent, I am slow, I am heavy of tongue. I have a slow tongue."
- God declares that He is the one who has created the mute, the deaf, the blind. He takes the responsibility for these physical handicaps. God is here sort of putting Himself in a position of jeopardy of being accused by man of not being just or fair. Yet, He has a purpose in all things. God has made me as He has made you for His own purposes. I may have impediments. I may have genetic disorders, genetic weaknesses, and yet, God has a purpose in it all. God is showing Moses that His delivering three million Hebrews from Egyptian slavery does not depend on the eloquent of man's speech!

Exo 4:12 Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say."

Exo 4:13 But he said, "O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send

- We can never let our inadequacy to hinder our moving to meet a call from God, who will take care of our inadequacies. Moses here is struggling, offering excuses, but God will show him and is showing him that it is not his inadequacy. Moses's inadequacies will be taken care of by Him of all things! He is looking for willing availability, more than capability.
- ***Do I ever hinder my moving to meet a call from God because of my inabilities, which are many? Do I really believe that God will fully take care of my inadequacies to fulfill His purposes?***

Exo 4:14 So the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and He said: "Is not Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he can speak well. And look, he is also coming out to meet you. When he sees you, he will be glad in his heart.

- Moses is now trying to back out of the task completely. *O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send.* I wonder at times, why God chooses to use men to do His work. I am so imperfect. It seems to me He could have done such a better job with an angel. In (Eze 22:30) *So I sought for a man among them who would make a wall and stand in the gap before Me on behalf of the land, that I should not destroy it; but I found no one.* I wonder how many times God is searching for a man and cannot find one who is willing.
- Here was Moses with all of the excuses that Moses is offering to the LORD. As the LORD answers the excuses one by one, he finally gets to the place and says, "Lord, send someone else."

Moses, at best, is reluctant to be God's instrument. God said, *Is not Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he can speak well.*

Exo 4:15 Now you shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth. And I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and I will teach you what you shall do.

Exo 4:16 So he shall be your spokesman to the people. And he himself shall be as a mouth for you, and you shall be to him as God.

- God says, all right, I will work it this way. I will speak to you! You speak to Aaron! Then Aaron will speak it to the people. It appears that this is clearly a move by the child of God from the perfect will of God into a permissive will of God. God's perfect will for Moses was that he would go forth alone, performing this ministry that God had called him to. God now allows Aaron to be introduced into the situation, but it is not the ideal that he wanted. As wonderful as Aaron is, he is going to make some serious mistakes, such as the golden calf incident, leading them into idolatry.
- **How often do I settle for the permissive will of God? Why do I settle for less than His best, His perfect will?**

Exo 4:17 And you shall take this rod in your hand, with which you shall do the signs.

- God is just laying it out straight to him at this point.

Moses Returns to Egypt

Exo 4:18 So Moses went and returned to Jethro his father-in-law, and said to him, "Please let me go and return to my brethren who are in Egypt, and see whether they are still alive." And Jethro said to Moses, "Go in peace."

- He has been gone for forty years, no doubt most of them are no longer alive.
- Notice that Moses' call by God did not relieve himself of his personal responsibilities! Moses goes to the patriarch, Jethro, gets his peace and permission! That is something we need to take to heart!

Exo 4:19 Now the LORD said to Moses in Midian, "Go, return to Egypt; for all the men who sought your life are dead."

Exo 4:20 Then Moses took his wife and his sons and set them on a donkey, and he returned to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the rod of God in his hand.

Exo 4:21 And the LORD said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do all those wonders before Pharaoh which I have put in your hand. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go.

- God is saying, "Go, but you are going to have a tough time! I am going to harden the heart of the Pharaoh. He is not going to let the people go! It is not going to be an easy task." God gives Moses a heads-up that even though he does all the things, God asked him to do, he will not initially be successful! Moses needs to know that, otherwise he would be so discouraged when Pharaoh refuses to listen. We do notice when he says I will harden Pharaoh's heart, that it is spoken prophetically.

Exo 4:22 Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD: "Israel is My son, My firstborn.

Exo 4:23 So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn."

- These are the words that Moses is to pass on to the Pharaoh. *Israel is My son, My firstborn. This was not an afterthought by God, but one made early! Let them go and serve me: or I will kill your son, your first born."* How interesting!
- God warns Pharaoh, how important Israel is as His firstborn son, saying if you destroy My firstborn son, the nation of Israel, God says, then I will destroy your firstborn son. I see these people the same way you see your firstborn son. I care for them the same way!

Exo 4:24 And it came to pass on the way, at the encampment, that the LORD met him (Moses) and sought to kill him.

Exo 4:25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone and cut off the foreskin of her son and cast it at Moses' feet, and said, "Surely you are a husband of blood to me!"

Exo 4:26 So He let him go. Then she said, "You are a husband (bridegroom) of blood!"—because of the circumcision.

- Here, Moses is to be God's instrument in bringing the people deliverance out of Egypt, and then also, to bring to them the law of God. When God commanded the circumcision as a badge for the

people of God, *all of the males are to be circumcised*, God said that if they were not circumcised, they were to be cut off from Israel. Actually, you were not an Israelite because you were born into the family, you were an Israelite once you became circumcised. Otherwise, you were cut off from being a part of that family. When Moses' first son was born, they probably circumcised him because here only one son that was circumcised. His Midian wife, no doubt, did not like the whole idea. When her second son was born, she probably objected to Moses circumcising the second son. Moses, being meek, not one to fight, probably said, "Oh, well, all right", and let it go.

- **Moses is on his way to do the work of God and to represent God before His people.** But he had neglected the commandment of God in the circumcision of the second son! So, the LORD met him and sought to kill him. That is, he probably had some kind of a seizure, perhaps a heart attack, just how, the Scripture does not indicate, but his wife knew exactly what was going on. When she saw her husband in the death throws, she took a sharp stone and circumcised the second son. But she was not happy about the whole thing. She threw the foreskin at Moses' feet, saying, "*You are a husband of blood!*" Godly obedience in the home is one of the most important requirements.
- **This is a huge, huge lesson in obedience!** God is saying if you are not obedient Moses, you are not going to take the three million people out, who are wanting and waiting to get out! I have called you to be a deliver to them, but if you are not fully obedient, I will not use you! They will stay there until I call someone else! Note well the importance of being fully obedient!
- ***How well have I learned the importance of being fully obedient to God and to His word?***
- **It would appear that at this point, that Moses sent her and the boys back to her father.** We do not find Moses' wife or sons again until they come out of Egypt, and they come to meet him as he comes into the area of Midian with the children of Israel.

Exo 4:27 And the LORD said to Aaron, "Go into the wilderness to meet Moses." So he went (from Egypt?) and met him on the mountain of God, and kissed him.

- These brothers who had not seen each other for a long time. They meet and greet each other.

Exo 4:28 So Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which He had commanded him.

Exo 4:29 Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel.

Exo 4:30 And Aaron spoke all the words which the LORD had spoken to Moses. Then he did the signs in the sight of the people.

Exo 4:31 So the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel and that He had looked on their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshiped.

- One of the fears that Moses had in that they won't believe that You sent me, they won't believe that You appeared, is alleviated as Aaron and Moses meet with the elders. They show the signs that God had given: the rod turned to a serpent, and the water to blood, and the leper's hand. *The people believed....they bowed their heads and worshipped....because God had remembered them.*

Making Bricks Without Straw

Exo 5:1 Afterward Moses and Aaron went in and told Pharaoh, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel: 'Let My people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.'"

- That they might offer a sacrifice.

Exo 5:2 And Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go."

- **Now Moses begins to face a real challenge!** God said, *But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go.* The first response of the Pharaoh is very negative: ***Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go?*** The Egyptians were polytheistic, having many, many gods: the sun god, the moon god, the various stars, the planets, the forces of nature, the rain god, the wind god, the Nile River. "*Who is the LORD?*" You are throwing a strange god at me; I do not know Him. He is not one of my gods.'
- **Moses identified Him as the God of Israel.** He is the only true God! All the gods that the Pharaoh was worshipping were false gods. There is only one true and living eternal God, the Creator of heaven and earth!
- **Mant people talk about God, not really knowing who they are talking about.** The Pharaoh: "*Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice?*" Many people are saying the very same thing today. "Who is Jesus that I should submit my life to Him?" I will do my own thing. I will do as I please.

- **God has told us how to have a happy life, how to have a long, healthy, prosperous life.** He has given the rules; but people say, “*Who is the LORD, that I should obey Him?*” I will do what I please. But, in our refusal to obey the LORD, we are only courting disaster in our own lives. The Pharaoh is going to discover who the LORD is, as we deal with chapters 7, 8, and 9. The Pharaoh will be discovering just who the LORD is!
- **The Pharaoh’s question:** (*Exo 5:2*) *And Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go.”* The eternal, living God. We should obey Him. He has established laws for our good. To violate those laws is only to bring harm upon ourselves. God would shield and protect us from so much if we would only listen. Our problem is that so often, as Pharaoh, we say, “*Who is the LORD that I should obey Him?*” We go our own stubborn ways, and it leads us into all kinds of difficulty. Even as we will find with the Pharaoh, the difficulties that he experienced; he experienced them because of his challenge of the LORD: “Who is He, that I should obey Him?” You can bring all kinds of disaster upon your own life by refusing to obey the LORD. The ultimate disaster is separation from Him!
- **Pharaoh asked, who is the LORD that I should obey His voice? How obedient am I? How does my life demonstrate full obedience to His voice, regarding His calling to me in my life?**

Exo 5:3 So they said, “The God of the Hebrews (the Israelites) has met with us. Please, let us go three days’ journey into the desert and sacrifice to the LORD our God, lest He fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword.”

Exo 5:4 Then the king of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why do you take the people from their work? Get back to your labor.”

- **Clay tablets that were the work records of the Egyptians, have been found,** containing the names of the individuals that were working, and the number of bricks that they had made, and then the days that they had off, and the reason they took the day off. His wife was sick, or he was too weak to work. Then there are cases where they took the day off for a religious feast. Because the Egyptians did worship many gods and were rather superstitious, taking a day off to worship your god was a legitimate reason for a day off.
- **What Moses and Aaron are requiring is not something that was uncommon** to the Egyptians, but the Pharaoh is openly defying the command of the LORD and orders Moses and Aaron to go back to work themselves.

Exo 5:5 And Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are many now, and you make them rest from their labor!”

Exo 5:6 So the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their officers, saying,

Exo 5:7 “You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves.

Exo 5:8 And you shall lay on them the quota of bricks which they made before. You shall not reduce it. For they are idle; therefore they cry out, saying, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’

- **The Pharaoh increased the burden on the people.** Up to this time the Egyptians have provided the straw for the bricks. Now the Pharaoh said, “They’re idle; they don’t have enough to do, let’s make them work harder.” Their quota has to remain the same, but they will have to get the straw for themselves. *You shall no longer give the people straw.*

Exo 5:9 Let more work be laid on the men, that they may labor in it, and let them not regard false words.”

Exo 5:10 And the taskmasters of the people and their officers went out and spoke to the people, saying, “Thus says Pharaoh: ‘I will not give you straw.

Exo 5:11 Go, get yourselves straw where you can find it; yet none of your work will be reduced.’ ”

Exo 5:12 So the people were scattered abroad throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble instead of straw.

- **Now, in the archeological diggings, in the Egyptian city of Pithom, the lower layer of bricks, in some of the buildings, have very fine-cut straw in the bricks.** As you get to higher layers of bricks in the same building, the straw has stubble in it: corn husk, and just-stubble. When you get to the upper

rows of brick, there is nothing. No straw. The straw within the brick was to strengthen the bricks. In the upper bricks there is nothing at all, not even stubble which is an interesting confirmation of this passage of Scripture that that has been confirmed by the archeologist's spade.

Exo 5:13 *And the taskmasters forced them to hurry, saying, "Fulfill your work, your daily quota, as when there was straw."*

Exo 5:14 *Also the officers of the children of Israel, whom Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were beaten and were asked, "Why have you not fulfilled your task in making brick both yesterday and today, as before?"*

Exo 5:15 *Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried out to Pharaoh, saying, "Why are you dealing thus with your servants?"*

Exo 5:16 *There is no straw given to your servants, and they say to us, 'Make brick!' And indeed your servants are beaten, but the fault is in your own people."*

- These union foremen came to the Pharaoh with a complaint, saying that it's not fair; you're requiring us to make the same quota of bricks, but you're not giving us the straw. It is not our fault that we cannot make enough bricks. It is your fault. There is no straw given to your servants, and they say to us, *Make brick!*

Exo 5:17 *But he said, "You are idle! Idle! Therefore you say, 'Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.'*

Exo 5:18 *Therefore go now and work; for no straw shall be given you, yet you shall deliver the quota of bricks."*

- The Pharaoh's heart was hard! He was just really hardened and stubborn in this very issue. He would not listen to their pleas.

Exo 5:19 *And the officers of the children of Israel saw that they were in trouble after it was said, "You shall not reduce any bricks from your daily quota."*

Exo 5:20 *Then, as they came out from Pharaoh, they met Moses and Aaron who stood there to meet them.*

Exo 5:21 *And they said to them, "Let the LORD look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us."*

- Literally, "You've made our smell as stink in the sight of the Pharaoh." *and in the sight of his servant, to put a sword in their hand to kill us.*
- These fellows are now angry with Moses and Aaron, saying, Let the LORD judge you guys, you really have blown it. You know that you are giving us a bad time!

Exo 5:22 *So Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people? Why is it You have sent me?"*

- What are You doing? I did not want to come in the first place.

Exo 5:23 *For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people; neither have You delivered Your people at all."*

- LORD, nothing good is happening. It has only gotten worse! You have not kept your Word. You have not delivered the people; and it has only been worse. Why did You send me? Why did You create this mess? LORD, why haven't You worked? It is interesting how so many times we seem to have the same feelings! LORD, everything is going wrong. Why, have You not done anything? LORD why did You lead me into this mess? Why would You allow me to get into this kind of a situation? Things are much worse! You have not made anything better at all, it is only worse, LORD!
- There are times when we are in such a desperate condition that we cry out, recognizing that He is the only one to help us. We can have a dozen well-meaning believers around us, friends praying for us and supporting us and doing everything we can, but there are those times when must hear directly from God, as He is the only source of what we must have in order to go forward.
- **When in desperate situations, am I recognizing that only hearing from Him will satisfy? Is that my practice to go to Him, first and foremost, or do I too often, go to other people?**

God Promises Deliverance

Exo 6:1 *Then the LORD said to Moses, "Now you shall see what **I will** (8x) do to Pharaoh. For with a strong hand he will let them go, and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land."*

Exo 6:2 And God spoke to Moses and said to him: "I am the LORD.

Exo 6:3 I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name LORD I was not known to them.

- Now, they did call Him Jehovah, but they really did not understand the full significance of that name. They had come to know Him as God Almighty (El Shaddai), but they really did not know Him as that personal God who would become to them all they needed. ‘They really didn’t know the full significance of My name: the Becoming One, the I AM, or the YAHWEH, or JEHOVAH, the God who becomes whatever it is that you might need!

Exo 6:4 I have also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, in which they were strangers.

- So, God is establishing His word, now, and His covenant with His people. “You will be my people. I will be your God.” Our redemption was a covenant that God made with Jesus Christ before the world was! (*Isa 55:13; Act 13:34; Heb 7:22, 13:20*).

Exo 6:5 And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel whom the Egyptians keep in bondage, and I have remembered My covenant.

- The time has come when I am going to fulfill it. Now, it is not that God forgot His covenant, but the time has now come for the fulfillment of that covenant.

Exo 6:6 Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the LORD; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.

Exo 6:7 I will take you as My people, and I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

- Now, the interesting thing is that they had become pretty accustomed to this slave labor routine. They were used to being pushed, and pressed, and beaten by the Egyptians. It was necessary, really, for them to have the Pharaoh inflict an even harder burden on them to make them less reluctant in leaving. There were those, even when they did come out, who, in the wilderness, said, “Oh, remember the good old days in Egypt: when we had plenty of meat, and those onions and garlic? There was a reluctance still in the hearts of some of them to leave the land. So, the greater affliction from the Pharaoh is the thing that was really the goad, the impetus for the people to really say, “Let’s get out of here.” Otherwise, you would have had a difficult time getting them all to attempt this trek. God had to bring the heavier bondage and affliction from the Pharaoh to really cause them to realize, “We’ve got to get out of here!”

Exo 6:8 And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and I will give it to you as a heritage; I am the LORD.

- For the first time, Moses was to clearly state to Israel what God ultimately promised - to not only deliver them from the bondage of Egypt, but to also give them the land promised to the Abraham, Isaac and Jacob!
- There are no clauses in the contract for replacement theologians; no clauses for those who wanted to destroy the nation of Israel throughout! Over and over and over, He says ***I am! I will!*** This is the land. I swear it to them! It is in the bases of a covenant. I am the One who is going to do this. *I will* give it to them!
- ***As a heritage.*** There is a local sense of this; Israel going into Canaan. A broader sense; because of the land being restored to Israel. Even a broader sense yet, in regards to our inheritance!

Exo 6:9 So Moses spoke thus to the children of Israel; but they did not heed Moses, because of anguish of spirit and cruel bondage.

- Moses is now speaking to them again, but his fear is realized; they do not listen to him! They have been so oppressed by the Egyptians that they do not want to hear Moses. They are so broken they cannot even hear the word of the LORD. These words came right from the mouth of the LORD to Moses. He spoke those words to them. But they were not comforted by them because of the pressure and the *anguish of spirit*!
- Israel was in bondage. Even God’s promises fail to bring relief. The blood must first be applied! Having God’s promises in your lap is not enough! Applying the blood of Jesus Christ to your life will free you from bondage!

Exo 6:10 And the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

*Exo 6:11 "Go in, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the children of Israel **go out of his land.**"*

Exo 6:12 And Moses spoke before the LORD, saying, "The children of Israel have not heeded me. How then shall Pharaoh heed me, for I am of uncircumcised lips?"

- Moses is ready to resign and go back to Midian at this point. "LORD, even Your people won't believe me, they're not listening to me; how do You think the Pharaoh's going to listen?"

Exo 6:13 Then the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron, and gave them a command for the children of Israel and for Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.

- This same commission had previously been given to Moses while he was still in Midian. Now, evidently because of the discouragement He had received so far, God again spoke to him in Egypt and renewed the commission.

The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron (Important in their culture)

Exo 6:14 These are the heads of their fathers' houses: The sons of Reuben, the firstborn of Israel, were Hanoch, Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi. These are the families of Reuben.

Exo 6:15 And the sons of Simeon were Jemuel, Jamin, Ohad, Jachin, Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanite woman. These are the families of Simeon.

Exo 6:16 These are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations: Gershon, Kohath, and Merari. And the years of the life of Levi were one hundred and thirty-seven.

- The sons of Levi according to their generations, being expanded to the various families from the tribe of Levi, which represent the lineage of Moses and Aaron, through which the deliverer comes.

Exo 6:17 The sons of Gershon were Libni and Shimi according to their families.

Exo 6:18 And the sons of Kohath were Amram, Izhar, Hebron, and Uzziel. And the years of the life of Kohath (Moses' grandfather) were one hundred and thirty-three.

Exo 6:19 The sons of Merari were Mahli and Mushi. These are the families of Levi according to their generations.

Exo 6:20 Now Amram took for himself Jochebed, his father's sister, as wife; and she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of Amram were one hundred and thirty-seven.

- Amram took for himself Jochebed his father's sister as wife, who was actually his aunt. She bore him Aaron and Moses. Aaron was about three years older than Moses. They had an older sister, Miriam, older than both of them.

Exo 6:21 The sons of Izhar were Korah, Nepheg, and Zichri.

Exo 6:22 And the sons of Uzziel were Mishael, Elzaphan, and Zithri.

Exo 6:23 Aaron took to himself Elisheba, daughter of Amminadab, sister of Nahshon, as wife; and she bore him Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.

Exo 6:24 And the sons of Korah (Korah's rebellion) were Assir, Elkanah, and Abiasaph. These are the families of the Korahites.

Exo 6:25 Eleazar, Aaron's son, took for himself one of the daughters of Putiel as wife; and she bore him Phinehas. These are the heads of the fathers' houses of the Levites according to their families.

Exo 6:26 These are the same Aaron and Moses to whom the LORD said, "Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their armies."

Exo 6:27 These are the ones who spoke to Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring out the children of Israel from Egypt. These are the same Moses and Aaron.

Moses is Aaron's Spokesmen (Exo 6:28-7:7)

Exo 6:28 And it came to pass, on the day the LORD spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt,

Exo 6:29 that the LORD spoke to Moses, saying, "I am the LORD. Speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say to you."

Exo 6:30 But Moses said before the LORD, "Behold, I am of uncircumcised lips (repeating Exo 6:12), and how shall Pharaoh heed me?"

- We come back to the same excuse at the end of the chapter. Then into chapter 7, as God begins now to show the Pharaoh just who He is, revealing His power unto the Pharaoh; the beginning of the plagues which will ultimately deliver the children of Israel out of Egypt.

- **The Pharaoh's question:** (*Exo 5:2*) *And Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go."* The eternal, living God. We should obey Him. He has established laws for our good. To violate those laws is only to bring harm upon ourselves. God would shield and protect us from so much if we would only listen. We go our own stubborn ways, and it leads us into all kinds of difficulty. You can bring all kinds of disaster upon your own life by refusing to obey the LORD. The ultimate disaster is separation from Him!
- **How obedient am I? How does my life demonstrate,** "Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice?" (*Joh 14:23-24*) *Jesus answered and said to him, "If anyone loves Me, he will keep My word; and My Father will love him, and We will come to him and make Our home with him. [24] He who does not love Me does not keep My words; and the word which you hear is not Mine but the Father's who sent Me.*

SUMMARY

- **Do I ever hinder my moving to meet a call from God because of my inabilities, which are many? Do I really believe that God will fully take care of my inadequacies to fulfill His purposes?** (*Exo 4:13*) *But he said, "O my Lord, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send.*
- **How often do I settle for the permissive will of God? Why do I settle for less than His best, His perfect will?** (*Exo 4:16*) *So he shall be your spokesman to the people. And he himself shall be as a mouth for you, and you shall be to him as God.*
- **How well have I learned the importance of being fully obedient to God and to His word?** (*Exo 4:25-26*) *Then Zipporah took a sharp stone and cut off the foreskin of her son and cast it at Moses' feet, and said, "Surely you are a husband of blood to me!" [26] So He let him go. Then she said, "You are a husband (bridegroom) of blood!"—because of the circumcision.*
- **Pharaoh asked, who is the LORD that I should obey His voice? How obedient am I? How does my life demonstrate full obedience to His voice, regarding His calling to me in my life?** (*Exo 5:2*) *And Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go."*
- **When in desperate situations, am I recognizing that only hearing from Him will satisfy? Is that my practice to go to Him, first and foremost, or do I too often, go to other people?** (*Exo 5:22*) *So Moses returned to the LORD and said, "LORD, why have You brought trouble on this people? Why is it You have sent me?"*
- *Oh, my God, He will not delay My refuge and strength always I will not fear, His promise is true My God will come through always, always!*

CLOSING SONG

ALWAYS - Kristian Stanfill (4:24/4:27)

My foes are many, they rise against me But I will hold my ground I will not fear the war,

I will not fear the storm My help is on the way, my help is on the way

Refrain: Oh, my God, He will not delay My refuge and strength always I will not fear, His promise is true My God will come through always, always

Troubles surround me, chaos abounding My soul will rest in You I will not fear the war,

I will not fear the storm My help is on the way, my help is on the way (Refrain)

I lift my eyes up, my help comes from the Lord (4X)

From You Lord, from You Lord

Oh, my God, He will not delay My refuge and strength always I will not fear, His promise is true

My God will come through always, always

Oh, my God, He will not delay My refuge and strength always, always

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Read and study Exodus Chapters 7-9!