

Exodus Ch. 6

- Just do what the Lord says.

V: 1 This is the continuation of the conversation initiated by Moses in response to the circumstances – basically things getting worse.

*“Then the **LORD** said unto Moses...”* (LORD – 14X’s)

- God repeats – and reassures Moses of His intentions.

Psalm 37:34 “Wait on the Lord, and keep His way, and He shall exalt thee to inherit the land: when the wicked are cut off, thou shalt see it.”

- With a strong hand – the strong hand of the Lord!

Exodus 3:19-20 “¹⁹And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand (meaning yours). ²⁰And I will stretch out My hand, and smite Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.”

Later, God warned the people, reminded them:

Deuteronomy 4:34-35 “³⁴Or hath God assayed to go and take Him a nation from the midst of another nation, by temptations, by signs, and by wonders, and by war, and by a mighty hand, and by a stretched out arm, and by great terrors, according to all that the LORD your God did for you in Egypt before your eyes? ³⁵Unto thee it was shewed, that thou mightest know that the LORD He is God; there is none else beside Him.”

Psalm 89:13

Psalm 136:10-12

- God even tells Moses in this last part of this verse that God will compel Pharaoh to be the one to actually drive the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Proverbs 21:1 “The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: He turneth it whithersoever He will.”

V: 2 God spoke to Moses – repeating His name “I AM the LORD” = I AM = Yahweh = the “Becoming One” (5X’s)

V: 3 Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob knew God as “God Almighty” – “El Shaddai” – the God of power, the God of strength.

- They didn’t know Me as Yahweh, they didn’t know Me the way that you’re going to know Me.
- God is going to teach them what His name really means.

V: 4-5 I established My covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to give them the land wherein they were strangers.

- We’ve come to the time that I will fulfill it.
- God keeps His word.

Psalm 105:8-12 ⁸“He hath remembered His covenant for ever, the word which He commanded to a thousand generations. ⁹Which covenant He made with Abraham, and His oath unto Isaac; ¹⁰And confirmed the same unto Jacob for a law, and to Israel for an everlasting covenant: ¹¹Saying, unto thee will I give the land of Canaan, the lot of your inheritance: ¹²When they were but a few men in number; yea, very few, and strangers in it.”

He is the God who hears our cries:

Psalm 34:15, 17 ¹⁵“The eyes of the LORD are upon the righteous, and His ears are open unto their cry.” – ¹⁷“The righteous cry, and the LORD heareth, and delivereth them out of all their troubles.”

V: 6-8 Speak to the children of Israel:

- I am the Lord – Yahweh – again identifying Himself.
- After identifying Himself; He makes 7 “I will” statements.
 1. I will bring you out from under the burdens of Egypt.
 2. I will rid you out of their bondage.
 3. I will redeem you.
 4. I will take you to Me for a people.
 5. I will be to you a God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God.
 6. I will bring you in unto the land; which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
 7. I will give it you for a heritage.
- Then He identifies Himself again, kind of like a book end on either side.
- Notice that the word “if” is not seen in any of these verses; this is solely dependant upon God’s performance, not upon that of the children of Israel.

Ephesians 2:8-9 “⁸For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: ⁹Not of works, lest any man should boast.”

1. “I will bring you out from under their burdens.”

- It has been 400 years since they became slaves in Egypt, and slavery is all that any of them have ever known. The generations that knew freedom have long passed away.
- They’ve become accustomed to being slaves and there is a kind of identity, and security in that – a stability that while cruel is almost comforting at the same time.
- Some would later say during the exodus: remember the good old days back in Egypt, there was plenty of leeks, and garlic, and food?
- There was a reluctance on some of their parts to leave Egypt; because of that God allowed greater affliction into their lives causing them to long for freedom, causing them to desire a better place.

2 Corinthians 5:6-8 “⁶Therefore we are always confident, knowing that, whilst we are at home in the body, we are absent from the Lord: ⁷For we walk by faith, not by sight: ⁸We are confident, I say, and willing rather to be absent from the body, and to be present with the Lord.”

- I believe that this is why we don’t stay young forever. As our bodies age, diminish in capacity, and start falling apart we long for our new heavenly bodies, we long to be absent from these worn and torn tabernacles – longing to be in the presence of the Lord.
 - God allowed the children to suffer more towards the end of their bondage that they would long for God’s deliverance all the more.
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2. “I will rid you of their bondage.”

This is different from being out from under their burdens.

- There are people who can quit smoking, or drinking alcohol, or doing drugs – but still crave them, be in bondage to them.
- Do you realize that as Christians we have freedom from sin, no more bondage, we have the freedom not to sin!

1 Corinthians 6:12 “All things are lawful unto me, but all things are not expedient: all things are lawful for me, but I will not be brought under the power of any.”

- We're no longer slaves to sin.
- He's not only freed us from the burden of sin, the oppressive weight of it – we've been released from the bondage of it.

Romans 6:11-14 “¹¹Likewise reckon ye also yourselves to be dead indeed unto sin, but alive unto God through Jesus Christ our Lord. ¹²Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, that ye should obey it in the lusts thereof. ¹³Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. ¹⁴For sin shall not have dominion over you: for ye are not under the law, but under grace.”

3. “I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments.”

To redeem: (Webster's)

To purchase, pay the price, to buy back, to recover by payment or other satisfaction. To obtain the release or restoration from captivity by paying a ransom. To deliver from sin and its consequences by means of a sacrifice offered for the sinner.

Deuteronomy 7:6-9 “⁶For thou art an holy people unto the Lord thy God: the Lord thy God hath chosen thee to be a special people unto Himself, above all people that are upon the face of the earth. ⁷The Lord did not set his love upon you, nor choose you, because ye were more in number than any people; for ye were the fewest of all people: ⁸But because the Lord loved you, and because He would keep the oath which he had sworn unto your father, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh king of Egypt. ⁹Know therefore that the Lord thy God, He is God, the faithful God, which keepeth covenant and mercy with them that love Him and keep His commandments to a thousand generations.”

- This redemption takes place with a stretched out arm and great judgments; meaning that God is going to force the Egyptians to pay the price, everything from the plagues they will suffer, to their first born, and their gold. They will pay a dear price.
- Jesus would later redeem the world from sin, the price would be greater, it would be with two outstretched arms, and He would pay the price himself, with His own blood on the cross.

1 Peter 1:18-19 “¹⁸Forasmuch as ye know that ye were not redeemed with corruptible things, as silver and gold, from your vain conversation received by tradition from your fathers; ¹⁹but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot:”

4. “I will take you to Me for a people,…” (personal relationship)

Psalm 95:7 “For He is our God; and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand…”

- God wants us as His people, this will be a recurring theme throughout the Bible.

2 Corinthians 6:17-18 “¹⁷Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you, ¹⁸And will be a Father unto you, and ye shall be My sons and daughters, saith the Lord Almighty.”

5. “I will be to you a God…” (personal relationship)

^{1st} commandment:

Exodus 20:2-3 “²I am the Lord thy God, which have brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. ³Thou shalt have no other gods before Me.”

Leviticus 26:11-12 “¹¹And I will set My tabernacle among you: and My soul shall not abhor you. ¹²And I will walk among you, and will be your God, and ye shall be My people.”

V: 7 “... and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God...”

- He wants us to know Him.

Jesus, praying to His Father:

John 17:3 “And this is life eternal, that they might know thee the only true God, and Jesus Christ, whom thou hast sent.”

Matthew 11:28-29 “²⁸Come unto Me, all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. ²⁹Take My yoke upon you, and learn of Me; for I am meek and lowly in heart: and ye shall find rest unto your souls.”

Jeremiah 24:6-7 “⁶For I will set mine eyes upon them for good, and I will bring them again to this land: and I will build them, and not pull them down; and I will plant them, and not pluck them up. ⁷And I will give them an heart to know Me, that I am the LORD: and they shall be My people, and I will be their God: for they shall return unto Me with their whole heart.”

- God has a real fixation: and you're it!

6. “I will bring you in unto the land.”

- This is the fulfillment of the promises made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob – in a sense He's giving them direction.

Genesis 15:18 “In the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying, unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates:”

- God has been preparing a place for His people, and a people for the place, and everything is just about set.

Jesus is doing the same thing for us:

John 14:1-3 “¹Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in Me. ²In My Father’s house are many mansions: if it were not so, I would have told you. I got to prepare a place for you. ³And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto Myself; that where I am, there ye may be also.”

7. “I will give it you for an heritage.”

- The word “heritage” means literally a possession, but there is the sense of a legacy, an inheritance – which is exactly what God intended.

Genesis 17:8 “And I will give unto thee, and to thy seed after thee, the land wherein thou art a stranger, all the land of Canaan, for an everlasting possession; and I will be their God.”

- I will – all in present or future tense in English.
- In Hebrew each of these verbs is in the past tense.

V: 9 Moses speaks to the children of Israel – obediently – and his fears are realized, they don’t listen to him because they are so anguished and weighed down with their bondage.

- Anguish of spirit: Shortness of breath, gasping for air – sobbing - distraught

V: 10-11 God simply gives Moses the next step; Go and speak to Pharaoh.

V: 12-13 Moses questions why should Pharaoh listen to me if my own people won’t.

- Moses is basing his response on what he sees, as opposed to trusting in what God has said.
- He’s learning to “walk by faith, and not by sight.” **2 Corinthians 5:7**
- God gives both Moses and Aaron a “charge” – “command”.
- Not you should, but you shall go and speak...

V: 14-25 We have a parenthetical break, an abrupt change of topic. Moses will pick up his conversation with God again in verse 28.

V: 14-15 Moses begins to give his personal genealogy.

- Thus far as he spoke to the children of Israel as the Lord commanded him, they didn't listen to him.
- These next several verses seem almost like the answer to an un-recorded question: "So who are you?"
- The answer is basically, "I'm one of you."
- Moses begins by listing the sons of Jacob in order until it comes to his direct lineage.
- Reuben, Simeon, and Levi – then he stops there.

V: 16-20 Moses now traces down his own lineage, through Kohath, to Amram his father, who took Jochebed, his father's sister (aunt) to wife. She might have been a ½ sister. In either event close marriages within families were not yet prohibited by the law – but soon would be.

- Amram = "Exalted People"
- Jochebed = "Yahweh's Glory"
- Aaron = "Light Bearer"
- Moses = "Drawn Out of the Water"

V: 21-22 Mention of Moses' uncle and his descendants.

- Korah; Moses' cousin – would later seek to rise in rebellion against both Moses & God; and would be judged.

V: 23 Moses now describes Aarons marriage and his sons, whom we'll read more of later.

V: 24 The sons of Korah, the sons of rebellion.

V: 25 Eleazar take's a wife, and they have a son; Phinehas – who later distinguishes himself in the Lord's service.

V: 26-27 This is that Moses and Aaron that we are talking about – kind of like a letter of introduction, or handing someone your business card.

V: 28-29 God repeats His command to Moses to speak all the things that God gives him to speak to Pharaoh.

V: 30 Moses asks God in essence, why should Pharaoh listen to me?

- Moses is looking at his own ability, and comparing it to the difficulty of the task at hand – and it would seem to be hopeless.

Zechariah 4:6 “... not by might, nor by power, but by My spirit, saith the LORD of hosts.”

1 Corinthians 2:4-5 “⁴And my speech and my preaching was not with enticing words of man’s wisdom, but in demonstration of the Spirit and of power: ⁵that your faith should not stand in the wisdom of men, but in the power of God.”

Philippians 2:13 “For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of His good pleasure.”

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