

Exodus Ch. 11

V: 1 “And the Lord said unto Moses...”

- As God’s plan unfolds, His servant is the first one to know.

One of the first times we see this is with Abraham:

James 2:23 “And the scripture was fulfilled which saith, Abraham believed God, and it was imputed unto him for righteousness: and he was called the friend of God.”

Genesis 18:17-19 ¹⁷“And the Lord said, shall I hide from Abraham that thing which I do; ¹⁸Seeing that Abraham shall surely become a great and mighty nation, and all the nations of the earth shall be blessed in him? ¹⁹For I know him, that he will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of the Lord, to do justice and judgment; that the Lord may bring upon Abraham that which he hath spoken of him.”

- God then reveals his plans to destroy Sodom & Gomorrah.
- Actually God did the same thing with Noah.

Genesis 6:8 ⁸“But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord” – ¹³“And God said unto Noah...” - God then lays out his plans to destroy all flesh...

Jesus tells us:

John 15:13-15 ¹³“Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends. ¹⁴Ye are my friends, if ye do whatsoever I command you. ¹⁵Henceforth I call you not servants; for the servant knoweth not what his lord doeth: but I have called you friends; for all things that I have heard of My father I have made known unto you.”

- In Revelation chapters 2-3 the repeated message to each of the churches of the Apocalypse was

“He that hath an ear, let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches;”

Isaiah 30:21 “And thine ears shall hear a word behind thee, saying, this is the way, walk ye in it, when ye turn to the right hand, and when ye turn to the left.”

Romans 12:2 “And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God.”

- We know that Jesus is coming soon; we know that in these last days men will turn away from the word of God – which gives us these warnings.

We know that Jesus warned us:

Luke 21:36

Luke 21:36 “Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of Man.”

- God has revealed His plan for us, He has warned us, and He has encouraged us.

1 John 3:2-3 ²“Beloved, now are we the sons of God, and it doth not yet appear what we shall be: but we know that, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him; for we shall see Him as He is. ³And every man that hath this hope in Him purifieth himself, even as He is pure.”

2 Peter 3:11 “Seeing then that all these things shall be dissolved, what manner of persons ought ye to be in all holy conversation and godliness,”

V: 1b *“Yet I will bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt;...”*

- One more plague that is pointedly directed both at Pharaoh himself, and upon Egypt.

1st Pharaoh is the one who asked that question from chapter 5:

Exodus 5:2 “And Pharaoh said, who is the Lord, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I know not the Lord, neither will I let Israel go.”

2nd each of the plagues thus far has been directed at one of the Egyptians pagan deities or some aspect of their worship system – and where does Pharaoh fit into this system?

- Pharaoh claimed to be a descendant of the sun god Ra – he claimed deity for himself, and their system was set up to worship Pharaoh as a god.
- Pharaoh was impacted by all the other plagues, yet he somehow he remained aloof to the circumstances of his people, and he remained in rebellion to what he knew to be the will of God.
- Exodus 10:7 Pharaoh’s servants ask him, “don’t you know that Egypt is destroyed?”
- 1st the people figure it out, then Pharaoh.
- God will reach into Pharaoh’s life and touch him personally right where it really hurts. He will remove his legacy, his firstborn – Pharaoh will testify to his people through his inability to resist God, that he is in fact not God, and that the God of the Hebrews is the True and the Living God – the one to gives life and takes life as He chooses.

3 John 4 “I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in truth.”

Isaiah 59:21 “As for me, this is my covenant with them, saith the Lord; My spirit that is upon thee, and my words which I have put in thy mouth, shall not depart out of thy mouth, nor out of the mouth of thy seed, nor out of the mouth of thy seed’s seed, saith the Lord, from henceforth and for ever.”

V: 1c *“Afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether.”*

Moses / Mt. Sinai

Exodus 3:19-20 “¹⁹And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand (Moses). 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.”

Exodus 6:1 “Then the Lord said unto Moses, now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for with a strong hand shall he let them go, and with a strong hand shall he drive them out of his land.”

V: 2 Speak now in the ears of the people – God will now spoil Egypt on behalf of the children of Israel.

- This is the only time I can think of where it appears that God condones borrowing and not paying back.

“Borrow”: (H7592) sha'al, shaw-al'; to inquire; to request; to demand; beg, borrow.

Psalm 105:36-38 “³⁶He smote also all the firstborn in their land, the chief of all their strength. ³⁷He brought them forth also with silver and gold: and there was not one feeble person among their tribes. ³⁸Egypt was glad when they departed: for the fear of them fell upon them.”

Psalm 106:44-46 “⁴⁴Nevertheless He regarded their affliction, when he heard their cry: ⁴⁵And He remembered for them his covenant, and repented according to the multitude of His mercies. ⁴⁶He made them also to be pitied of all those that carried them captives.”

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

- After all that the Egyptians have been through, God has taken them and made them feel sorry for the Hebrews, and not for themselves! God puts it into their hearts to be generous to the Hebrews and give them all their valuables...
- Actually what this is, is – back wages. 400 years of forced labour at the rate that God established.

V: 3 God gave the Hebrews favor in the sight of the Egyptians.

- Another abrupt turn around: previously the Hebrews were an abomination in the sight of the Egyptians – now their giving all their stuff away.
- God gave Moses great favor as well – Moses has been speaking for God, and people see the power of God working through him – a stark contrast to Pharaoh and their magicians. Impotent!

Testimony: Prayer for Eileen & others: interviews, favor, that the person would just like the way they look.

V: 4-6 The plague of the first born: - Why the firstborn?

Exodus 4:22 “And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, thus saith the Lord, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:”

Zechariah 2:8 “For thus saith the Lord of hosts; after the glory hath he sent me unto the nations which spoiled you: for he that toucheth you toucheth the apple of his eye.”

- The horror of that night!
- Bear in mind that Pharaoh had been warned explicitly!

Exodus 4:23 “And I say unto thee, let My son go, that he may serve Me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.”

- This is something that is referred to repeatedly throughout the history of the nation of Israel as a demonstration of God’s power and of His love for them.

V: 7 “But” – contrast:

- Not a dog will move his tongue: no yelping, no howling, no indications of mourning.

“That ye may know how that the Lord doth put a difference between the Egyptians and Israel.”

- Did God free the children of Israel from their bondage because they were the “faithful remnant”? Or because of their faith in God?

Deuteronomy 7:6-8 “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 the 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 fathers, hath the Lord brought you out with a mighty hand, and redeemed you out of the house of the bondmen, from the hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt.”

God keeps His word:

Isaiah 40:8 “The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.”

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- We are called to be different, separate – set apart for God’s use:

2 Corinthians 6:14-18 ¹⁴“Be ye not unequally yoked together with unbelievers: for what fellowship hath righteousness with unrighteousness? And what communion hath light with darkness? ¹⁵And what concord hath Christ with Belial? Or what part hath he that believeth with an infidel? ¹⁶And what agreement hath the temple of God with idols? For ye are the temple of the living God; as God hath said, I will dwell in them, and walk in them; and I will be their God, and they shall be My people. 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.”

1 Peter 1:15-16 ¹⁵“But as He which hath called you is holy, so be ye holy in all manner of conversation; ¹⁶because it is written, be ye holy; for I am holy.”

Testimony:

Jeremiah 15:16-19 ¹⁶“Thy words were found, and I did eat them; and thy word was unto me the joy and rejoicing of mine heart: for I am called by thy name, O Lord God of hosts. ¹⁷I sat not in the assembly of the mockers, nor rejoiced; I sat alone because of thy hand: for thou hast filled me with indignation. ¹⁸Why is my pain perpetual, and my wound incurable, which refuseth to be healed? Wilt thou be altogether unto me as a liar, and as waters that fail? ¹⁹Therefore thus saith the Lord, If thou return, then will I bring thee again, and thou shalt stand before me: and if thou take forth the precious from the vile, thou shalt be as My mouth: let them return unto thee; but return not thou unto them.”

1 John 2:15-17 ¹⁵“Love not the world, neither the things of the world. If any man love the world, the love of the father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of live is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth forever.”

“The worth and the excellency of a mans soul is measured by the objects of his affection.”

V: 8 These thy servants – the men standing about Pharaoh.

- This is still the same confrontation in Pharaoh's court.
- Basically, you – through them – will come begging us to leave!

Ephesians 4:26 “Be ye angry, and sin not: let not the sun go down upon your wrath.”

V: 9 God wants to show Himself strong on behalf of His bride.

2 Chronicles 16:9 “For the eyes of the Lord run to and fro throughout the whole earth, to shew himself strong in the behalf of them whose heart is perfect toward Him...”

V: 10 Obedience vs: disobedience.

“And the Lord hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that he would not let the children of Israel go...”

- This was a warning to Moses, that even though Pharaoh finally let the children of Israel go – he would change his mind and come after the children of Israel, he would pursue after them with murder in his heart.
- Pharaoh would rather see them dead than free.
- Pharaoh's hard heart:

Kabawd: Pharaoh – disobedient, rebellious, stubborn.
Chazaq: God – confirming, making firm.

Ephesians 4:17-19 ¹⁷This I say therefore, and testify in the Lord, that ye henceforth walk not as other Gentiles walk, in the vanity of their mind, ¹⁸Having the understanding darkened, being alienated from the life of God through the ignorance that is in them, because of the blindness of their heart: ¹⁹Who being past feeling have given themselves over unto lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness.”

Blindness: (G-4457) “porosis”; stupidity or callousness; also blindness, hardness; to harden, petrify, render insensitive.

Same word used:

Mark 3:5 “And when He had looked round about on them with anger, being grieved for the hardness of their hearts, He saith unto the man, stretch forth thine hand. And he stretched it out: and his hand was restored whole as the other.”

- Used figuratively meaning hardness, callousness, blindness, insensitivity; the covering with a callus, obtrusiveness of mental discernment, dulled perception; the mind of one has been blunted; of stubbornness, obduracy.

Obdurate: 1. unmoved by persuasion or pity; unyielding.

2. stubbornly resistant to moral influence; impenitent: *an obdurate sinner*.

Romans 1:18-21 “¹⁸For the wrath of God is revealed from heaven against all ungodliness and unrighteousness of men, who hold the truth in unrighteousness; ¹⁹Because that which may be known of God is manifest in them; for God hath shewed it unto them. ²⁰For the invisible things of Him from the creation of the world are clearly seen, being understood by the things that are made, even His eternal power and Godhead; so that they are without excuse: ²¹Because that, when they knew God, they glorified Him not as God, neither were thankful; but became vain in their imaginations, and their foolish heart was darkened. ²²Professing themselves to be wise, they became fools.

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- As much as we need to guard against the hardness and the hardening of our own hearts – what is the cure?

Jeremiah 23:29 “Is not My word like as a fire? Saith the Lord; and like a hammer that breaketh the rock in pieces?”

Hebrews 4:12 “For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart.”

- It's not about how much of the Bible you know, it's how much do you know the Jesus of the Bible.

Romans 10:17 “So then, faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God.”

John 15:3 “Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you.”

Psalms 51:10-17 “¹⁰Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. ¹¹cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. ¹²Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. ¹³Then will I teach transgressors thy ways; and sinners shall be converted unto thee. ¹⁴Deliver me from bloodguiltiness, O God, thou God of my salvation: and my tongue shall sing aloud of thy righteousness. ¹⁵O Lord, open thou my lips; and my mouth shall shew forth thy praise. ¹⁶For thou desirest not sacrifice; else would I give it: thou delightest not in burnt offering. ¹⁷The sacrifices of God are a broken spirit: a broken and a contrite heart, O god, thou wilt not despise.”

Ezekiel 36:25-28 ²⁵Then will I sprinkle clean water upon you, and ye shall be clean: from all your filthiness, and from all your idols, will I cleanse you.

I ²⁶A new heart also will I give you, and a new spirit will I put within you: and will take away the stony heart out of your flesh, and I will give you an heart of flesh. ²⁷And I will put My spirit within you, and cause you to walk in My statutes, and ye shall keep My judgments, and do them. ²⁸And ye shall dwell in the land that I gave to your fathers; and ye shall be My people, and I will be your God.”