

FINAL STUDY NOTES - *EXODUS CHAPTERS 1-3*

9/30-10/1/2024

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# - 87858644763 Passcode: 087484

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87858644763?pwd=b25tUzhkaTE0UzlrSnpkVmZEWGJVQT09>

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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](http://waze.com/live-map)) or *MapQuest* (mapquest.com),
- AS WELL AS CONTINUING IN ZOOM!

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OPENING PRAYER

Exodus – The Birth of a Nation! Exodus Chapter 1 – Israel’s Suffering in Egypt; Chapter 2 – Moses is Born; Chapter 3 – Moses at the Burning Bush!

Exodus 1-3

- **Exodus is the record of Israel’s birth as a nation.** Within the protective “womb” of Egypt, the Jewish family of seventy rapidly multiplies. At the right time, accompanied with severe “birth pains,”

an infant nation, numbering between two and three million people, is brought into the world where it is divinely protected, fed, and nurtured.

- **There are some men who would like to challenge the authorship of Moses**, but no greater scholar than Jesus affirmed that Moses was the one that wrote the book of Exodus. I will take the word of Jesus over any of so-called scholars that might come along and think differently. Jesus referred to Moses in the Book of Moses, and then He quoted from Exodus, calling it “*the book of Moses*.” That is good enough for me.

Israel Increases Greatly in Egypt

- **It has been some three hundred years since Joseph has died.** From the end of the book of Genesis to the beginning of the book of Exodus, you have a period of about three hundred years; and during that period of time, the household of Jacob, which is named here.

Exo 1:1 Now these are the names of the children of Israel who came to Egypt; each man and his household came with Jacob:

Exo 1:2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; Exo 1:3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; Exo 1:4 Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher.

Exo 1:5 All those who were descendants of Jacob were seventy persons (for Joseph was in Egypt already).

Exo 1:6 And Joseph died, all his brothers, and all that generation.

Exo 1:7 But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them.

- **As he describes the growth of the nation of Israel in Egypt, he uses the terms fruitful, increased abundantly, multiplied, who grew exceedingly mighty!** The seventy who went to Egypt had indeed multiplied to 600,000 men above the age of twenty, which means a possible population of as many as three million people. Indeed, they were fruitful, increased abundantly, and multiplied as they were in Egypt.
- **Now the LORD had prophesied to Abraham that his descendants would go down to Egypt** and God would make of them a great nation there, but He would bring them up out of Egypt in four hundred years. So, the four hundred years of that sojourn in Egypt were about over. When Jacob prayed at Beersheba, God said, “*Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt; I will make of thee there a great nation.*” God has kept His word; the prophecies that He made to Abraham and Jacob have now been fulfilled, a great nation has formed during this period in Egypt.

Pharaoh Oppresses Israel

Exo 1:8 Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.

- **It is thought that Joseph reigned during what was called the Hyksos dynasty**, but now they have been overthrown. It was that Northern and Southern Egypt which were divided into two kingdoms, but they have been reunified and they no longer are indebted to Joseph, nor are they really caring about Joseph. It has been almost three hundred years since he died. The new Pharaoh, the new king said to his people: (*Act 7:18*) till another (heteros- different kind) king arose who did not know Joseph. (*Isa 52:4*) *For thus says the Lord GOD: "My people went down at first Into Egypt to dwell there; Then the Assyrian oppressed them without cause.*

Exo 1:9 And he said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we;

Exo 1:10 come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land."

- **Now, the fear of the Pharaoh was that they would go out of the land.** They had provided a tremendous slave labor force for Egypt. Many of the great monuments in Egypt were built by the slave labor of the children of Israel. They were fearful of losing this labor core. They were fearful that when an enemy would invade them that the Israelis would turn against them themselves, and Egypt could be overthrown. Their presence now in Egypt posed a threat. However, he was fearful of their leaving because of the loss of the tremendous labor force.
- **Consider the scope of the slave labor required to build a pyramid!** The Great Pyramid of Giza, which probably goes back further than the time of Moses, consists of 2,300,000 stones, each weighing over 5,000 pounds. That is 5,750,000 tons of stone. It is the largest building on

the face of the Earth, being thirteen acres at its base. They found now that the four corners are set in these huge sockets. So, if there is an earthquake or something, nothing changes. The side that points N is more true-north than the Paris Observatory. The space between the stones has less tolerance than the tiles on the space shuttle. The things about this building are staggering!

Exo 1:11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities (fortresses), Pithom and Raamses.

Exo 1:12 But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were in dread (began to fear) of the children of Israel.

Exo 1:13 So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor (harshness).

Exo 1:14 And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar, in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor.

Exo 1:15 Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of one was Shiphrah and the name of the other Puah;

Exo 1:16 and he said, "When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live."

Exo 1:17 But the midwives feared (the) God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.

- This may be the first case of civil disobedience. Are we to be civilly disobedient? No, we are to abide by the laws of the land. But when the command comes from Pharaoh that they were to break a higher law, the Law of God, then it is time to take a stand! These two women were told when the male children are born, kill them, very much like our culture in partial birth abortion. They feared God. He wrote their names down for us to take note!
- **Regarding civil disobedience, when the laws of man break the higher Law of God - Who am I serving in such situations? Man, and his government, or God? Do I really fear God the way these two mid-wives did?**

Exo 1:18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?"

Exo 1:19 And the midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come to them."

Exo 1:20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty.

Exo 1:21 And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households (gave them families) for them.

- God's blessing was upon their lives because they were obedient to Him. Right in the middle of a culture where everybody thought Pharaoh has all the power. These two women, instead of bowing to the culture, they bowed to the Lord. We read that God blessed them, establishing their households because they had feared Him. What a great lesson!

Exo 1:22 So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive."

- The first chapter of Exodus is setting the scene. As the children of Israel are multiplying, the Egyptians see them as a threat, they begin to afflict them, making their labor more rigorous.
- There are pictures from ancient Egypt of the Egyptians standing over these men who are laying bricks, holding a rod in their hand. The task masters, who, if a fellow started to slow down, would get a stripe across his back with these rods. So, the children of Israel were now being oppressed, they were being pushed beyond measure, and yet, in all of the obstacles, they continued to multiply exceedingly. They continued to grow stronger. They continued to be a real threat to Egypt. Thus, the first chapter lays the picture. In much affliction, God is raising up a strong nation!

The Birth of Moses

Exo 2:1 And a man (Amram) of the house (a particular family) of Levi went and took as wife (Jochebed) a daughter of Levi.

Exo 2:2 So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months.

- **Now, the final order of the Pharaoh was to the people themselves.** If you have a male son, you have to throw him in the Nile River, you have to get rid of him. If it is a girl, then she can live, but the boys were to be put to death. However, here is a mother who sees that her little son is such a beautiful little boy, she cannot bring herself to throw him in the river, and so she hides him. For three months, she keeps him here.
- **We have to live as though Christ is coming tonight.** (1Jn 3:3) *And everyone who has this hope in Him purifies himself, just as He is pure.* That should determine our purity, our morality, our sincerity, our vigilance. *Any man that has this hope purifies himself, even as He is pure.* We should live like Christ is coming tonight. We also need to live like Christ is not coming for one hundred years with wisdom in the world we live in. And it is hard! But Amram and Jochebed have this child when all of the male children were being slaughtered! Think of that!

Exo 2:3 *But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river's bank.*

- **Moses' exposure must have been in a branch of the Nile not infested by crocodiles,** for neither would the parents have exposed him nor would Pharaoh's daughter, have bathed in a place infested by them; therefore, not at Memphis where anciently they were common, but at Zoan on the Tanitic branch, near the sea, where crocodiles are never found.

Exo 2:4 *And his sister (Miriam) stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.*

- **Now in a sense, she was fulfilling the commandment of the Pharaoh.** He said to put the boy babies in the river. So, she did. However, she had made a little basket and waterproofed it with the pitch; so, he was there floating in the reeds by the river's bank. His sister was standing back to watch the basket to find out what would become of her little brother. (**Heb 11:23**) *By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.*
- **It must have been quite a traumatic experience for both the mother and the sister of Moses.** It must have been extremely difficult to live in those conditions, where if you have a baby boy it is just automatic death, he is consigned to death. We can picture little Miriam hiding back, watching to see what would happen to that little basket where her beautiful little brother is there floating on the river.

Exo 2:5 *Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river. And her maidens walked along the riverside; and when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it.*

Exo 2:6 *And when she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."*

- **Hebrew tradition was that an angel pinched the babe, touching the Pharaoh's daughter's heart with compassion when this little baby began to cry.** Could that tear represent Jewish history?

Exo 2:7 *Then his (Moses') sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?"*

Exo 2:8 *And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the maiden went and called the child's mother.*

- **Miriam, the bigger sister of Moses went and called Moses' mother,** and said, 'Hey, I have a job for you.

Exo 2:9 *Then Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him.*

- **It is interesting how God is able to work even in adverse circumstances!** Note how God is able to work His will, to work His purposes! "*All things work together for good to those who love God.*" I can imagine that as Jochebed put that little ark in the river, there was a prayer sent up from her heart that somehow this little child might be found, and may be adopted by someone of the Egyptians, and perhaps his life be spared. She could not bring herself to drown her baby.
- **But God had other plans. Bold, little Miriam,** came running up to the Pharaoh's daughter, and said, "How would you like for me to get a nurse for your baby from among the Hebrews?" And she said, "Fine, go get one." Miriam ran home, got her mother, and Jochebed was actually paid for raising her own child by the Pharaoh's daughter!

Exo 2:10 *And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son (She adopted him). So she called his name Moses (drawn out), saying, "Because I drew him out of the water."*

- There is a 35-40 year gap between verses 10 and 11. (*Act 7:22-23*) And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds. [23] "Now when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel.

Exo 2:11 Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown (40 years old), that he went (not sent - *Exo 3:15*) out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.

- **He went out to His brethren!** He decided rather than enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season, he would rather be with God's people, suffering whatever reproach there was because he looked to the reward! What he was looking forward to, was eternity in his heart!

Exo 2:12 So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

- **When he saw no one was watching he slew the Egyptian,** hiding him in the sand. He is on his way to being a deliverer. So, he has to kill six million more Egyptians and bury them in the sand, one at a time? It is going to be a long process, but Moses is going to learn something. Over the next 40 years, it takes 40 years for him to be something. Then it takes 40 years for him to be nothing, and then it takes the next 40 years for him to realize God can do anything!
- (*Heb 11:24-27*) By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, [25] choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, [26] esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. [27] By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

Exo 2:13 And when he went out the second day, behold, two Hebrew men were fighting, and he said to the one who did the wrong, "Why are you striking your companion?"

Exo 2:14 Then he said, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" So Moses feared and said, "Surely this thing is known!"

- **Now Moses, at this point, was forty years old.** He had been schooled and trained there in the court of Egypt, possibly being groomed for the throne. Yet, Jochebed must have embedded in Moses' heart during the time of early childhood such a spirit of nationalism that when he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew slave, he could not stand it! He killed the Egyptian, burying him in the sand.
- **In (*Act 7:24-25*) Stephen declares that Moses thought that the children of Israel would realize that God had chosen him to deliver them.** He had in his heart the concept, the idea that God had divinely ordained him to be the deliverer of His people. How this came to him, we do not know, but it was conviction that he had, and he thought that they would just understand it, but they did not. But Moses had it in his heart that God had chosen him to be their deliverer!
- **Moses is a type of Christ. Herein he becomes a very interesting type of Christ** in that he was rejected by them the first time he came. He came to act in their defense, he came thinking that they would know that God had ordained that he should deliver them, but they rejected him. And during the time of his rejection, he married a Gentile bride, but when he came back again with his Gentile bride, they received him, and he became the deliverer of God's people. As Paul tells us in (*Rom 11:26-27*) And so all Israel will be saved, as it is written: "THE DELIVERER WILL COME OUT OF ZION, AND HE WILL TURN AWAY UNGODLINESS FROM JACOB; [27] FOR THIS IS MY COVENANT WITH THEM, WHEN I TAKE AWAY THEIR SINS." So, we see a beautiful type of Christ here in Moses.
- **Moses, at this point, was probably sort of impetuous and hot tempered,** in that he killed the Egyptian who was beating up the Hebrew slave. It is true that God had ordained that Moses should be the deliverer, which is true. Moses seemed to have this consciousness. But **he is premature,** he is acting in his own, he is doing it in the power of his flesh. It is interesting to me that Moses in the power of his flesh is not capable of successfully burying one Egyptian. You see, God wanted him to bury the whole army, and later He did in the Red Sea! But that was under the guidance of the Spirit.
- **Oh, how important that any service we offer to God be offered in the Holy Spirit; in the power of the Spirit; through the anointing of the Spirit and being guided by the Spirit!** So much of our effort for God is futile because we are doing it out of a heart that has a desire for God, true, but we're doing it in the energy of our flesh, in our own ability, in our own way rather than waiting upon the Lord and

being led of the Spirit. We see how unsuccessful our efforts are, the energy of our flesh; and yet, we see how dynamic it is when God begins to work! Moses was premature.

- **The next day when he saw the two Hebrews fighting**, he said, “Hey, you guys are brothers, you ought not to be fighting.” And one of them said, “*Are you going to kill me, like you did the - fellow yesterday, like you did the Egyptian?*” Moses realized that he had been seen. Now it is interesting: we read here before he killed the Egyptian, it says that he looked this way and that way, and he did not see anybody.
- **Too often we make that same mistake, we look this way and that way**, and we do not see anybody, and we figure nobody’s watching, but we forget that God is watching. (**Heb 4:13**) *And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account.* You do not hide anything from God; and even if a man did not see what he did, God saw what he did. Even though nobody may see what you are doing, God sees what you are doing.
- **Am I ever more aware and concerned of having a man see my sin, than God? It should totally be the other way around!**

Exo 2:15 *When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well.*

- **When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses.** He was angry with Moses! So, Moses fled! So, he was running. Pharaoh was going to kill him in retaliation, and so he fled out into the wilderness area.

Exo 2:16 *Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. And they came and drew water, and they filled the troughs to water their father's flock.*

Exo 2:17 *Then the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.*

- **Now at the well, the girls had filled the trough** for their father’s flocks, but these mean boys came up and drove them away and watered their flocks with the water that the girls had drawn. This evidently was a thing that had been going on for some time. Moses happened to be there by the well, he saw what was going on, he stood up, and helped the girls water their flock.

Exo 2:18 *When they came to Reuel (friend of God; also known as Jethro) their father, he said, "How is it that you have come so soon today?"*

Exo 2:19 *And they said, "An Egyptian delivered us from the hand of the shepherds, and he also drew enough water for us and watered the flock."*

- **We had help today. There was a man there who helped us.** He drove off the mean boys and helped us to water the flocks.

Exo 2:20 *So he said to his daughters, "And where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread."*

Exo 2:21 *Then Moses was content to live with the man, and he gave Zipporah his daughter to Moses.*

Exo 2:22 *And she bore him a son. He called his name Gershom (stranger, sojourner), for he said, "I have been a stranger in a foreign land."*

Exo 2:23 *Now it happened in the process of time that the king of Egypt died (the one who wanted to kill Moses.) Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry came up to God because of the bondage.*

Exo 2:24 *So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.*

Exo 2:25 *And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God acknowledged them.*

- **When it says that God remembered the covenant that He made with Abraham, it does not mean that God forgot it.** We have a real problem in speaking of God, because all we have is language to do it with. Our language is limited to our own experiences. **Now, God is infinite, I am finite; but here I am trying to describe what God is doing.** The only words that I have to describe what God is doing are the finite words of our own human language. But there are not words that we would understand to express such things.
- **Here, God “remembered” as though He had forgotten.** No, these are the limitations of trying to describe God or to define the action of God with human words. It falls short; but all we have are human words to do it, and so, we just must realize that it does not really, truly define or describe the

actions of God. For we do read, (*Num 23:19*) *"God is not a man, that He should lie, Nor a son of man, that He should repent. Has He said, and will He not do? Or has He spoken, and will He not make it good?"* You see, God does not change; but when we describe what would appear from our standpoint a change of action, we have to say, "Well, God repented." No, God all along had intended to do it.

- **Here, He is describing the activity of God with the language, "And God remembered them."** Well, when we say, "Well, I've finally remembered," it means that I had forgotten. God did not ever forget them! He now gives His attention to them in a special way, knowing that He had made a promise to deliver them out of Egypt after four hundred years into the Promised land flowing with milk and honey.

The Burning Bush (There is a 40 year gap here from the previous verse)

Exo 3:1 Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

- **So, here they are crying to God in Egypt**, and several miles away, out in the wilderness in the area of Midian.
- **Mountain of God.** Or Mount Sinai, which later became known as the mountain of God because it was upon this Mount that the LORD gave to Moses the Ten Commandments. (*Gal 4:25*) *for this Hagar is Mount Sinai in Arabia, and corresponds to Jerusalem which now is, and is in bondage with her children.*

Exo 3:2 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed.

- **The Angel of the LORD**, most times in the Old Testament is actually a reference to Jesus Christ. He is referred to many times in the Old Testament as "*the angel of the LORD.*" He appeared to him in a flame of fire in the midst of the bush.
- **The bush was not consumed.** The bush as a type of Israel, through the fires of persecution, but never consumed. When you see that all the things that these people have gone through in their history; all of the persecution, all of the attempts to eradicate them; they have been in the fires for years, but they are never consumed! They remain!

Exo 3:3 Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

- **There is a flame there, but the bush is not being consumed.** So, curiosity draws him over to this phenomenon.

Exo 3:4 So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

Exo 3:5 Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy (first use) ground."

- **There was always the tradition, coming into a place of worship, to remove your shoes.** In the East today, when you go into a person's home, you remove your shoes. When pastors speak in Asian services, before they come up to speak, they always take their shoes off. But it is a custom in Asia, which probably traces back to this.

Exo 3:6 Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

- **When the Sadducees came to Jesus, they did not believe in the resurrection**, and they tried to catch Jesus in a trick question. Jesus responded to them after answering their question, "*How is it that God said, 'I AM the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob?' He is not the God of the dead, but of the living!*" Here is where God declared that. Jesus is quoting it to the Sadducees, and of course, they quit asking questions after that because He had really stumbled them.

Exo 3:7 And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.

- **Now, here the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen the oppression of my people who are in Egypt."** Again, we so often times feel that we are all alone in our suffering. Nobody really sees, nobody really knows, nobody really cares! There is one thing about affliction. It does create a very tremendous sense of loneliness. "No one can really bear my afflictions, and I feel so alone." But God said, "*I have seen, I have surely seen the oppression of my people.*" Not only that, "*I have heard their cry*

because of their taskmasters.” They were forced to serve, as we read, with harshness. The taskmasters with their sticks were constantly hitting them, goading them, pushing them on. If they would just fall out of weariness and try and lie for a moment on the ground, there would be the rod across their back--”up and going.” They wept, they cried, they cried out in pain: “And I have surely heard their cry. For I know,” God said, “their sorrows.” So, “I have seen, I have heard, and I know!” A personal God.

- **Sometimes as we endeavor to minister to others who are going through heavy trials, people come. They begin to pour out their hearts, begin to tell of their situations - and I will tell you, some people are going through some deep, rough water. As they tell what is going on, I say, “I see your problem.” They continue to talk, and I say, “I hear you; I hear you; I know where you are coming from. I know what you are going through, I know what you are feeling.” But usually that is all the further I can go; assuring them that I can see that I understand what they are saying, I know the problems they are facing. But so often I do not know the answer, I do not have the solution, I cannot do anything! I am helpless to change their situation at all. What can I do? And that’s where God takes it one step further with Moses!**
- ***Whenever I see, hear, and know of someone going through a heavy trial, LORD, please give me compassion and understanding on how to pray! I realize that I have no capacity whatever to deliver out of the problem, but that You can! And that You will deliver! Only You can! What a great thing that is!***

Exo 3:8 So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites.

- *I have come down to deliver them! That is so great. God can always go one step further. He just does not see, and hear, and know; but He has come to deliver. I love that because I need more than just your sympathetic understanding many times. “I hear you man, I hear you.” Yes, that is great, but, you know, what are you going to do? “I cannot do anything.” I need someone to step in and help me.*
- **God describes the land that He is going to bring them to.** It is large in comparison to the land of Goshen where they are, there in Egypt; that is only nine hundred square miles. And they have, no doubt, really, the way they have multiplied and all, just really packed that land of Goshen. “*I am going to bring them into a large land. A land that is flowing with milk and honey.*” The place of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, and all.

Exo 3:9 Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.

Exo 3:10 Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.

- **Notice when God speaks to Moses here, He does not talk about taking him into the promised land.** For Moses's part, Moses is just going to take them out of Egypt. Because there is going to be a failure in Moses, and a reason he does not then take them into the promised land.
- **God is now commissioning Moses. The time has come.** Moses is now eighty years old. He was forty when he killed the Egyptian and fled. He has been forty years now in the wilderness watching sheep. He is now eighty years old, and in the last forty years, a lot of mellowing has been going on. He is not so impetuous anymore. He is not ready to jump in anymore. It is interesting how that when God now commissions him, he begins to back pedal. “I do not know if I want to get involved.” He begins to offer excuses.

Exo 3:11 But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

Exo 3:12 So He said, “I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

- **Moses is suffering from that all too common, feeling of our inadequacy!** Moses is not about who you are. It's about who I AM! You asked the wrong question. You ask who am I? You should ask. Who are You?
- **What's God's answer?** God said, “I will go with you.” You do not have confidence, Moses? All right, I will go with you. *I will certainly be with you!*

- **This will be the sign: when you come back to this place.** Here's Mount Horeb and Mount Sinai; when you get back here, that will be the sign to you that I really did send you. You are going to come back here, and you are going to worship and serve me here on this mountain.

Exo 3:13 *Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?"*

- **God is not His name, it is the title, "the God of your fathers."** Well, what's His name?

Exo 3:14 *And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO (THAT) I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.' "*

- **I AM what? 'I AM all that you will ever need! I AM to you whatever your need may be!**
- **As God declares, "I AM," He is actually speaking of that eternal aspect of His character.** He is the Eternal One. The cherubim declare of Him, "*Who is, and Who was, and Who is to come,*" all at once. He is past, present, and future. Now, with God, there is no past, there is no future, it is all **now**. He dwells in the eternal. I cannot really conceive that. My mind blows a fuse, the circuits all pop when I try to conceive of the eternal now, the 'I AM.' Because the moment I say, "I am," then that's past tense. I was. I said that ten seconds ago. But with God, He dwells in the eternal now. "**I AM THAT I AM has sent you**" - describing the eternal characteristic of God.
- **Also describing as God would be to you: "I am to you whatever your need."** The name "Jehovah," or "Yahweh," whatever the pronunciation may be; the name for the God of Israel literally means, "The Becoming One" - the "I AM."
- **When Jesus was talking with the Pharisees in (Joh 8:39,56-59)** *They answered and said to Him, "Abraham is our father. Jesus said to them, "If you were Abraham's children, you would do the works of Abraham. [56] Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad." [57] Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham? [58] Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." [59] Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by."* Jesus declared, "I AM." - "**I AM the bread of life; I AM the light of the world; I AM the way, the truth, and the life; and before Abraham was, I AM.**" - Wow!

Exo 3:15 *Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent (much better to be "sent" than "went" – Exo 2:11!) me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.*

- **This is My name forever! The I AM, the Yahweh, Jehovah.**
- **My memorial to all generations! That place Jerusalem! That land is His! Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. I AM the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob forever!**

Exo 3:16 *Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, "I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt;*

Exo 3:17 *and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey."*

Exo 3:18 *Then they will heed your voice; and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt; and you shall say to him, 'The LORD God (or Jehovah) of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.'*

Exo 3:19 *But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand.*

Exo 3:20 *So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go.*

- **You will be delivered out of slavery, even though Pharaoh is going to resist you initially.**

Exo 3:21 *And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed.*

Exo 3:22 But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians."

- **God informs them that not only am I going to deliver them, but I am going to make sure that they are repaid by Egypt for all their long unpaid years of slave labor. God had promised all that to Abraham hundreds of years earlier in Genesis chapter 15, saying that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs and will serve them, and they will afflict them for four hundred years. (*Gen 15:14*) And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward, they shall come out with great possessions. That is going to be the case. God promises it to be so!**
- **Here is Moses. He has God's calling. He has God's commissioning. He has the guarantee of success! But Moses is not through making his excuses. They will sound very familiar to many of us as we will continue to look at that next week.**
- **Notice the process when being called, of being over-whelmed with our inadequacy; the absolute necessity of our clinging to, following, and relying completely on Him! He sees! He hears! He knows! And He will deliver!**

SUMMARY

- **Regarding civil disobedience, when the laws of man break the higher Law of God - Who am I serving in such situations? Man, and his government, or God? Do I really fear God the way these two mid-wives did? (*Exo 1:17*) But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them but saved the male children alive.**
- **Am I ever more aware and concerned of having a man see my sin, than God? It should totally be the other way around! (*Exo 2:14*) Then he said, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" So Moses feared and said, "Surely this thing is known!"**
- **Whenever I see, hear, and know of someone going through a heavy trial, Lord, please give me compassion and understanding on how to pray! I realize that I have no capacity, other than prayer, to deliver out of the problem, but that You can! And that You will deliver! Only You can! What a great thing that is! (*Exo 3:7-8a*) And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. [8a] So I have come down to deliver them.**
- **Notice the process when being called, of being over-whelmed with our inadequacy; the absolute necessity of our clinging to, following, and relying completely on Him! He sees! He hears! He knows! And He will deliver!**

CLOSING SONG

NO LONGER SLAVES Bethel (2:19/2:22)

You unravel me with a melody You surround me with a song of deliverance from my enemies 'Til all my fears are gone I'm no longer a slave to fear I am a child of God I'm no longer a slave to fear I am a child of God.

*From my mother's womb You have chosen me Love has called my name I've been born again
Into Your family Your blood flows through my veins
I'm no longer a slave to fear I am a child of God (3X)*

CLOSING PRAYER

NEXT WEEK: Read and study Exodus Chapters 4-6!