

The enemy cannot stop the will of God in your life...your life matters when it matters to you about your life...

I am very excited to begin a new series on Exodus at 20,000 feet....what that means is we will not go through every chapter however much like a plane traveling overhead we will glean much of its territory from above an overview highlighting the great scenes, and how the terrain the Israelites traveled over in their journey to the land of milk and honey, the promised land is similar to the terrain you and I travel in our journey toward our promised land....the new heaven and the new earth.

Exodus which means to go out or depart..is the story of God's people leaving the 430 years of living in Egypt under the bondage of brutal slavery and their journey to the promised land. It is the story whose beginning starts in Genesis ...which is the book of beginnings...and all of us have our beginnings also...

Genesis starts with God creating life and ends with two men in coffins...and that is the way it is with life... Death is our enemy because it is separates and that is very painful, and I appreciate the scripture for it does not spiritualize and act as if it just fine...you will see your loved ones in Christ again...which is true

- **But death is real...and death is painful**

GE 50:1 *Joseph threw himself upon his father and wept over him and kissed him.*

² *Then Joseph directed the physicians in his service to embalm his father Israel. So the physicians embalmed him, ³ taking a full forty days, for that was the time required for embalming. And the Egyptians mourned for him seventy days.*

GE 50:26 *So Joseph died at the age of a hundred and ten. And after they embalmed him, he was placed in a coffin in Egypt.*

- **that brings the truth of our human condition to its final reality...none of us are here forever...our final exodus is into the kingdom of Heaven**
- **But There will come a time when there will be no death....as it is the final thing to be conquered...but we are not there yet...**
- **Exodus always requires a death to the old for the new to be birthed...no one can leave and stay at the same time...though many of have tried...**

2 Corinthians 5:17 This means that anyone who belongs to Christ has become a new person. The old life is gone; a new life has begun!

There are many Exodus's on our walk with God on earth ...for he is always in the process of bringing new life...and taking away the old life...

...and as we look at the fascinating book in the Bible called Exodus we will see many similar similarities in our own lives, in how God delivers his people from bondages into freedom.... from the old to the new...shall we begin

The first chapter of Book of Exodus (Exod. 1:1-6) links the existence and rapid growth of Israel as a nation to the covenant which God made with Abraham the fall of man the promise of redemption and God calling a man to start a nation of people dedicated to God....So the story of the Exodus starts in Genesis with the call of **the Abraham,... in a nut shell, **Abraham was 75 years old when God called him out of Haran to travel to Canaan...****

Gen 12:1 The LORD had said to Abram, "Leave your native country, your relatives, and your father's family, and go to the land that I will show you. ² I will make you into a great nation. I will bless you and make you famous, and you will be a blessing to others. ³ I will bless those who bless you and curse

those who treat you with contempt. All the families on earth will be blessed through you.”

- **God promised Abraham his lineage would possess all of Canaan from the Euphrates and south. Being that old and He and his wife childless, the patriarch had made his home-born slave, Eleazar, to be his heir to help out God....**
- **But God promised Abraham that he would have a child of his own as heir (15:4). But **Abraham did not wait on God’s timing**, At the age of 86, through his concubine Hagar he had a son, Ishmael, (16:1-4).**
- **Not until Abraham was 100 did God bring His promise to pass in Abraham's son Isaac (17:1 and 18:10). **Abraham had to wait 25 years before he received God's promise of a natural son for his heir.****

All of us also have beginnings in our real or conscious walk with God...we have the call, and like Abraham we have to wait as God fulfills his will for us. Abraham waited 25 years for the promise to be fulfilled. Many of us today complain if they must wait five, seven years, ten or twenty years before seeing God's will fulfilled in some area of our lives. We must learn to submit to God's timing and with patient endurance allow it to work faith and purity into our lives as we journey on.

The Book of Exodus gives much instruction in obedience and patience in following a God who will do what he says but in his time and in his way. Exodus picks up where Genesis leaves off... The sons of Jacob called Israel and their families numbered 70 when they arrived in Egypt, a mere clan

Ex 1:1 These are the names of the sons of Israel (that is, Jacob) who moved to Egypt with their father, each with his family: 2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, 3 Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, 4 Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. 5 In all, Jacob had seventy descendants in Egypt, including Joseph, who was already

there. 6 In time, Joseph and all of his brothers died, ending that entire generation.

1. first thing to know...God's work with humans usually has small beginnings listen to what the angel said to Zechariah before the work on the second temple..first one destroyed and the people in bondage for 70 years...

*Zechariah 4:10 Do not despise these **small beginnings**, for the Lord rejoices to see the work begin, to see the plumb line in Zerubbabel's hand*

- they had few resources and much work... which they considered overwhelming to impossible before it even began ...and the angel says the Lord rejoiced in *Zerubbabel's handholding a plumb line*
- A plumb line (is a cord) that has at one end a weight and is used especially to determine verticality...nothing built but setting a vertical straight line...a very small beginning..ending with the death of Joseph
- In one sentence Verse 7 is a fly over covering a gap of 400+-years spanning the period from the death of Joseph² to the time of the Exodus.
- If it were not for this verse and the remainder of chapter one, we would know little of this period of time.

7 But their descendants, the Israelites, had many children and grandchildren. In fact, they multiplied so greatly that they became extremely powerful and filled the land.

- 400 hundred years of God's silence...all of us have had times of God's silence in our lives also ...At such times (and at other times as well) God is at work providentially.
- He is at work behind the scenes, and in ways that at the time are not immediately apparent.

- **But know this ...when the “descendents of Israel” were ready to leave Egypt, they do so as a great nation** (Exod. 1:7, 12, 20; 12:37).
- and this is how it happened...

Exodus 1:8 Eventually, a new king came to power in Egypt who knew nothing about Joseph or what he had done. ⁹ He said to his people, “Look, the people of Israel now outnumber us and are stronger than we are. ¹⁰ We must make a plan to keep them from growing even more. **If we don’t, and if war breaks out, they will join our enemies and fight against us. Then they will escape from the country.”**

- **Because the new King or new Dynasty... forgot what Joseph did for the country...delivered from Famine,... and created an excellent administration saving the nation...**
- **forgetting or ignoring what got us to where we're at either good or bad... sets us up for with wise or foolish decisions in the present...**
- **God's plan was to give the israelites a land of their own... they would have had to know that during the 400 hundred years they lived in Egypt...but they did not want to lose them...as free people...so keep them as slaves..**
- **Spiritually speaking Egypt represents the enemy of God's people...and when he see's God's people increasing ...he tries to stop it...and he often uses people...**
- **God knows how to take care of his own in any situation... Keeping his promise that he would make them a great nation...**
- **Taking a quick glance ahead in history...They multiplied to the extent...they were first feared then persecuted...**
- ***There is a principle when God delivers , restores and prospers...the King...the enemy moves into kill steal and destroy...dividing and conquering...***

So they were enslaved...

EX 1:11 So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites ¹³ and worked them ruthlessly. ¹⁴ They made their lives bitter with hard labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their hard labor the Egyptians used them ruthlessly.

- *as crazy as it sounds trials expand our experiences, increasing our understanding of ourselves and the human condition while also growing in understanding of God's sovereignty and provision.....which enables to serve in a greater capacity...*

1 Peter 3:13-15¹³ Now, who will want to harm you if you are eager to do good? ¹⁴ But even if you suffer for doing what is right, God will reward you for it. So don't worry or be afraid of their threats. ¹⁵ Instead, you must worship Christ as Lord of your life. And if someone asks about your hope as a believer, always be ready to explain it.

- **The curse of God in Genesis 3 included hard toil, which is surely the lot of Israel in Egypt. However the more they were oppressed the more they prospered...it is a principle of God...trials build us...We are in trials right now...in I we are designed to prosper...**
- **many years had passed since the first stage of oppression had been initiated, as described in verses 11-13.**
- **Frustrated by the utter failure of previous administrations to curtail the rapid growth of the Israelites, concern seemed to have turned to near panic. The numbers had grown enough to threaten the Egyptians themselves.**

- *The brutally hard work could not stop them from reproducing...*
- *So the birth rate must be dramatically changed as nothing else seemed to stymie their growth....*
- **To bring this about, the Pharaoh turned to the Hebrew midwives, two of whom are mentioned specifically here,²² either as specific examples, or as leaders.**

¹⁵ *Then Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, gave this order to the Hebrew midwives, Shiphrah and Puah: ¹⁶ “When you help the Hebrew women as they give birth, watch as they deliver. If the baby is a boy, kill him; if it is a girl, let her live.”*

¹⁷ *But because the midwives feared God, they refused to obey the king’s orders. They allowed the boys to live, too.*

- **Pharaoh’s demands are incredible. First of all, this is an abominable act of violence against the innocent.**
- **Second, Pharaoh wants the midwives to solve this national dilemma of the Hebrew birth rate.**
- **The plan is virtually unworkable. How were the boy children to be “terminated”? Were the deaths to look accidental? so their mom's and families would not catch on?**
- **and How could Pharaoh expect any Hebrew woman to call for a midwife if it were known that all boy babies were somehow dying at their hand?**
- **Here is the flaw in the enemies strategy.....the enemy can never out plan, or outthink God...or outwit God..**

1 Corinthians 3:19 For the wisdom of this world is foolishness in God’s sight. As it is written: “He catches the wise in their craftiness”

- **Pharaoh did not want to alleviate or cause rebellion against him...so have them kill their own**

- **So the plan did not work...they continued to grow in numbers...**

¹⁸ So the king of Egypt called for the midwives. “Why have you done this?” he demanded. “Why have you allowed the boys to live?” ¹⁹ “The Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women,” the midwives replied. “They are more vigorous and have their babies so quickly that we cannot get there in time.”

- **This must have been true to some extent or the King would not have fallen for the explanation....**
- **they refused to bow to his order and God protected them...but even if it would have cost them their lives, they still must obey God!**

²⁰ So God was good to the midwives, and the Israelites continued to multiply, growing more and more powerful. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.

²² Then Pharaoh gave this order **to all his people**: “Throw every newborn Hebrew boy into the Nile River. But you may let the girls live.”

- **He feared the numerical strength of the Israelites, and sought to diminish them. demanding his own people be involved in the genocide..Painting the Israelites as enemies of the Egyptians...**He feared that they would become allies with the enemy against their rule, and would overcome slave masters and leave Egypt.****
- **Interestingly, everything Pharaoh feared came to pass, in spite of his diligent efforts to prevent it. The reason is, of course, that the Pharaoh’s plans were contrary to the purposes and promises of God with regard to His people.**
- **and this new strategy to destroy would become God's plan to deliver...**
- **When it looks darkest ...know this...that is often the means that God uses to bring deliverance....**

the same verse Joseph said 430 years earlier applies here...

*Genesis 50:20 You intended to **harm** me, but God intended it **for** good to accomplish what is now being done, the saving of many lives.*

- **look at today a new with spiritual eyes...what the enemy has meant for harm...will be the platform which God will use to lift you up!!!!**
- **when it is Darkest...that is when you are closest to the Dawn! as we will see next week**

end

stop here

1 Cor 2:6 Yet when I am among mature believers, I do speak with words of wisdom, but not the kind of wisdom that belongs to this world or to the rulers

of this world, who are soon forgotten. ⁷ No, the wisdom we speak of is the mystery of God^[c]—his plan that was previously hidden, even though he made it for our ultimate glory before the world began. ⁸ But the rulers of this world have not understood it; if they had, they would not have crucified our glorious Lord. ⁹ That is what the Scriptures mean when they say,

*“No eye has seen, no ear has heard,
and no mind has imagined
what God has prepared
for those who love him.”^[d]*

a little background on Joseph...son of Jacob ...Joseph as a young man was sold into slavery by his brothers...excelled in it though...then was thrown into prison for quite some time, after refusing to sleep with his owners wife..excelled in prison..the hand of God was on him.....then gets called to interpret a dream as he had interpreted one earlier while in prison...for the Pharaoh

Gen 41:22 “In my dream I also saw seven heads of grain, full and beautiful, growing on a single stalk. ²³ Then seven more heads of grain appeared, but these were blighted, shriveled, and withered by the east wind. ²⁴ And the shriveled heads swallowed the seven healthy heads. I told these dreams to the magicians, but no one could tell me what they mean.” ²⁵ Joseph responded, “Both of Pharaoh’s dreams mean the same thing. God is telling Pharaoh in advance what he is about to do. ²⁶ The seven healthy cows and the seven healthy heads of grain both represent seven years of prosperity. ²⁷ The seven thin, scrawny cows that came up later and the seven thin heads of grain, withered by the east wind, represent seven years of famine.

²⁸ “This will happen just as I have described it, for God has revealed to Pharaoh in advance what he is about to do. ²⁹ The next seven years will be a period of great prosperity throughout the land of Egypt. ³⁰ But afterward there will be seven years of famine so great that all the prosperity will be forgotten

in Egypt. Famine will destroy the land. ³¹ This famine will be so severe that even the memory of the good years will be erased. ³² As for having two similar dreams, it means that these events have been decreed by God, and he will soon make them happen.

³³ *“Therefore, Pharaoh should find an intelligent and wise man and put him in charge of the entire land of Egypt.*

- ***So he choose Joseph...he rocks the position store food and saving Egypt in the famine...during the seven year famine...Joseph reunites with his family ...who have come to Egypt from Canaan for food.. Joseph second in command in Egypt...ask permission to relocate them to Goshen..the best land in Egypt...***

GE 47: ¹¹ So Joseph assigned the best land of Egypt—the region of Rameses—to his father and his brothers, and he settled them there, just as Pharaoh had commanded. ¹² And Joseph provided food for his father and his brothers in amounts appropriate to the number of their dependents, including the smallest children.

- so they prospered in a time of famine...Joseph saved Egypt and his own family...and the nation to be Israel...but a new /regime takes over

so back to verse Exodus 1: 8...

⁸ *Eventually, a new king came to power in Egypt who knew nothing about Joseph or what he had done.*

REV 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. ² And I saw the holy

city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

³ *I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, “Look, God’s home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.* ⁴ *He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever.”*

⁵ *And the one sitting on the throne said, “**Look, I am making everything new!**”* And then he said to me, “Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true.”

- **Death is our enemy because it separates and that is very painful, and I appreciate the scripture for it does not spiritualize and act as if it just fine...you will see your loved ones in Christ again...which is true**
- **But it is real...and death is painful..but death is the entry point to eternity...it is the threshold...**

The curse of God in Genesis 3 included hard toil, which is surely the lot of Israel in Egypt.

(Exod. 1:9-10).

: But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians¹⁹ came to dread the Israelites and worked them ruthlessly (Exod. 1:12-13).

Gen 3:9.....the ground is cursed because of you.

All your life you will struggle to scratch a living from it.

¹⁸ *It will grow thorns and thistles for you,
though you will eat of its grains.*

*¹⁹ By the sweat of your brow
will you have food to eat*

The curse of God in Genesis 3 included hard toil, which is surely the lot of Israel in Egypt. The salvation of mankind, as promised also in Genesis 3, was through the birth of a child. So too it was through the birth of a child (Moses, Exod. 2) that God provided a deliverer for His people. As men strove to provide themselves with security and significance by the building of a city and a tower, using bricks and mortar, so Egypt sought to secure herself by forcing the Israelites to build cities with bricks and mortar (compare Gen. 11 with Exod. 1:14; 5:1ff.).

⁸ Eventually, a new king came to power in Egypt who knew nothing about Joseph or what he had done. ⁹ He said to his people, “Look, the people of Israel now outnumber us and are stronger than we are. ¹⁰ We must make a plan to keep them from growing even more. If we don’t, and if war breaks out, they will join our enemies and fight against us. Then they will escape from the country.^[b]”

¹¹ So the Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves. They appointed brutal slave drivers over them, hoping to wear them down with crushing labor. They forced them to build the cities of Pithom and Rameses as supply centers for the king. ¹² But the more the Egyptians oppressed them, the more the Israelites multiplied and spread, and the more alarmed the Egyptians became. ¹³ So the Egyptians worked the people of Israel without mercy. ¹⁴ They made their lives bitter, forcing them to mix mortar and make bricks and do all the work in the fields. They were ruthless in all their demands.

¹⁵ Then Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, gave this order to the Hebrew midwives, Shiphrah and Puah: ¹⁶ “When you help the Hebrew women as they give birth, watch as they deliver.^[c] If the baby is a boy, kill him; if it is a girl, let her live.” ¹⁷ But because the midwives feared God, they refused to obey the king’s orders. They allowed the boys to live, too.

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- **We like all our ancestors are in the Exodus from Bondage...the last exodus is the one from death into Eternity.....however there are many Exodus's from things of death to life on our walk with God on earth ...and as we look at the fascinating book in the Bible called Exodus we will see many Exodus' God takes his people through in delivering them bondages to freedom....shall we begin**
- **there is something about a body displayed in a coffin...that brings the truth of our human condition to its final reality...none of us are here forever...**

The Apostle Paul tells us ...

1CO 15: 2 ²⁶ And the last enemy to be destroyed is death.

- **There will come a time when there will be no death....but we are not there yet...**

REV 21:1 Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. ² And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

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- **But it is real...and death is painful**

We like all our ancestors are in the Exodus of Bondage...the last one is death into Eternity.....but there are many Exodus's on our walk with God on earth ...for he is always in the process of *Rev 5 I am making everything new!*

...and as we look at the fascinating book in the Bible called Exodus we will see many principles God takes his people through delivering us many bondages into freedom.... from the old to the new...shall we begin

Ex 1:1 These are the names of the sons of Israel (that is, Jacob) who moved to Egypt with their father, each with his family:
2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, Judah, 3 Issachar, Zebulun, Benjamin, 4 Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. 5 In all, Jacob had seventy[a] descendants in Egypt, including Joseph, who was already there.

6 In time, Joseph and all of his brothers died, ending that entire generation.

7 But their descendants, the Israelites, had many children and grandchildren. In fact, they multiplied so greatly that they became extremely powerful and filled the land.

every story has a beginning Exodus starts with the patriarch Abraham, in a nut shell, Abraham was 75 years old when God called him out of Haran to travel to Canaan (Genesis 12:1-9). God promised Abraham to possess all of Canaan from the Euphrates and south. Being childless, the patriarch had

made his home-born slave, Eleazar, to be his heir. But God promised Abraham that he would have a child of his own as heir (15:4). **Abraham did not wait through on God's timing** . At the age of 86, he had a son, Ishmael, through his concubine Hagar (16:1-4). Not until Abraham was 100 did God bring His promise to pass in Abraham's son Isaac (17:1 and 18:10). **Abraham had to wait 25 years before he received God's promise of a natural son for his heir.**

all of us also have beginnings in our real or conscious walk with God...we have the call, and all of us have come from our own places of slavery, and like Abraham we have to wait as God fulfills his will for us. Abraham waited 25 years for the promise to be fulfilled. Many of us today complain if they must wait five, seven years, ten or twenty years before seeing God's will fulfilled in some area of our lives. We must learn to submit to God's timing and with patient endurance allow it to work faith and purity into our lives as we journey on.

The Book of Exodus gives much instruction in obedience and patience in following a God who will do what he says but in his time.

Specifically, this series begins with the “birth” of the nation Israel, as described in the Book of Exodus, a book rich in themes which will recur in the Old and New Testaments.³ While we will not cover this book in a thorough, chapter-by-chapter analysis, we will begin our study in chapter 1, which sets the stage for the drama of the Exodus. **The sons of Israel and their families numbered 70 (v. 5) when they arrived in Egypt,⁸ a mere clan. But when the “sons of Israel” leave Egypt, they do so as a great nation (Exod. 1:7, 12, 20; 12:37).**