

Last week Moses confronts Pharaoh; Israel's Burdens Are Increased God's Assurance to Moses...we know God in degrees

In response to the suffering of the Israelites (chap. 1), God has called Moses, whom He has divinely protected and prepared for the task of delivering His people from Egypt (chaps. 2-4). After considerable resistance, Moses has returned to Egypt, where he has been received by the elders and the people of Israel, rebuffed by Pharaoh, to the consternation of the Israelites.

So God comforts Moses. and reassures Moses with that he will succeed because God will make it so...

EX 6:1 Then the LORD told Moses, “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh. When he feels the force of my strong hand, he will let the people go. In fact, he will force them to leave his land!”

- **For with a strong hand he will let you go: Not only will Pharaoh let the children of Israel leave; he will force them out.**
- **Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh: God wanted Moses to know that He was in charge. Moses was discouraged because he was too impressed by Pharaoh and not impressed enough by God.**
- **God still will use adversity to train us to trust in Him until the day we go to be with Him in heaven.**
- **God's promise to Moses: Now you will see...is comprised of a tug of war between Pharaoh's gods and Moses' God...including 10 plagues and approximately a year's worth of time until Pharaoh will let you go. But he assures him again...**

EX 6² And God said to Moses, “I am Yahweh—‘the LORD.’ ³ I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as El-Shaddai—‘God Almighty’—but I did not reveal my name, Yahweh, to them. ⁴ And I reaffirmed my covenant with them. Under its terms, I promised to give them the land of Canaan, where they were living as foreigners. ⁵ You can be sure that I have heard the groans of the people of Israel, who are now slaves to the Egyptians. And I am well aware of my covenant with them.

- **I am the LORD:** reminding Moses of the great name of God, He reminds Moses that He is the covenant-making and covenant-keeping God, who will absolutely fulfill His promise to Moses.
- ³ I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob as El-Shaddai—‘God Almighty’—but I did not reveal my name, Yahweh, to them.: **Why does God say this? Isn't there an abundance of evidence to show that the patriarchs did know God as Yahweh?**
- **The patriarchs knew the name Yahweh (it is used some 160 times in Genesis); The patriarchs knew God as the Maker of the covenant. Moses and the generation of the Exodus would know God as the One who fulfilled the covenant.**
- **For us, God wants to be more than God Almighty – He wants us also to know Him as a personal, promise making and promise keeping God, whom we can trust in everything - by what name do you know Him?**

Then God's promises seven "I wills" to Israel.

EX 6: 6 “**Therefore, say to the people of Israel: ‘I am the LORD. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment. ⁷ I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God who has freed you from your oppression in Egypt. ⁸ I will bring you into the land** I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I will give it to you as your very own possession. I am the LORD!’”

- **In seven separate I will promises, God says, "I'm going to do it. You can count on me."**
- The promises are equally so in their spiritual application to believers as fellow heirs of Abraham and children of God!

Romans 8:15 So you have not received a spirit that makes you fearful slaves. Instead, you received God's Spirit when he adopted you as his own children.^[h] Now we call him, "Abba, Father." ¹⁶ For his Spirit joins with our spirit to affirm that we are God's children. ¹⁷ And since we are his children, we are his heirs. In fact, together with Christ we are heirs of God's glory. But if we are to share his glory, we must also share his suffering. ¹⁸ Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later.

- **And the suffering we will endure is because our enemy has his own set of I wills which battle the I wills of God ...the people are the prize...
The five **I will** statements of Satan in Isaiah 14:13-14.**

ISA 14:13 You said in your heart, "I will ascend to the heavens; I will raise my throne above the stars of God; I will sit enthroned on the mount of assembly, on the utmost heights of Mount Zaphon. ¹⁴ I will ascend above the tops of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High."

- **Zaphon was the most sacred mountain of the Canaanites, who lived in the land of Milk and Honey...Canaan**
- **These Canaanites are mentioned over 150 times in the Bible. They were a wicked, idolatrous people descended from Noah's grandson Canaan, who was a son of Ham ([Genesis 9:18](#))..and Ham was cursed...**
- **The land of Canaan was the land God promised to give to Abraham's descendants ([Genesis 12:7](#)).**
- **The Canaanites are described in the Bible as a large and fierce people, not easily defeated, so the Israelites would need divine help to come against them, defeat them, and take their land away. God promised Moses and Joshua that help**
- **we see this Jumping ahead After the Exodus, when the Lord told Moses to invade Canaan, Moses sent a group of spies into the land of Canaan to see what the people were like.**
- **The spies came back with a report that was both encouraging and daunting. First the good news...**

Num 13: 23 When they came to the valley of Eshcol, they cut down a branch with a single cluster of grapes so large that it took two of them to carry it on a pole between them! **They also brought back** samples of the pomegranates and figs.

27 This was their report to Moses: “We entered the land you sent us to explore, and it is indeed a bountiful country—a land flowing with milk and honey. Here is the kind of fruit it produces.

then the bad news

28 But the people living there are powerful, and their towns are large and fortified. We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak!

- **the Canaanites were strong, and the cities were large and fortified. Also, the Israelite spies had seen what they described as **Nephilim** and the descendants of Anak**

32 So they spread this bad report about the land among the Israelites: “The land we traveled through and explored will devour anyone who goes to live there. All the people we saw were huge. *33* We even saw giants there, the descendants of Anak. Next to them we felt like grasshoppers, and that’s what they thought, too!”

- next to these fierce people, the Israelites saw themselves as “grasshoppers” (verse 33).
- Conclusion... the Israelites were so afraid of the Canaanites that they refused to go into the land God had promised to them.
- Only Joshua and Caleb were confident that God would help them defeat the Canaanites. Because of their unwillingness to trust God, that generation of Israelites was denied entry into Canaan (Numbers 14).

• **The Point the enemy and is working against Gods will always...**

1 Peter 5:8 Stay alert! Watch out for your great enemy, the devil. He prowls around like a **roaring lion**, looking for someone to devour

- **The great difference is that Satan is ultimately powerless to make any of his "I wills" come to pass. Fear is his greatest attack against us...and it worked well oftentimes against the Israelites...as it works against us!**
- **God is more than able to fulfill each of His promises.**

So Moses goes back to the People...

EX 6: 9 So Moses told the people of Israel what the LORD had said, but they refused to listen anymore. They had become too discouraged by the brutality of their slavery. ¹⁰ Then the LORD said to Moses, ¹¹ "Go back to Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, and tell him to let the people of Israel leave his country." ¹² "But LORD!" Moses objected. "My own people won't listen to me anymore. How can I expect Pharaoh to listen? I'm such a clumsy speaker!"

- **they were discouraged by the increase of brutality: because of their centuries of slavery and this new burden ...hope was extinguished**
- **But there was more to it... they believed that the godlike Pharaoh and the Egyptians gods were stronger than the Lord was and that false belief system had to be addressed if they were to be prepared for their future ...**

Ex 6:13 But the LORD spoke to Moses and Aaron and gave them orders for the Israelites and for Pharaoh, the king of Egypt. The LORD commanded Moses and Aaron to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt.

What were those orders to the Israelites? it is revealed later in History to Ezekiel ...they had greater faith in other Gods...

- **Ezekiel 20:5-8 shows why God was so small and Pharaoh was so big in Israel's heart during this time.**
- **Ezekiel explains that they were obsessed with the gods of their oppressors, worshipping the gods of the Egyptians.**

EZE 20: 5 Give them this message from the Sovereign LORD: When I chose Israel—when I revealed myself to the descendants of Jacob in Egypt—I took a solemn oath that I, the LORD, would be their God. 6 I took a solemn oath that day that I would bring them out of Egypt to a land I had discovered and explored for them—a good land, a land flowing with milk and honey, the best of all lands anywhere. 7 Then I said to them, ‘Each of you, get rid of the vile images you are so obsessed with. Do not defile yourselves with the idols^[b] of Egypt, for I am the LORD your God.’ 8 “But they rebelled against me and would not listen. They did not get rid of the vile images they were obsessed with, or forsake the idols of Egypt.

- **This is the real reason why they didn't trust God, and His messenger Moses! they were double minded...The reason why God did not judge Israel at the time was because He didn't want His name profaned among the Gentiles.**
- **Many Christians find themselves in the same place. They find it hard to trust God and believe that He is *for* them when their eyes see something different..**
- **We all want he promises of God to manifest...but we often have allegiances sometimes more strongly to false gods...These false greater gods have to be confronted and overcome in or lives first ...preparing us for the promises.. greater Gods like, control...the government, money, fear, people, habits, addictions, rebellion, unbelief**
- **It is one thing to Get out of Egypt it is another thing to get Egypt out of us! This is why Paul says...**

*RO 12: 2 Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed **by the renewing of your mind**. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is--his good, pleasing and perfect will.*

- **The children of Israel needed their minds renewed, and we do also.**

Moses wanted to give up after the first setback. But God tells Moses to stick with His plan. Now Get back on track!

EX 6: 28 When the LORD spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt, 29 he said to him, "I am the LORD! Tell Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, everything I am telling you."

- **keep your mind and eyes on God alone**
- **Do not look at Pharaoh, Do not look at the children of Israel,**
- **Do not look even at himself – but to look at God and God alone.**
- **And God had much to do in his heart pf the people and Moses before they are ready to deal with all the ups and downs ahead as he leads the people to the Promised Land.**
- **God is building endurance in Moses, the ability to stick with God's plan and will even when it doesn't seem to work. This is faith; this is patient endurance in the LORD.**
- **Remember:** *PSA 121:8 The LORD keeps watch over you as you come and go, both now and forever.*

Now Get back on track!
end

So Why did he choose the Israelites... such a group of troubled people why does he choose us? it wasn't because they were great!! it was because he loved them and promised he would save them and us

DT 7: 7 "The LORD did not set his heart on you and choose you because you were more numerous than other nations, for you were the smallest of all nations! ⁸ Rather, it was simply that the LORD loves you, and he was keeping the oath he had sworn to your ancestors. That is why the LORD rescued you with such a strong hand from your slavery and from the oppressive hand of Pharaoh, king of Egypt. ⁹ Understand, therefore, that the LORD your God is indeed God. He is the faithful God who keeps his covenant for a thousand generations and lavishes his unfailing love on those who love him and obey his commands..

b. And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob: For the first plainly stated time, Moses is to tell Israel what God ultimately promised - to not only deliver them from the bondage of Egypt, but to give them the land promised to the patriarchs.

c. I am the LORD: With this God concluded the promise by reminding all of His covenant making and covenant-keeping name.

4. (9) The response of the children of Israel...God was not able....

He chose these people and he knows them by name!... and God is so sure of his plans...that he identifies the cornerstone of his Government...a Theocracy ..a nation governed by God thru his priesthood...his intermediaries...

end

Ex 6: ² And God said to Moses, “I am Yahweh—‘the LORD.’

- ***Yahweh is Hebrew...LORD is English “Yahweh,” and is built on the word for “I am.” reminding us each time that God absolutely is Reality***
- ***God or I AM or Jesus or Lord... is utterly independent. He depends on nothing else to cause his will to take place.***
- ***God cannot be improved. He is not becoming anything. He is who he is.***
- ***God's promise to Moses: Pharaoh *will* let you go. but you know how long that now you will see lasts...approximately a year...according to Jewish tradition (Mishna, Eiduyot ch.2).***
- ***God has remembered His covenant. Can Moses remember his God***
- ***God remembers his promises...Can you remember God keeps his promises until his promises manifest... No faith is required with eyesight...Faith is required when we don't see...***

B. The genealogies of Jacob's first three children: **Reuben, Simeon, and Levi.**

1. (14-15) The immediate descendants of Reuben and Simeon.

EX 6:14 These were the heads of their families:

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EX 6:28 Now when the LORD spoke to Moses in Egypt, ²⁹ he said to him, "I am the LORD. Tell Pharaoh king of Egypt everything I tell you."

- **God's divine power will pave the way for his Divine will...**
- **God is not going to demonstrate his Holiness to Pharaoh but his power...**

EX 6:30 But Moses said to the LORD, "Since I speak with faltering lips, why would Pharaoh listen to me?"

a. **Speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say to you: God previously commanded Moses to speak to Pharaoh. After the first disappointing experience, Moses now halts in his obedience.**

b. **I am of uncircumcised lips:** This may refer to Moses' idea that he has a speech problem, or it may be that he recognized that he is a sinful man, and therefore unworthy to be used.

i. Moses' feeling may be similar to that of Isaiah in Isaiah 6:1-8. Isaiah knew that he was a sinner in God's presence, and sensed that the "center" of his sin was in his lips - as in speaking and communicating in a way that didn't glorify God. God could deal with Isaiah's unclean lips, and He is more than able to deal with Moses' uncircumcised lips. God is also perfectly able to deal with the things in our life - real or imagined - that hinder us from being used by Him.

062211 chapter 7-8

In response to the suffering of the Israelites (chap. 1), God has called Moses, whom He has divinely protected and prepared for the task of delivering His people from Egypt (chaps. 2-4). After considerable resistance, Moses has returned to Egypt, where he has been received by the elders and the people of Israel, rebuffed by Pharaoh, to the consternation of the Israelites. In chapter 7 we come to the beginning of the plagues which God will bring upon Egypt through Moses and Aaron.

EX 7:1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron will be your prophet. ² You are to say everything I command you, and your brother Aaron is to tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go out of his country.

- **Moses power will overcome all Pharaoh's resistance...that is God like...**
- **Moses will be silent like God giving direction to his prophet Aaron who will utter the words of God.....very Jesus like...**

*DT 18:17 The LORD said to me: "What they say is good. ¹⁸ I will **raise up for** them a prophet like you from among their brothers; I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him. ¹⁹ If anyone does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account. (Acts 3:17-22 and Acts 7:335-38 imply it was Jesus)*

But I will harden Pharaoh's heart...

Exodus 7:3 But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in Egypt, ⁴ he will not listen to you.

chapters 7-8 God hardens his heart...and Pharaoh hardens his own heart...

- Moses would later write the words out of God's own mouth...so he would be a prophet...

*EX 33: I will have **mercy on whom** I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion.*

- Martin Luther interprets God's interference as a necessary demonstration of divine power. "This is stern dealing," wrote early 20th-century evangelist Reuben Archer Torrey, elaborating on Luther's point. "But it is just dealing."
- Augustine avoided the episode's messy implications by positing that God did not in fact deprive Pharaoh of free will. "We should consider," St. Augustine wrote. "Whether the phrase can be understood ... as if [God] were saying, 'I shall show how hard his heart is.' " Others, such as

Paul, chalked the whole thing up to the incomprehensibility of divine will.

RO 9:14 What then shall we say? Is God unjust? Not at all! ¹⁵ For he says to Moses,

*"I will have **mercy on whom** I have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I have compassion."*

*RO 9:16 It **does not, therefore, depend on man's desire or effort, but on God's mercy.** ¹⁷ For the Scripture says to Pharaoh: "I raised you up for this very purpose, that I might display my power in you and that my name might be proclaimed in all the earth." ¹⁸ Therefore God has **mercy on whom** he wants to have mercy, and he hardens whom he wants to harden.*

RO 9:19 One of you will say to me: "Then why does God still blame us? For who resists his will?" ²⁰ But who are you, O man, to talk back to God? "Shall what is formed say to him who formed it, 'Why did you make me like this?' " ²¹ Does not the potter have the right to make out of the same lump of clay some pottery for noble purposes and some for common use?

RO 9:22 What if God, choosing to show his wrath and make his power known, bore with great patience the objects of his wrath--prepared for destruction? ²³ What if he did this to make the riches of his glory known to the objects of his mercy, whom he prepared in advance for glory-- ²⁴ even us, whom he also called, not only from the Jews but also from the Gentiles? ²⁵ As he says in

Hosea: "I will call them 'my people' who are not my people; and I will call her 'my loved one' who is not my loved one,"

.....
EX 7:4 Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and with mighty acts of judgment I will bring out my divisions, my people the Israelites. ⁵ And the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out of it."

There are five unique aspects of the plagues which set them apart as miraculous events. These are as follows:

- (1) **Intensification.** While frogs, insects, murrain and darkness were known in Egypt, these were intensified far beyond any ordinary occurrence.
- (2) **Prediction.** The fact that Moses predicted the moment of the arrival and departure sets them apart from purely natural occurrences (cf. 8:10, 23; 9:5, 18, 29; 10:4).
- (3) **Discrimination.** Certain of the plagues did not occur in the land of Goshen where Israel was living (8:22, no flies; 9:4, death of livestock; 9:26, no hail).
- (4) **Orderliness.** There is a gradual severity in the nature of the plagues concluding with the death of the firstborn.
- (5) **Moral Purpose.** "These were not freaks of nature but were designed to teach moral precepts and lessons."

EX 7:6 Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded them. ⁷ Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh.

Acts 3:21

Heaven must receive him until the time comes for God to restore **everything**, as he **promised** long ago through his holy prophets