
EXODUS 5-6

REVIEW...

- **THEME OF THE BOOK...**
 - **Chapters 1-18** – The deliverance of Israel from slavery in Egypt!
 - **Chapters 19-40** – The FIRST giving of the Law - God makes Israel His nation!
- **CHAPTER 3-4 – THE GREAT I AM**
 - Moses met with God at a burning bush at the foot of Mt. Sinai...
 - God commanded him to go to Egypt and redeem the people of Israel from slavery...
 - Moses – who had tried that already – had 5 reasons why it should not be him...
 - Who am I – wrong question – it was not about Moses but God who sent him...
 - Who shall I say sent me – the great I AM!
 - Suppose they do NOT believe me – 3 signs - snake / leprosy / water in blood...
 - I am not a good speaker – God answered - Who made your mouth!
 - Send someone else – for such a time as this!
 - Moses - with his brother Aaron as his speaker – returned to Egypt...
 - The leaders of Israel were ecstatic to hear that God has sent someone to redeem them!

BE BOLD FOR JESUS... (5 POINTS)

- **1ST – LET MY PEOPLE GO... vs. 1-4**
 - **1ST – Sovereignty of God... vs. 1-3**
 - Moses told Pharaoh to let Israel go (*imperative – piel*) ...
 - God commanded them to hold a feast – worship him – in the wilderness...
 - If God wanted it to happen – then it would seem reasonable to think nothing could stop it!
 - You would think that would make it certain Pharaoh would let them go!
 - **We often get the idea when something is from the Lord it will be EASY...**
 - **But the reality is often just the opposite – it is often the harder way to go!**
 - Moses asked to go a THREE DAY journey in the desert – **Exodus 3:18 / 8:27**
 - This obviously presents a PROMBLEM – it is NOT true!
 - God did not intend for Israel to go for THREE days – He wanted to set them free!
 - **Exodus 3:17** – “I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land... flowing with milk and honey.”
 - Does that mean God told Moses to LIE...
 - Obviously NOT – God cannot LIE – **Hebrews 6:18 / Numbers 23:19**
 - And he CERTAINLY would NOT tell Moses to LIE for Him!
 - What we see here is the SOVERIGHTY of God – He knew what would happen...

- Even asking Pharaoh for JUST a THREE day journey would be REJECTED...
- God knew Pharaoh would HARDEN his heart and NOT listen – **Exodus 4:21**
- God simplified the request to emphasize just how HARD his heart was!
- We see again just how powerful our God is – **NOTHING happens by chance...**
- Even though things may not be EASY – even when things seem out of control...
- When life seems uncertain – we can be confident ultimately God is in control!
- 2nd – Who is the LORD... vs. 4
 - The answer of Pharaoh...
 - Who is the LORD [יְהוָה] that I should OBEY His voice to let Israel go (*piel*) ...
 - I do NOT know (*SEE*) the LORD [יְהוָה] - NOR will not let Israel go!
 - A somewhat truthful answer – Pharaoh did not know the LORD...
 - Moses and Aaron were just slaves making demands for an UNFAMILIAR God...
 - There was little reason for Pharaoh to believe them – or to let Israel go...
 - What Pharaoh did not know is God was going to use Moses make Himself KNOWN!
 - The world is LOST – and does not KNOW God...
 - When we step out to follow the Lord – it may not be easy...
 - But when we stand for God in spite of the hardship – others will take notice...
 - God uses us to reveal Himself to others who otherwise do not know Him!
 - **Ezekiel 28:23** – “I will magnify Myself... and I will be known in the eyes of many nations. Then they shall know that I am the LORD.”
- 2ND – A HARDENED HEART... vs. 5-21
 - 1st – Preparing the people to leave... vs. 5-13
 - Moses told Pharaoh the God of the HEBREWS has met with us...
 - HEBREWS – one from beyond – emphasizing Israel did NOT belong to Egypt...
 - PLEASE let us go three days into the wilderness – and sacrifice to the Lord our God...
 - Because if we do NOT – some pestilence / or sword – will fall!
 - The answer of Pharaoh answer...
 - You take (*hiphil*) the people from their WORK – YOU get back to WORK (*imperative*) ...
 - The people are many – and YOU make (*hiphil*) make them rest from THEIR work!
 - Pharaoh commanded the taskmaster – have the people collect their own STRAW...
 - BRICKS are made with mud mixed with STRAW and baked still they harden...
 - Up till then the Israelites had to meet their QUOTA – but the materials were provided...
 - They still had to meet their QUOTA – AND provide for all the materials!
 - Suppose you had a job cooking three meals a day for 100 people – a lot of work...
 - Then one day – because you asked for Sunday off to go to church – you were told...
 - You must have too much EXTRA time to be thinking about God and church...
 - Cook those same meals for 100 people – but BUY all the groceries as well!
 - Pharaoh assumed the Israelites were IDLE...
 - IDLE (*niphal* – *passive*) – the Pharaoh was accusing Moses of MAKING the people IDLE...
 - Because they were listening to FALSE WORDS – the promise to go and worship God...
 - Pharaoh intended to PUNISH the people for listening to Moses...
 - Making them work TWICE as hard – gathering stubble to make BRICKS!
 - No doubt after 400 years many of the Israelites had become quite comfortable...
 - If Moses had come and asked them to leave – MANY would have stayed...
 - But because of the hardships the Pharaoh brought on them...

- At this point the children of Israel were more than ready to LEAVE Egypt!
 - I have noted that often when the Lord is preparing to move me – life gets HARD...
 - It would be easy to put our eyes on the circumstances - and become discouraged...
 - But the truth is God is just preparing our hearts – so when He calls...
 - We are MORE than ready to step out in FAITH and follow!
 - 2nd – Too close to the world... vs. 15-19
 - The Israelite OFFICERS were BEATEN when the QUOTAS were missed...
 - The OFFICERS were likely men of importance – men who had a little easier life...
 - They were the ones who HELPED out the Egyptians keeping the Hebrews slaves...
 - I find it interesting those who were the closest to the Egyptians – OFFICERS...
 - Ended up being the ones who SUFFERED the most when God began to do a work!
 - I have met so many believers who are miserable – there is no joy in their lives...
 - They have too much LOVE for the world – to be HAPPY in the Lord...
 - The problem is they think the world has something to offer them...
 - Yet the world abuses and mistreats them because they belong to Christ...
 - So they are not HAPPY in the world – because they KNOW too much about the Lord...
 - They are miserable wherever they are – because they are divided in their heart!
 - They complained to Pharaoh – the EGYPTIANS are not providing the STRAW...
 - But Pharaoh repeated his accusation – you are IDLE – get your own STRAW!
 - NOTE - the OFFICERS did not go to the Lord – instead they went to the king of Egypt!
 - When times are good - everyone in the world will be your friend...
 - When hard times come – if we are caught up in the world – we will look to the world...
 - But when we look there - we will find no compassion – and no help!
- 3rd – A bad smell... vs. 20-21
 - Moses and Aaron stood to meet the OFFICERS as they walked out...
 - The OFFICERS complained – let the LORD look and judge you...
 - Because you have made us abhorrent (*stink*) before Pharaoh – put a sword in his hand!
 - They were blaming Moses and Aaron – but it was the fault of God...
 - They had smelled GOOD before was because they were like Pharaoh...
 - When Moses encouraged them to stand for God – they started to SMELL like Jesus!
 - When we try and blend into the world – they embrace us – we SMELL like them...
 - But when we stand up for Jesus – we STINK – because we now represent the Lord!
 - **II Corinthians 2:15** – “For we are to God the fragrance of Christ among those who are being saved and among those who are perishing.”
- 3RD - LOOKING TO THE RIGHT PLACE... vs. 22-5
 - 1st - Moses complained to the Lord... vs. 22-1
 - Why have you brought TROUBLE on these people – why have you sent me...
 - For since he came to Pharaoh to speak in the name of the LORD – the Pharaoh did EVIL...
 - And the LORD had YET to deliver His people from the bondage of Egypt!
 - Moses was understandably discouraged – the people were suffering for his actions...
 - God reassured Moses – Pharaoh would kick (*piel*) the Hebrews out before it was all done...
 - In other words – this was all part of the plan of God – do not loose heart!

- Too often we focus on the negative - and as a result miss what God is doing...
- Anytime we get our eyes off Jesus and onto our circumstances we are in trouble...
- We are bound to be overwhelmed – filled with doubt and fear...
- It is when we keep our eyes on Jesus that we see this great truth!
- **II Corinthians 4:18** – “We do not look at the troubles we can see right now; rather, we look forward to what we have not yet seen [*Jesus*]. For the troubles we see will soon be over, but the joys to come will last forever.”
- 2nd – Who is in charge... vs. 2-5
 - God clarified who was really in charge – NOT Pharaoh...
 - I am the LORD [יְהוָה] – the proper name of God – the existing (*or eternal*) one!
 - Who appeared to Abraham / Isaac / and Jacob – El Shaddai [אֱלֹהֵי שַׁדַּי] – God ALMIGHTY...
 - God makes clear in His title that nothing is impossible for Him!
 - The Patriarchs did NOT know His name - [יְהוָה] the name of God...
 - But he established His covenant (*promise*) – give them the Land they were strangers in...
 - God heard (*perfect*) the groaning of the children of Israel – remembered His PROMISE!
 - When times are tough – perspective is important...
 - When the disciples were threatened by the Sanhedrin - **Acts 4**
 - Threatened and commanded to no longer preach in the name of Jesus – they prayed!
 - **Acts 4:24** – “They raised their voice to God with one accord and said: Lord, You are God, who made heaven and earth and the sea, and all that is in them...”
 - It is good to remember El Shaddai [אֱלֹהֵי שַׁדַּי] – God ALMIGHTY – is on our side...
 - It is always good to remember – the one who is really in control...
 - Our problems and challenges might look like mountains to us...
 - Till we look at the one who created – and can level – mountains!
- 4th - **WHAT GOD WILL DO ... vs. 6-13**
 - 1st - I will BRING you out of Egypt... vs. 6
 - Therefore SAY (*imperative*) to the children of Israel...
 - God gave Moses the WORD to share with His discouraged people...
 - I will BRING (*hiphil*) – the LORD would CAUSE the people to come OUT of Egypt!
 - Everything that happened to Israel was an example for our lives...
 - **I Corinthians 10:11** – “All these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.”
 - We were all in SLAVES to this world (*Egypt*) - working for this world – getting nothing!
 - Everything this world can give us does not last – it is only temporary...
 - God wants to bring us out of this world into the abundant life in Jesus!
 - Where we store up for ourselves treasures that last forever – **Matthew 6:19-20**
 - 2nd – I will RESCUE you out of bondage... vs. 6
 - I will RESCUE (*hiphil*) – the LORD would rescue Israel from their BONDAGE...
 - The way God takes us out of the world – is to free us from the BONDAGE of the flesh...
 - So many people today are in bondage to their flesh – their own desires and lusts...
 - Sin is like a drug - the most addictive kind of drug - and it will take over your life...
 - Sin can seem to be enjoyable - but it sucks us in - and we are trapped!
 - In the end we find we are in bondage to sin - morally and spiritually bankrupt!

- **Romans 6:16** - "You become the slave of whatever you choose to obey? You can be a slave to sin, which leads to death, or you can choose to obey God..."
- Like the taskmasters the flesh is cruel – only looking to keep us in bondage...
 - It is a sad life that is broken and consumed by alcohol / drugs / immorality...
 - God wants to break that cycle – free us from our own sinful nature...
 - He wants to crucify the flesh so we can be free to live the abundant life of the Spirit!
 - **Romans 6:6** – "[We] were crucified with Christ so that sin might lose its power in our lives. We are no longer slaves to sin."
- 3rd - I will REDEEM you... vs. 6-8
 - REDEEM – [גָּאֵל] – GOEL – the KINSMAN redeemer...
 - Israel was LOST – practically they had no HOME – spiritually they had no HOPE...
 - God came to REDEEM them – give them back both their HOME and their HOPE!
 - Jesus came to REDEEM us – give us a HOPE...
 - He gave us HOPE through the cross – where He PAID the price for all our sin!
 - We all were in bondage to sin - we had sold ourselves as slaves to his world...
 - We could not set ourselves free from bondage - we could not pay our price...
 - So Jesus came to be our GOEL our REDEEMER - He came to purchase us back!
 - **I Peter 1:18-19** - "You know that God paid a ransom to save you... the ransom he paid was not mere gold or silver. He paid for you with the precious lifeblood of Christ, the sinless, spotless Lamb of God."
- 4th - I will TAKE you as My people... vs. 7
 - God would TAKE Israel and make them His people...
 - This would take place when they arrived at Mount Sinai – received the Law of God...
 - TAKE (*perfect*) – Israel was and will ALWAYS be the people of God!
 - Once God has REDEEMED us – we become the children of God...
 - When Jen and I were in Israel in 2008 - we had to pass through the Netherlands...
 - We had a long layover - and thought it might be nice to get out of the airport...
 - Because my PASSPORT said I was from the US - I was allowed go out...
 - But because her PASSPORT said she was from the Philippines she was denied...
 - It had nothing to do with being a good or bad person - or our religion...
 - We were granted or denied solely based on our citizenship!
 - We can only be citizens of one of two kingdoms...
 - We either belong to the Kingdom of God - or the kingdom of this world!
 - **Matthew 12:30** - "He who is not with Me is against Me..."
 - And if we try to get into heaven with the wrong PASSPORT – the doors are closed!
 - But once we are born again - saved - we are no longer foreigners...
 - We no longer belong to this world - we have changed our citizenship!
 - And when one day we stand at the entrance into heaven - Jesus will welcome us in!
- 5th - I WILL BE your God... vs. 7
 - It was not JUST about becoming the people of the LORD – He would become THEIR God...
 - WILL BE (*perfect*) – the LORD [יְהוָה] would then become the ONLY God of Israel...
 - Then they would KNOW (*perfect*) – I am the LORD who brought (*hiphil*) you out of Egypt!

- People are known by the God they believe in – it becomes their label...
- I am a MULSIM – I am a BUDIST – I am a CHIRSTIAN (*little Christ*)!
- Only when believe in Jesus – accept him as our identity – who we are...
- Will we truly understand all that He has done for us – freed us from the world / sin!
- 6th - I will BRING you into the Land... vs. 8
 - The LAND He swore to give to Abraham / Isaac / and Jacob...
 - He would give it to them as a POSSESSION - because HE IS THE LORD!
 - NOTE – all SIX of these promises have NO conditions – they are what God WILL do!
 - God desires to bring us into the LAND – take us to be with him in heaven!
 - He does ALL the WORK – He brought us out of the world / He rescued us from sin...
 - He redeemed us through the cross / He made us His own special people...
 - Then He became our God – and now will take us to spend eternity with Him!
 - **John 14:3** – “If I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and receive you to Myself; that where I am, there you may be also.”
- 7th – Not listening... vs. 9-13
 - Moses spoke to the children of Israel – but they could NOT hear the words of Moses...
 - Their crushed spirit because of their cruel bondage made them deaf to his words!
 - Therefore God told Moses to go and speak to Pharaoh again...
 - But Moses argued – if Israel did not listen to me – why would Pharaoh listen!
 - I am a man of uncircumcised lips – not worthy to open my mouth!
 - But the Lord commanded Moses and Aaron – bring my people out of Egypt!
 - We have been given the SAME message as Moses – the GOOD NEWS – the GOSPEL!
 - But we might be like Moses and ask – who am I to talk about Jesus...
 - I have an UNCLEAN mouth – I have no right to tell others about God...
 - But it is NOT about OUR mouth – it is about the WORD of the Lord...
 - I fear too often when God calls – we would rather pretend like it is a wrong number...
 - We assume there is no way God would want to / or for that matter be able to – use us...
 - But the only qualification for being used by God – be ready to answer the call – Here I am!
 - **Isaiah 6:8** – “Whom shall I send... I said - Here I am! Send me.”

- **5TH - GENEALOGY OF MOSES... vs. 14-30**
 - 1st - The sons of Israel... vs. 14-25
 - We are given a genealogy of the first three oldest sons of Jacob – but we stop at Levi...
 - The list begins identical to the one given in **Genesis 46:8-11**
 - But here we are given the genealogy of Levi – there were eight grandchildren in all...
 - Included in the genealogy is Amram – the son of Kohath!
 - Amram – married Jochebed - the sister of his father (*aunt*) ...
 - Amram had two sons – Aaron and Moses – and he died at the age of 137...
 - We are told Levi lived to be 137 – and Kohath lived to be 133...
 - All together their lives total 407 years – add to that the age of Moses - 80 years old...
 - And we have the 400 years that Israel was in Egypt – **Genesis 15:16**
 - We see there are only four generations between Jacob and Moses!
 - Additional genealogy of Kohath...
 - Izhar and Uzziel –had a combined six sons – among them was Korah – **Numbers 16**
 - Aaron married Elisheba and had four children – Nadab / Abihu / Eleazar / Ithamar...
 - They are mentioned here because they become the line of the HIGH priest...
 - But Nadab and Abihu die because they offer a sacrifice of STRANGE fire – **Leviticus 10:2**
 - Eleazar – became the firstborn – and his son Phinehas the next HIGH priest!
 - 2nd - Moses and Aaron... vs. 26-30
 - The same Moses and Aaron whom God called bring Israel out of Egypt...
 - God would bring them out by their ARMIES – no longer SLAVES!
 - The same Moses and Aaron who spoke to the Pharaoh of Egypt...
 - The Lord spoke to Moses there in Egypt – tell Pharaoh all that I say to you...
 - The same Moses who said I am a man of uncircumcised lips!
 - But Moses would SPEAK – God would WORK – and Pharaoh would LISTEN
 - When we stand for God – in the power of God – the world has no choice but to listen!