

Out of Bondage onto Promise
Exodus 7:1-25

- Moses has expressed his doubts whether he's the right person to deliver the children of Israel out of Egypt and into the promise land, and God has answered him by saying "**I Am the Lord**" twice. Which means take your eyes off of yourself, Pharaoh, people, and anything else that says "**you can't do this**", because it's not by your power that's delivering Israel from Egypt it's Me.
- We need to remember that if God is asking anything of us, its success is not predicated on you but on Him, therefore I don't need to focus on all the reasons why it won't or can't happen, but instead, I need to remember why it will, because of "**Him**", and that's where my confidence lies.

V1-25

- **V1** after hearing Moses words about his inadequacy God again reminds Him of His power, Moses "**I Am going take what you are lacking, and when I'm finished you will be like God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother your prophet**" Wow!. This is power folks, Moses sees himself as a grasshopper in comparison to Pharaoh the King of the mightiest nation on earth, but after God is finished Moses will be as a giant and everyone else as ants, even in the eyes of Pharaoh.
- **V2-5** in light of this now go and tell Aaron who is your spokesperson to speak to Pharaoh and tell him to let My people go, but no this, "**I will harden Pharaoh's heart**" so that he will say no! Again God tells Pharaoh that what He is asking him to do is not going to be easy, and Pharaoh is not going to agree to let the people go and worship the Lord freely. God also gave Moses one of the reasons why He hardened Pharaoh's heart, so that He may multiply His wonders in the land.
- God in doing things like this was not only revealing Himself to the Egyptians but also to Israel, for in doing things like this He was proving to them that He alone was God **V5**. The judgment that we see in this world should remind us of what God has promised in His Word, that those who serve Him He would bless, protect and honor, but those who reject Him they would suffer.
- **V6-7** Moses and Aaron obey God and go and tell Pharaoh exactly what the Lord said, these verses verify Moses and Aaron's age. A couple of things I wanted to point out, **1st** Moses being **80**, this is retirement age for most, the time to slow down and relax, doing only those things that you enjoy, but for the people of God this shows that the Lord's will is always more important than our personal enjoyment, **2nd** Aaron is Moses older brother, and yet God goes against the conventional customs of that day and makes the younger brother the more prominent brother.
- **V8-10** God tells Moses what to do when he goes before Pharaoh, and the sign that He tells Moses to perform is the same one that happened in the desert in **4:2-3**, remember Moses thinking he needed to save himself ran when God turned the staff into a serpent then, but now Moses is to stand in the power of the Lord trusting that God has already saved him but it's the Egyptians who will tremble in the presence of the Lord's judgment.

- **V11-13** Pharaoh is not impressed and he calls his magicians in and they also cast down their rods and they also turned into serpents, this proves that Satan also can imitate miracles and perform things that seem remarkable. Folks the supernatural is part of Satan's arsenal > **2Cor 11:13-15** Satan can transform himself into an angel of light, which is why we need to know God's Word in order to protect us from believing Satan's lies. **2 Thess 2:9:10** says the antichrist will deceive many with signs and lying wonders, and those who rejected the truth will be fooled the most.
- Notice Aaron's rod swallowed up the magicians rod, this shows the superior power behind those who follow the Lord and those who are following false gods. Although it was a clear message to everyone around Pharaoh still ignored it and did not listen to what God was communicating and scripture says his heart grew harder. Notice with each rejection his heart grows harder and his attitude becomes more rebellious toward God and it makes his actions more irrational.
- **V14-18** we come to the first of the ten plagues, some say nine and put the slaying of the firstborn in a class by itself, but for the sake of time we'll list ten. Here the River Nile will turn into blood causing the wildlife living in it to die and stink up the land. Before Moses enacts the plague he goes to where Pharaoh is to warn him to let the people go first, this shows the grace of God where He gives man a choice to either obey Him or disobey and suffer the consequences.
- It's the same in this life and consequently in eternal life, we are given a choice of whether to live a life of sin and suffer its consequences or obey God and live a life of righteousness and enjoy His blessings. If we choose the life of righteousness not only do we benefit now but also in eternity as we'll spend it in the presence of the Lord, but if we choose a life of sin then no peace in this life and in eternity separated from God and eternal suffering in the lake of fire **Rev 20:15**.
- **V19-21** not only did the River Nile turn into blood but also the other waters in the land and even waters stored in vessels of wood and stone. **V22** this is how foolish the magicians and those who serve darkness are they try and duplicate the miracle and make matters worse, don't ever think Satan has anyone's best interest at heart, he exists to make people's lives miserable.
- **V23-25** while people suffered and the land stunk with all that death around it, instead of Pharaoh relenting, surrendering and acknowledging that Jehovah is God, he continues to harden his heart against the Lord. If you ever doubted the stubbornness of man look no further than this story. Sadly I've seen people saved and unsaved react to God and His chastisements like this, as their actions or bad decisions bring on suffering in their lives and instead of repenting and surrendering, they instead become even more defensive toward God and His people.