

Out of Bondage onto Promise

Exodus 6:1-30

- Moses is back in Egypt and he is in the crosshairs of the enemy, as he's being attacked **from within** (doubt in his own heart) , **from without** (Satan, his emissaries, and Israel) as they accuse him for making things worse instead of better. So what does Moses do? He goes to the Lord and questions God about why He hasn't set Israel free from the hardship of Egypt like He promised.
- We've all been here haven't we, things are harder than we thought and it doesn't look like its going to get better, so what should I do? Complain to God about God! Complain about the rebellious people I'm around, complain about the impossible situation I'm in! All that does is make us even more frustrated, the answer is here in Chapter 6, where it says wait and see what the Lord does, if we just sit still and trust that what God promised He also will deliver.

V1-30

- **V1-2** the good thing that Moses did was to take his complaints and burdens to the Lord, all of us but especially spiritual leaders must know how to get alone with God, pour out their hearts, and seek His strength and wisdom. Because as God's chosen servants we must expect opposition and misunderstanding that's part of what it means to be a leader, so God is teaching Moses how to be bold before people but broken before Him, and it's a lesson that we all need to learn.
- Essentially God is telling Moses to take his eyes off of Pharaoh, stop being so discouraged by what he says, that your forgetting what I said. God reminds Moses that not only will Pharaoh let Israel go, but it will be by a Strong Hand that will force him to do so, this seemed impossible after Pharaoh's initial reaction to Moses and his defiance to Israel's leaders at their meeting. This was the Divine Declaration made in answer of Moses statement of human difficulty.
- **V3-5** God is not finished as He tells Moses that what he's going through is not unique, before him, God says "I have appeared to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob" they knew Me as "**El Shaddai**" but they really didn't know Me as "**Yahweh**". In biblical times Israel wouldn't even say God's name instead they would write it "**YHWH**" but not pronounce it. God wants us to know Him intimately, personally, which is why He reveals Himself to us. So when we're facing difficulty and discouragement what's needed is a "vision of God" it puts things in proper perspective.
- Afterward God says "He remembers His Covenant with His people" so now Moses is expected and called to remember his God. **V6-8** then to show His mercy that He is not unconcerned or oblivious to their suffering, that He feels the burdens of His people and is working on their behalf God unleashes a promise that consists of "**seven I wills**" to Israel His people.
- **1st** "I will bring you out", **2nd** "I will rescue you from your bondage", **3rd** "I will redeem you", **4th** "I will take you as My people", **5th** "I will be your God", **6th** "I will bring you into the land", **7th** "I will give it to you as a heritage". God started this section with "**I AM The Lord**" and He finishes it with "**I AM The Lord**". There's a quote I read that says "**when all human help has failed, and the soul, exhausted and despairing, has given up hope from man, God draws near and says, I AM**".

- What's amazing is all of these verbs in the Hebrew are past tense instead of future tense, showing that when God says something He views it as if it has already happened. **V9** Moses after hearing what God said was lifted up so he went to the Israelites and repeated what God said to encourage them, but sadly they didn't listen to Moses words, but instead focused on their current difficult circumstances and so they remained discouraged and downtrodden.
- **V10-13** just that quick after hearing the children of Israel doubt crept back in and Moses thought if he couldn't convince Israel to follow him then how will he persuade Pharoah to listen to him. But Moses wasn't called to follow Israel he was called to lead Israel into the Promise land so now God commands Moses to go and speak to Pharoah what He had spoken to Him. I love this, don't look at Pharoah, don't look at the children of Israel, don't look even to self, only look to God and Him alone, that's the only way we'll ever be persistent in our obedience to the Lord.
- **V14-27** scripture lists the genealogies of Jacob's first three children: Reuben, Simeon, Levi, we see that Aaron and Moses came from the line of Levi where the priests would descend from. We see that the sons of Korah who would later play a significant role in a catastrophic event before in the wilderness before Israel reaches the promise land, their father was Moses uncle making them cousins of Aaron and Moses. **V28-30** after his disappointing experience with the children of Israel God commanded Moses to speak to Pharoah now again he hesitates in his obedience.
- Moses by calling himself a man with unclean lips understands how unworthy he is to represent the Lord, how often have I felt like this, but as God will show Moses like He has shown us its not about our worthiness its all about His worthiness. Isaiah felt the same way in **Is 6:1-8** declaring that he was a sinful man how could he declare the glory of the Lord to others when he himself is also a sinner, but the Lord shows that He knows how to make that which is unholy holy for Him.