

Greater is He “I had heard, but now I know”

Exodus 18 NIV

Now Jethro, the priest of Midian and father-in-law of Moses, **heard of everything God had done** for Moses and for his people Israel, and how the Lord had brought Israel out of Egypt.

2 After Moses had sent away his wife Zipporah, his father-in-law Jethro received her **3** and her two sons. One son was named **Gershom**, for **Moses said, “I have become a foreigner in a foreign land”**; **4** and the other was named **Eliezer**, for he said, **“My father’s God was my helper; he saved me from the sword of Pharaoh.”**

5 Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, together with Moses’ sons and wife, came to him in the wilderness, where he was camped near the mountain of God. **6** Jethro had sent word to him, “I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons.”

7 So Moses went out to meet his father-in-law and bowed down and kissed him. They greeted each other and then went into the tent.

8 Moses told his father-in-law about everything the Lord had done to **Pharaoh** and the **Egyptians** for Israel’s sake and about **all the hardships** they had met along the way and how the Lord had saved them.

9 Jethro was delighted to hear about all the good things the Lord had done for Israel in rescuing them from the hand of the Egyptians. **10** He said, “Praise be to the Lord, who rescued you from the hand of the Egyptians and of Pharaoh, and who rescued the people from the hand of the Egyptians. **11 Now I know that the Lord is greater** than all other gods, for he did this to those who had treated Israel arrogantly.”

This entire text is from a very interesting point in the story of Moses: It's at this point that Moses has gone full circle in this Journey with God and perhaps the one person who could appreciate it most and who witnessed it from beginning to end was his father-in-law Jethro.

- Moses, a Hebrew boy, was born in Egypt and raised in the house of Pharaoh.
- He knew Egyptian culture and customs and was raised with the luxuries of Egyptian royalty.
- Moses later took the life of an Egyptian and fled for his life to Midian where he first met Jethro the priest of midian.
- It was while Moses was in the wilderness tending Jethro's flock that he encountered God.
- It's interesting that Moses never encountered God in the luxuries of the palace.
- It was while he was in a foreign place, on the backside of a desert that God revealed himself to Moses.
- Moses married Jethro's daughter Zipporah and had a son that he named Gershom.

Gershom name means: "I have become a foreigner in a foreign land"

- Scripture tells us in Exodus 2:22 that Gershom was born right after Moses married Zipporah...
- Gershom was born in that wilderness period for Moses...
- This is a marker in the beginning of Moses' walk with God.
- The Journey for Moses starts out in a foreign place

A Foreign Place:

An uncomfortable place...

A vulnerable place...

An Unfamiliar place...

- But It's in that place that Moses also encounters God...
- It's in that place that the Journey with God begins...

God called Moses in the wilderness to go back to Egypt and confront Pharaoh.

Moses said to Pharaoh over and over.

Exodus 7:7

Let my people go, so that they may worship me in the wilderness.

Each time Moses would confront Pharaoh, Pharaoh resisted

Then Moses witnessed God's 10 plagues on Pharaoh...

The Plague of Blood - The Plague on Pride

The Plague of Frogs

The Plague of Gnats - The Plague of Annoyance

The Plague of Flies

The Plague on the Livestock - The Plague on Luxury

The Plague of Boils - The Plague of Discomfort

The Plague of Hail

The Plague of Locusts - The Plague on Livelihood

The Plague of Darkness - The Plague of Isolation

The Plague of the Firstborn - The Plague of Death

After the 10 Plagues Pharaoh let the Israelites leave Egypt, only to chase them to the banks of the Red Sea and God then delivered them through the Sea and destroyed Pharaoh and his army in the sea.

We don't know when but somewhere in the process of all these things Moses has a second son, Moses speaks of him in our text.

Vs. 4 and the other was named **Eliezer**, for he said, **“My father's God was my helper; he saved me from the sword of Pharaoh.”**

EL SHADDAI. My Supplier.

EL SHADDAI. My Supplier.

Eliezer: from two root words; **El:**God & **ēzer:** Helper

"God is help"

Moses says: **“My father’s God was my helper; he saved me from the sword of Pharaoh.”**

Vs. 8

Moses told his father-in-law about everything the Lord had done to **Pharaoh** and the **Egyptians** for Israel’s sake and about **all the hardships** they had met along the way and how the Lord had saved them.

Can #1

Pharaoh - Ungodly Pressure

Can #2

Egypt - Ungodly Culture

Can #3

Hardship

Can #4

Eliezer - God is My Helper

It reminds me of

1 John 4:4 KJV

“Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world.”

Exodus 18

Vs. 1

Now Jethro... heard of everything God had done for Moses and for his people Israel

Vs. 11

11 Now I know that the Lord is greater than all other gods...

Jethro had heard, but now he knows...

Now I know that the Lord is Greater

- Did you know Greater is He that is in you than he that is in the world
- Jethro rejoiced because God is Greater...
- Moses rejoiced because he saws that God is Greater...
- We rejoice that God is still Greater and He is our Helper...
- He is still helping us today...

Testimony: Pastor Tony