Exodus Introduction

"Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord...which He will accomplish for you today"

I. Exodus Intro

-Title: Exodus; lit. Departure /Exit

-Author: Moses

Parents of Great Faith/Courage

Hebrews 11:23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.

Man of Great Faith/Courage: Owned his faith

...24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. 27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. 28 By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them. 29 By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

Man of Humility: Meekness

Numbers 12:3 ...the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.

Friend of God

Exodus 33:11 ...the Lord spoke to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend.

Author of Pentateuch: 1st 5 Books of Bible

1. Genesis

- 2. Exodus
- 3. Leviticus
- 4. Numbers
- 5. Deuteronomy

-Date of the Exodus: 1446 BC

-Themes of the Book of Exodus:

1. God's Name: YHWH "I AM"

2. God's Attributes:

Exodus 34:6 "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children's children to the third and the fourth generation."

- 3. God's Law
 - a) Moral
 - b) Ceremonial
 - c) Societal
- 4. God's **Redemption:** Buy us back from sin, death, and Satan

1 Corinthians 10:11 Now all these things happened to them as examples, and they were written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the ages have come.

- OT Physical representation of NT Spiritual Truths
 - 1. **Egypt:** Picture of the World System
 - 2. **Israel:** Gods chosen people
 - 3. **Pharaoh:** Picture of Satan Enslaving God's chosen people
 - 4. **Moses:** Picture of Jesus: Deliverer/Mediator
 - 5. **Exodus:** Picture of God's Redemption
 - a) Sold to bondage-sold to sin
 - b) Deliverer Moses send-Savior Jesus sent
 - c) Blood on wooden doorpost -Blood on the cross...our judgment passed over

II. Exodus Outline

- 1. Chapters 1 and 2: Introduction
 - God's Chosen People in Bondage/Oppression
 - God's people cry out
 - God prepares a deliverer
 - 1. Young Moses saved from Pharaoh
 - 2. Fugitive Moses leaves Egypt

2. Chapters 3-18: God's delivers His People

- Cruelty to God's people escalates
- Moses and Aaron sent to Pharaoh
- Judgment on Egypt/Divine Signs of God's Authority/ Sovereignty over false gods
 - 1. Water to blood
 - 2. Frogs
 - 3. Gnats
 - 4. Flies
 - 5. Livestock Struck
 - 6. Boils
 - 7. Hail
 - 8. Locusts
 - 9. Darkness
 - 10. Tenth plague declared: Death of the firstborn of those not under the blood
- Passover Celebrated
- Exodus
- Deliverance at the "Red Sea"
- Journey to Sinai

- 1. Waters of Marah
- 2. Manna and the quail
- 3. Waters of Meribah
- 4. War with Amalek
- 5. Moses Leadership Method: Jethro

3. Chapters 19-34 Covenant at Sinai

Covenant

- 1. Ten Commandments
- 2. Fear of God
- 3. The Book of the Law: First Covenant

4. Chapters 25-40 Tabernacle: Transportable Temple

- Instructions/Blueprints given
- Collection of construction materials acquired
- Furnishings built
 - 1. Ark and Mercy Seat
 - 2. Table of the bread of the Presence
 - 3. Golden lampstand

Tabernacle and Courtyard

- 1. Curtains/ frames
- 2. Altar of Burnt Offering
- 3. Courtyard

Tabernacle Servants

- 1. Priesthood
- 2. Priestly Garments
- 3. Ordination
- 4. Altar of Incense
- 5. Bronze Sea
- 6. Anointing Oil and Incense

Craftsmen Appointed

- Observance of Sabbath
- Rebellion
 - 1. Golden Calf
 - 2. Judgment
 - 3. Moses' Intercession
 - 4. Renewal of the Covenant

Tabernacle Constructed

- 1. God's Call to build
- 2. Voluntary gifts
- 3. Craftsmen
- 4. Moses blessing construction of Tabernacle
- 5. Building begins

6. Dedication of Tabernacle of Meeting

III. History of Gods People

- Adam and Eve created in the image of God
- Temptation/Sin/FallCurse
- Cane and Able born to Adam/Eve: Now in the image of both God and fallen Adam
- Wickedness of the entire world

Genesis 6:5 ...the Lord saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that **every intent** of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually.

• Flood: God's judgment on wickedness

Luke 17:26 ...as it was in the days of Noah, so it will be also in the days of the Son of Man: 27 They ate, they drank, they married wives, they were given in marriage, until the day that Noah entered the ark, and the flood came and destroyed them all...30 Even so will it be in the day when the Son of Man is revealed.

Noah and the Ark: Picture of God's Only Way of Salvation: Wood and Nails

Genesis 6:8 But Noah found grace in the eyes of the Lord.

- Noah/wife, 3 sons and their wives; 8 in all saved during judgment
- New beginning gets off to a bad start; people gather to build an Altar to the Stars
- Tower of Babel: Rebellion against God
 - 1. Satan is general contractor
 - 2. Nimrod superintendent

Genesis 11:5 But the Lord came down to see the city and the tower which the sons of men had built. 6 And the Lord said, "Indeed the people are one and they all have one language, and this is what they begin to do; now nothing that they propose to do will be withheld from them. 7 Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech." 8 So the Lord scattered them abroad from there over the face of all the earth

• Humanity Dispersed throughout the world: "What about the pygmies?"

Acts 17:26 [God] has made from one blood [Adam and Noah] every nation of men to dwell on all the face of the earth, and has determined their pre-appointed times and the boundaries of their dwellings, 27 so that they should seek the Lord, in the hope that they might grope for Him and find Him

- Noah's sons: Ham, Shem, and Japheth
 - 1. Shem's descendant was **Eber** [later "Hebrew"]
 - 2. Eber's descendant: Abram [Exalted Father] later Abraham [Father of many]

Abraham is promised the Promised Land after his people spend 400 years in bondage

Genesis 15:13 [God] said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four

hundred years. 14 And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions. 15 Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. 16 But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

- Abraham begat Isaac and Isaac begat Jacob who had 12 sons/ 12 Tribes of Israel
- **Joseph:** Jacob's Second youngest son and Abraham's grandson
 - 1. Brothers Jealous
 - a) Because of their Father Jacob's love for Joe
 - b) Because Joseph tell them his God given prophetic dreams of being a Ruler
 - 2. **Scheme to kill him** and though him in a pit
 - 3. **Sold to Ishmaelites** /brought to Egypt as a slave
 - 4. Father Jacob believes him dead
 - 5. **Egypt:** Falsely accused/never complains/trusts in Gods promise of leadership
 - a) God's providence though circumstances and obedience: Joe 2nd to Pharaoh
 - b) Pharaoh dreams/Joseph interprets: 7 yrs. of plenty then 7 yrs. of famine
 - c) Put in charge of food storage
 - d) After 7 yrs. of plenty...worldwide famine begins
 - e) Providence leads Jacob to send his sons, Joe's brothers, to Egypt for food
 - f) Brothers reunite with Joseph and Joseph forgives them...

Genesis 50:19 Joseph said to them, "Do not be afraid, for am I in the place of God? 20 But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive. 21 Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

Joseph calls for his whole family to come to Egypt [Food, Plush land] Sets up his father Jacob, brothers and families. We begin Exodus 400 years later

Exodus 1

"Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the Lord...which He will accomplish for you today"

I. Israel Birthed in Egypt: God's People in the World

1 Now these are the names of the children of Israel [Jacob] who came to Egypt; each man and his household came with Jacob: 2 Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; 3 Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; 4 Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. 5 All those who were descendants of Jacob were seventy persons (for Joseph was in Egypt already).

Exodus begins where Genesis ends:

Genesis 50:22 So Joseph dwelt in Egypt, he and his father's household. And Joseph lived one hundred and ten years. 23 Joseph saw Ephraim's children to the third generation. The children of Machir, the son of Manasseh, were also brought up on Joseph's knees. 24 And Joseph said to his brethren, "I am dying; but God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land to the land of which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob." 25 Then Joseph took an oath from the children of Israel, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here." 26 So Joseph died, being one hundred and ten years old;

and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

- Children of Israel in Egypt:
 - 1. 430 years total [Ex 12:40]
 - 2. 134-284 years in bondage
- God's people cry out to Him in affliction...

Psalm 61 [David] Hear my cry, O God; Attend to my prayer. 2 From the end of the earth I will cry to You, When my heart is overwhelmed; Lead me to the rock that is higher than I.

God sees the trouble and and hears the cry of His kids...

Exodus 3:9 behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.

Psalm 18:6[David] In my distress I called upon the Lord, And cried out to my God; He heard my voice from His temple, And my cry came before Him, even to His ears.

6 And **Joseph died**, all his brothers, and all that generation. 7 But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them.

- Joseph died but Israel increased abundantly/Grew exceedingly strong
- Land was filled with Abraham's descendants
 - 1. **Israel Began with five people:** Jacob, his wives and concubines
 - 2. 6% growth rate: Several million at this time

Israel was birthed in the petri dish of Egypt

John 17:15 I do not pray that You should take them out of the world, but that You should keep them from the evil one. 16 They are not of the world, just as I am not of the world. 17 Sanctify them by Your truth. Your word is truth.

- I don't pray ... that You should take them out
- I do pray ... that You keep them from the Devil

God's people are not of this world but are in the world...oppressed by the devil Jesus prayer to the Father...Set them apart by Your Truth...Your Word is Truth

- Joseph, Jacob and his sons passed down the Word of God to those in Egypt
- No Bible during stay in Egypt
 - 1. Oral tradition from Adam? Book of Job?
 - 2. Moses parents were set apart to God by trusting God's Word...

Hebrews 11:23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.

God's people have always been set apart/protected by Truth of God's Word:

8 Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.

Joseph died and so the regard of his family in Egypt is forgotten

- Egypt: Satanic World System
- **Pharaoh:** Picture of the Devil controlling the world

1 John 5:19 We know that we are of God, and the whole world lies under the sway of the wicked one.

Devils continued hatred for God's people...

Genesis 3:15 [God to the devil] I will put enmity between you and the woman, And between your seed and her Seed [God's people and ultimately Jesus]

Paraphrase: The devil hates Jesus and takes it out on His people: Christians and Jews

Pharaoh/Hitler/ISIS: Devil always uses willing pawns to oppress God's people

9 And [this new Pharaoh] said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we...

Genesis 47:27... Israel dwelt in the land of Egypt, in the country of Goshen; and they had possessions there and grew and multiplied exceedingly.

- Pharaoh states the problem:
 - 1. People of God are multiplying
 - 2. There are more of them than us
 - 3. They are stronger than us

10 ...come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land." 11 Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses.

- Pharaoh fears Israel will join Hittites against them
- Why are great leaders threatened by God's people...?
 - 1. **Little Israel:** 3 hours east/west and 6 hours north/south
 - 2. Feared by every world leader...

Zechariah 12:2 "Behold, I will make Jerusalem a cup of drunkenness to all the surrounding peoples, when they lay siege against Judah and Jerusalem. 3 And it shall happen in that day that I will make Jerusalem a very heavy stone for all peoples; all who would heave it away will surely be cut in pieces, though all nations of the earth are gathered against it.

- Pharaoh threatened by God's people creates a scheme:
 - 1. Set taskmasters over them
 - 2. Increase their work-load
 - 3. Let them build supply cities

II. Growth in Affliction

Exodus 1:12 But the more [the Egyptians] afflicted [the children of Israel], the more they multiplied and grew. And [the Egyptians] were in dread of the children of Israel.

Growth in Direct Proportion to Affliction

God is the potter and we are the clay...

Isaiah 64:8 ... O Lord, You are our Father; We are the clay, and You our potter; And all we are the work of Your hand.

Molding through Affliction/Chastening/Discipline: Potter's Wheel never stops turning

Psalm 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, But now I keep Your word.

Before I hurt I strayed from God

Psalm 119:71 It is good for me that I have been afflicted, That I may learn Your statutes.

Maturity says "Even though it hurt... I'm better/stronger for it"

Proverbs 27:6 Faithful are the wounds of a friend, But the kisses of an enemy are deceitful.

Wisdom accepts God's discipline

Psalm 119:75 I know, O Lord, that Your judgments are right, And that in faithfulness You have afflicted me.

...the more God's children were afflicted the more they multiplied and grew

- Pharaoh and Egyptians part of God's plan. Everything/Everybody is a teaching prop
 - 1. Egyptians
 - 2. Boss
 - 3. Family
 - 4. Friends
 - 5. Circumstances
 - 6. Illnesses
 - 7. Deaths
 - 8. Loss of Job
 - 9. Angels
 - 10. Even Satan is used in God's plan for our good...

2 Corinthians 12:7 ...lest I should be exalted above measure by the abundance of the revelations, a thorn in the flesh was given to me, a messenger of Satan to buffet me, lest I be exalted above measure. 8 Concerning this thing I pleaded with the Lord three times that it might depart from me. 9 And He said to me, "My grace is sufficient for you, for My strength is made perfect in weakness." Therefore most gladly I will rather boast in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me. 10 Therefore I take pleasure in

infirmities, in reproaches, in needs, in persecutions, in distresses, for Christ's sake. For when I am weak, then I am strong.

• For those going through hard times...Physical, Emotional, Spiritual

Hebrews 12:3 ...consider [Jesus] who endured such hostility from sinners against Himself, lest you become weary and discouraged in your souls.

- Jesus is our example: His suffering was not because he sinned
 - **4** You have not yet resisted to bloodshed, striving against sin.
- Our suffering it is incomparable to the suffering of Jesus

5 And you have forgotten the exhortation which speaks to you as to sons: "My son, do not despise the chastening of the Lord, Nor be discouraged when you are rebuked by Him; 6 For whom the Lord loves He chastens, And scourges every son whom He receives."

Do not despise or be discouraged by the trials God allows in your life.

They are specifically designed with love for you... His child

- **Choice:** Receive and become better/Reject and become bitter
 - **7** If you endure chastening, God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom a father does not chasten? 8 But if you are without chastening, of which all have become partakers, then you are illegitimate and not sons. 9 Furthermore, we have had human fathers who corrected us, and we paid them respect. Shall we not much more readily be in subjection to the Father of spirits and live? 10 For they indeed for a few days chastened us as seemed best to them, but He for our profit, that we may be partakers of His holiness.
- **Chastening:** pī-dyü'-ō, Lit to Learn, Teach, Instruct. E.g. to train children

Just as parents do not discipline other people's kids... God does not discipline those who are not His...

... 11 Now no chastening seems to be joyful for the present, but painful

No redirection to the norm seems joyful but knowing God's character we count it joy!

James 1:2 My brethren, count it all joy when you fall into various trials, 3 knowing that the testing of your faith produces patience. 4 But let patience have its perfect work, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking nothing.

- God's teaching seems painful...
 - **11b...** nevertheless, afterward it yields the peaceable fruit of righteousness to those who have been trained by it.
- For those who have chosen to be trained by God...

Result is the Peaceable Fruit of Righteousness

12 Therefore strengthen the hands which hang down, and the feeble knees, 13 and make straight paths for your feet, so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

Therefore:

- 1. Strengthen the hands that hang down
- 2. Strengthen the feeble knees

So that:

- 1. What is lame is not dislocated?
- 2. So those looking for help/healing from God are not hurt even worse by our attitude: i.e. our lack of faith in what God is doing in us...

Psalm 73:15 If I had said, "I will speak thus," Behold, I would have been untrue to the generation of Your children.

Hebrews 12:13....so that what is lame may not be dislocated, but rather be healed.

3. So those looking for help/healing from God are inspired by our faith

How we handle affliction is seen by a watching world... What they see in us will either build their faith in an all-knowing all-loving God or destroy their faith as we misrepresent God's character by complaining during hard times. [NJC]

Paul prayed for relief from the Thorn in the Flesh but he did not complain Joseph asked the Butler to help get him out of jail but never complained

Philippians 2:13 for it is God who works in you both to will and to do for His good pleasure. 14 Do all things without complaining and disputing, 15 that you may become blameless and harmless, children of God without fault in the midst of a crooked and perverse generation, among whom you shine as lights in the world, 16 holding fast the word of life

God's people are to trust that God has a good plan

Romans 8:28 ...we know that all things work together for good to those who love God, to those who are the called according to His purpose. 29 For whom He foreknew, He also predestined to be conformed to the image of His Son...

- Growth in direct proportion to affliction
- More afflictions/more growth: Enemy does not understand...

13 So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor.

III. Bondage vs. Freedom

- Pharaoh made them work faster/harder/longer
- Rigor: Harshness, Severity, Cruelty

Pharaoh a picture or Satan enslaving humanity by serving him...

- 1. Various Addictions
- 2. Deceit of Riches
- 3. Pride: Keeping up with Jones'

Might be a rock' n' roll addict prancing on the stage Might have money and drugs at your commands, women in a cage You may be a business man or some high degree thief they may call you Doctor or they may call you Chief. But you're gonna have to serve somebody, yes indeed You're gonna have to serve somebody, Well, it may be the devil or it may be the Lord But you're gonna have to serve somebody. BOB DYLAN

- Satan also uses Religion to enslave and damned humanity
- 4200 religions in the world

All religions have one thing in common: Working to please their deity. More rigorous they work the holier they believe they are

Some people believe they are serving God with zeal when in actuality they are serving the devil with rigor [NJC]

Ten Rigorous Religious Rituals

- 1. Undergarments: Mormons
- 2. Offering Wax Figures of Diseased Body Parts [Catholics in Brazil]
- 3. Nudist Monks: Jainism; Indian; emphasizing independence from human spirit
- 4. Rolling Over Leftover Food: "Made Made Snana" lit. "taking a bath by rolling over leftovers," [Indian] to cure skin diseases
- 5. Using an E-meter to Detect Spiritual Impediments: Scientology
- 6. Slaughtering a Chicken Onto Which Sins Have Been Transferred: Jewish sect
- 7. Naming self and son "Diego" after Argentinian Football god
 - 1. The football must not be stained
 - 2. Love football over all things;
 - 3. Declare your unconditional love of football;
 - 4. Defend the colours of Argentina;
 - 5. Preach the words of "Diego Maradona" all over the world;
 - 6. Pray in the temples where he preached, and to his sacred mantles
 - 7. Do not proclaim the name of Diego in the name of a single club
 - 8. Follow the teachings of the Maradonian Church;
 - 9. Let Diego be your second name, and that of your children;
 - 10. "No ser cabeza de termo y que no se te escape la tortuga" (meaning "don't be a hothead and don't let the turtle escape you").

The church reportedly has more than 200,000 followers all over the world.

- 8. Sky Burials: Propping up corpse devoured by vultures. Vajrayana Buddhists
- 9. Being Hanged by Putting Hooks Through One's Skin

In Kali temples of south Kerala, south India, devout followers participate in the ritual art form of Garudam Thookkam (Eagle Hanging). The ceremony begins with believers dressing up as Garuda — a large mythical humanoid bird that can be found in both Buddhist and Hindu mythology — then performing a dance. That's pretty ordinary. It's what happens afterwards which is pretty extreme: volunteer men dangle themselves from metal hooks that are put through the skin, mostly through their backs, and are displayed in a procession. As the bullock carts, hand-pulled carriages, or special boats move, the men swing from their hooks, the holes on the participants' skin being widened from the motion. The ritual is performed to pacify the god Kali, who is said to be satiated after receiving blood from a bleeding Garuda.

10. Infant Dropping: In western India, some parents volunteer to have their infants dropped fifty feet from the roof of a mosque and caught on a taut bed

sheet in the belief that it will ensure their family's good health and prosperity.

- Motive of Religion: First and foremost Demonic
- Also Fear/Control/Power/Money
 - 1. Join our group
 - 2. Sell these magazines
 - 3. Keep this ceremony
 - 4. Keep a checklist
 - 5. Keep the law like we do or you will not be accepted by god
- Legalists: Unless you rigorously keep the law you cannot be saved

Acts 15:10 [Peter answers]... why do you test God by putting a yoke on the neck of the disciples which neither our fathers nor we were able to bear? 11 But we believe that through the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ we shall be saved in the same manner as they."

Satan using religion to imprison people: Work harder to earn God's favor?

Galatians 2:16 ... a man is not justified by the works of the law but by faith in Jesus Christ, even we have believed in Christ Jesus, that we might be justified by faith in Christ and not by the works of the law; for by the works of the law no flesh shall be justified.

Romans 3:20 ...by the deeds of the law no flesh will be justified in His sight, for by the law is the knowledge of sin.

- Result of rigorous religious Christ-less labor: Slave to Sin
 - 1. Bitterness and turning from God completely
 - 2. Self-Righteousness believing the line is behind you
 - 3. Lack of discernment/misuse and misinterpretation of Scripture
 - a) Dietary Laws
 - b) Sabbath
 - c) Cults convincing members to refuse blood transfusions to save them

Religion is a powerful motivator. AC will use the FP and the Woman that rides the beast [Worldwide Religion] to enslave the who whole world

2 Thessalonians 2:9 The coming of the lawless one is according to the working of Satan, with all power, signs, and lying wonders, 10 and with all unrighteous deception among those who perish, because they did not receive the love of the truth, that they might be saved. 11 And for this reason God will send them strong delusion, that they should believe the lie, 12 that they all may be condemned who did not believe the truth but had pleasure in unrighteousness.

Revelation 12:9 ...the great dragon was cast out, that serpent of old, called the Devil and Satan, who **deceives the whole world** [cf. Revelation 17]

- Devotion to religious rigor actually leads to inability to control fleshly desires...
 - 1. Drinking
 - 2. Sex
 - 3. Greed
 - 4. Gossip

5. Slander

Colossians 2:23 [These cults give the] appearance of wisdom in self-imposed religion, false humility, and neglect of the body, but are of no value against the indulgence of the flesh.

- Result of accepting Jesus Grace: Servant of righteousness motivated by love
 - 1. Peace
 - 2. Forgiveness
 - 3. Acceptance
 - 4. Victory over sin
 - 5. Rest instead of rigorous bondage

Matthew 11:28 Come to Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. 29 Take My yoke upon you and learn from Me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. 30 For My yoke is easy and My burden is light."

• We are either a slave to sin or a servant of righteousness

Romans 6:16 Do you not know that to whom you present yourselves slaves to obey, you are that one's slaves whom you obey, whether of sin leading to death, or of obedience leading to righteousness?

Servants of Christ are free from Bondage

Romans 7:6 But now we have been delivered from the law, having died to what we were held by, so that we should serve in the newness of the Spirit and not in the oldness of the letter.

• Strive to enter His rest: Hebrews 4:11

Galatians 5:1 Stand fast therefore in the liberty by which Christ has made us free, and do not be entangled again with a yoke of bondage.

So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor...

- Picture of Satan's...
 - 1. Condemnation
 - 2. Ridicule
 - 3. Humiliation
 - 4. Shame
 - 5. Degradation

Jesus offers a remarkable relationship w/ God through faith ...not rigorous religion motivated by fear and superstition

God's people serving with rigor under Pharaoh Cry out to God for a deliverer... and God hears their cry

IV. Reward for Fearing God: Family of God

14 And [the Egyptians] made their lives bitter with hard bondage—in mortar,

in brick, and in all manner of service in the field. All their service in which they made them serve was with rigor. 15 Then the king of Egypt [Pharaoh] spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of one was Shiphrah and the name of the other Puah; 16 and he said, "When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live."

- Pharaoh wants to kill all Israelite male children as soon as they leave the womb
- Demonic command from Pharaoh; Satan's scheme to stop the Messiah

Revelation 12:4 ...the dragon [devil] stood before the woman [Israel] who was ready to give birth, to devour her Child as soon as it was born.

Who does the devil hate? THE SON OF GOD

- Devil has always sought to kill the Messiah
 - 1. Genesis 6 to pollute gene pool of mankind
 - 2. Here in Egypt with command to kill Jewish male children
 - 3. Haman proposing a decree to kill all Jews in Book of Esther
 - 4. Herod killing all male children in Bethlehem in Matthew 2
 - 5. Romans and Jews hell bent hatred of Jesus
- Devils continued hatred against God's people; Israel and Church
 - 1. Great Satan and Little Satan
 - 2. ISIS
 - 3. Iran
 - 4. Islam
 - 5. Our government taking down monuments with Scripture
 - 6. Military disallowing Name of Jesus in prayers
 - 7. NASA disallowing Name of Jesus

What do we do? We allow the fear God to influence our decisions rather than the fear of man!

17 But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.

Midwives:

1. **Shiphrah:** "Pleasing or Fair"

2. **Puah:** "Splendid"

Disobeyed Pharaoh: Much Courage

When man's laws transgress God's laws we are to obey God's law

Acts 5:28 [Leaders to Apostles] "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" 29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to

obey God rather than men.

Midwives were wise: Feared God more than man

Proverbs 9:10 "The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom, And the knowledge of the Holy One is understanding.

Proverbs 29:25 The fear of man brings a snare, But whoever trusts in the Lord shall be safe.

18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?" 19 And the midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come to them."

- Lie or not tell entire truth?
- Whatever the case, was not for self-preservation but for lives of others
 - 1. Rahab hiding spies
 - 2. Nazi Germany those hiding Jews
- **Greater good?** What was God's response to the actions of the midwives?

20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty.

- People multiplies because of the courage of these ladies
- Because of their courage as Mary's a deliverer will be born
- God rewarded them...

21 And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households for them.

- Shiphrah and Puah: Mid-wife supervisors over many
 - 1. God is **pleased**
 - 2. Sees them as names suggest; i.e. **splendid, wonderful, marvelous**
 - 3. **Provides households for them;** Lit. God gave them families of their own

For those who had nothing He gave a household: Family, Protection, and Shelter

- We had nothing and God provided a household for us...the family of God
- 22 So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive."
 - God gave them a family of their own...but the devil never sleeps