

WHEN YOU BECOME OVERLOADED WHILE SERVING IN MINISTRY

(Exodus 18)

I. ISRAEL'S REDEMPTION FROM EGYPT (Exodus 1-18)

A. The Reunion of Jethro and Moses (18:1-12)

1. Jethro was Moses' father-in-law (Zipporah's father) and a _____ from _____.
(v. 1)

* Who were the Midianites?

2. Jethro brought his daughter and grandsons with him to the Israelite encampment so they could be with their husband/father; Moses related to Jethro _____ that the _____ had _____ in Egypt and in the wilderness thus far. (vv. 2-8)

* Where were the Israelites encamped at this time?

3. After hearing the good news of what God had done for Israel (v. 8), Jethro responded by _____ (v. 9), _____ the Lord (v. 10), _____ his faith (v. 11), and offering _____ to God (v. 12).

* Did this mark Jethro's conversion to the Lord or the confirmation of his faith?

B. The Recommendation of Jethro to Moses (18:13-27)

1. Identifying the problem (vv. 13-18):

- a. Moses sat _____ hearing _____ the cases of the Israelites, no one helped him. (v. 13a)
- b. The ridiculous duration that he did this was from _____ until _____. (v. 13b)
- c. This was a recipe for leadership _____. (vv. 14-18)

2. Jethro's recommendations (vv. 19-23):

- a. Moses would retain his exclusive role as _____ between God and the Israelites. (v. 19)
- b. He would _____ the people God's _____. (v. 20)
- c. He would _____ the responsibility of judging less difficult cases to qualified men. (vv. 21-22)
 - 1) men who "_____ *God*"
 - 2) "*men of* _____"
 - 3) men who "_____ *covetousness*"
- d. It was Jethro's opinion that if Moses followed these _____ he would be able to _____ these _____. (v. 23)

3. In verses 24-27 Moses followed his father-in-law's advice probably sometime _____ the revelation on Mt. Sinai and he appointed "_____ " (Deut. 1:1-19) who met the qualifications set forth back in v. 21.

* What can you learn from all of this?