

I. Intro

A. Text: **Ex. 12:12-13**

¹² For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. (Ex. 12:12-13)

B. Recap

1. Acknowledged Weakness → Strength of God (**Ex. 3:18-20**)

¹⁸ And they will listen to your voice, and you and the elders of Israel shall go to the king of Egypt and say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us; and now, please let us go a three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.' ¹⁹ But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless compelled by a mighty hand. ²⁰ So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all the wonders that I will do in it; after that he will let you go. (Ex. 3:18-20)

2. When the elders would hear Moses call out the name of the God who is, they will listen (**v. 18**)!
 - a. They will ponder about His attributes
 - b. They will witness His wonders, signs, favor
 - c. Ultimately, Israel will Listen!
3. But the King of Egypt will NOT listen (**v. 19**)
 - a. The signs that softened Israel's heart toward God, only hardened Pharaoh's.
 - b. The only thing that would move Pharaoh's heart was the mighty, unbridled arm of God.
 - i. Only the unbridled power of God will accomplish God's purpose/plan! (**v. 20**)

4. God's Instructions Are Excuse-Proof

- a. What if I don't have all the resources?

¹ Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.'" ² The LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." ³ And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. (Ex. 4:1-3)

- b. What if I'm not talented enough?

¹⁰ But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue."

¹¹ Then the LORD said to him, "Who has made man's mouth? Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD? ¹² Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak." (Ex. 4:10-12)

- i. I will empower you and enable you.
 - ii. I will send you someone alongside you (v. 14-15)

C. Israel is My Firstborn Son (Let Him Go).

²² Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the LORD, Israel is my firstborn son,

²³ and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.'" (Ex. 4:22-23)

- 1. God previews His jealousy as a Father who has watched the mistreatment/abuse of His son.

- a. Vengeance is mine... (Deut. 32:35, Rom. 12:9)

- 2. Message accompanied by Signs/Wonders

- a. Aaron's Rod (Ex. 7:8-12)

- b. 10 Plagues

- i. Water/Blood (Ex. 7:14-25)

- ii. Frogs (Ex. 8:1-15)

- iii. Lice (Ex. 8:16-19)

- iv. Flies (Ex. 8:20-32)

- v. Diseased Livestock (Ex. 9:1-12)

- vi. Hail (**Ex. 9:13-35**)
- vii. Locusts (**Ex. 10:1-20**)
- viii. Darkness (**Ex. 10:21-29**)
- ix. Death of Firstborn (**Ex. 11:1-9**)

II. The Passover Legacy (**Ex. 12-14**)

A. Deliverance Was Previewed in the Beginning, Then Repeated

¹The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, ²“This month shall be for you the beginning of months. It shall be the first month of the year for you. ³Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month every man shall take a lamb according to their fathers' houses, a lamb for a household. ⁴And if the household is too small for a lamb, then he and his nearest neighbor shall take according to the number of persons; according to what each can eat you shall make your count for the lamb. (Ex. 12:1-4)

- 1. A communal sharing of the Lamb.
 - a. A Lamb for a single household (**v. 3**) or a lamb shared by adjoining households. (**v. 4**)
 - b. Kept 4 days as a member of the family. (**v. 6**)
 - c. Every family in the congregation sacrificed the lamb at the same time - Twilight (**v. 6b**).
 - i. Placed the blood on the doorposts (**v.7**)
 - d. Every family ate the flesh roasted in fire with bitter herbs and unleavened bread.
- 2. Required to go back to the Beginning every year as a reminder of their past, explanation of their present and a prophecy of their future.

B. Deliverance is Inseparable From Vengeance

¹²For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD. ¹³The blood shall be a sign for you, on the

houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. (Ex. 12:12)

1. God promised to strike all the firstborn of Egypt. (**Ex. 12:12**)
 - a. Destroy without discrimination or hesitation.
 - i. God's plagues and judgments are punishments against false deities and all those who serve them (**v. 12b**).
 - b. Outcome (**Ex. 12:29-30**)

²⁹ At midnight the LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock. ³⁰ And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians. And there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where someone was not dead. (Ex. 12:29-30)

- i. God struck down all the firstborn in Egypt.
2. God Promised to save all the firstborn of Israel (**Ex. 12:13**)

¹³ The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. (Ex. 12:13)

- a. Outcome: When God saw the blood, His vengeance was appeased.
 - i. No harm will fall to that house.

C. Deliverance ≠ Removal of Adversity and Trials

1. **Comparison:** Paul had been supposedly stoned to death at Antioch and Iconium (**Acts 14:19**)
 - a. Returned after preaching the gospel with a word of encouragement and exhortation.

²² strengthening the souls of the disciples, encouraging them to continue in the faith, and saying that through many tribulations we must enter the kingdom of God. (Acts 14:22)

- b. Through many tribulations must you enter into the Promises of God.

2. God Often Prescribes Deliverance with Trouble/Opposition

¹ Then the LORD said to Moses, ² “Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea. ³ For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, ‘They are wandering in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.’ ⁴ And I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD.” And they did so. (Ex. 14:1-4)

- a. The wilderness has shut them in
 - i. Pharaoh’s army on one side and the Red Sea on the other. (v. 1-3)
- b. God’s Way of Deliverance Can Be Offensive To Our Evil Hearts

¹⁰ When Pharaoh drew near, the people of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly. And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. ¹¹ They said to Moses, “Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness? What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? ¹² Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: ‘Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians’? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness.” (Ex. 14:10-12)

- i. It would’ve been better to stay in Egypt than to be pursued by enemies.
- ii. It’d be better to stay in bondage than to encounter adversity on the way to freedom.

*Offended at the wisdom of God, who led them to the Red Sea.

III. Conclusion:

A. God was Burning/Zealous For a Few Things

1. Bent on judging Pharaoh, so He hardened Pharaoh's heart. (**v. 4a**)
2. Bent on delivering Israel, so He set the plan up to do that in miraculous fashion.

B. Most of all, God is concerned about glory. (**v. 4b**)

⁴ And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD."
And they did so. (Ex. 14:4)

1. I will get the glory!
 - a. They shall know that I am YAH!
2. Specific Instructions that were geared toward God getting all the glory.

¹³ And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. ¹⁴ The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent." (Ex. 14:13-14)

3. God is still zealous to deliver, zealous to exact judgment.

¹⁷ And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen.

¹⁸ And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen." (Ex. 14:17-18)

- a. Deliverance/Judgment are two sides of the same coin that are fueled by God's demand for glory!