

## **For Anguish of Spirit and for Cruel Bondage**

Exodus 6:6 – 7:1

~ God said, "I" - seven times before the end of our last report from our Spiritual Safari. Moses went to Pharaoh on the basis of asking him to release Israel from out of their bondage in sin, and Pharaoh said, "... nothing doing – who is the Lord that I should obey Him?" Then, Pharaoh increased the workload on the children of Israel exponentially and made their slavery even more unbearable. The children of Israel complained to Moses and Moses complained to the Lord; the Lord, in return, gave Moses the assurance of what He was going to do. Can you look back in your life and be absolutely sure of a time when God held and sustained you? Are you sure of it? – I am! I can say very definitely God has intervened on my behalf - and more than once. History with God is very important, friends. God hears the groaning of the children of Israel at the time in which we are studying. God knows your needs today and He knows your desperate condition – and mine, too – and He is the only one Who can possibly help us. So, it only makes sense that God is not finished talking to us about Himself....

### **VI**

***6 Wherefore say unto the children of Israel, I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will rid you out of their bondage, and I will redeem you with a stretched out arm, and with great judgments:***

***7 And I will take you to me for a people, and I will be to you a God: and ye shall know that I am the LORD your God, which bringeth you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.***

***8 And I will bring you in unto the land, concerning the which I did swear to give it to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob; and I will give it you for an heritage: I am the LORD.***

~ Seven times God says, "I will" and "I am!" This constitutes the seven "I will's" of redemption; and redemption is the theological subject of the Book of Exodus. God says He will bring His people out from the burden of the Egyptians. For us today, this means deliverance from the burdens of sin and from the things of the world. We're told to love not the things of the world as they bring sorrow and burdens to our hearts. God delivers us from the sorrow and burden of sin! God can deliver you from the slavery of sin! The burdens are heavy upon these people in Egypt at this time. God says He is going to take them out of that bondage. God is going to redeem them with a stretched-out arm. Who has believed our report? To whom is the arm of the Lord revealed? I don't know; but if you're reading, then maybe it's you? Let's allow God to reach down and work in our lives.

His work of redemption is not some silly and shallow claiming of Jesus this and Jesus that with absolutely no proper placement for the mention of sin. We don't invite Him to our party and introduce Him around like He's our new kid in town; no, friends, that's the mythical gods you're dragging around. We're looking for a Savior from our sins on this safari. In the sight of God, you are utterly lost and corrupt in your willful disobedience and rebellion. If you are honest with yourself, you'll recognize that is your condition. It is while we are in that state of death that Christ loved us enough to die for our sins - to give us life. We have the great plan of salvation right here in the beginning of the Book of Exodus; through God's seven "I will's" of redemption. This is lifting us out of the muck and mire of sin in Egyptian slavery and making us sons of God by faith in Christ Jesus, my beloved.

God says He will be our God and that He will never leave us nor forsake us! If you say you are living for Jesus, but you go on living in your sins, then you are not saved. You may have had some sort of experience, but if your life has not been transformed and your heart has not been radically changed - then you're not saved, friends. Do you find satisfaction in bowing down to God and confessing your sins while acknowledging Christ as Lord? This is no joking matter because God says we "will know" - and that needs to be considered. God will have us to know that we are saved because we know Christ who bringeth us out of the burdens of the Egyptians. There are several Biblical questions we're going to have to be sure of before we will

be able to know we are saved in our hearts. The sin question is going to have to be settled in our lives completely. Are you living in the light and in the love of a Living Savior? This is your life we're talking about.

Today, we are blessed with all spiritual blessings as Paul says, "... having been justified by faith we have peace with God through the Lord Jesus Christ." We have access to our Father in the Throne Room of Heaven in Christ. That alone should bring us comfort, joy and peace in the midst of trouble. We've been given His Spirit and we are delivered from the wrath that is to come; that is, we are delivered from the Great Tribulation period. There is no genuine salvation available that will not radically transform your life. It's difficult for these people at this time to believe Moses; he had not helped them – in fact – he had hurt them. So, Moses is not accepted. Moses is not accepted by Pharaoh, either - and that creates serious reluctance on Moses part to go back to Pharaoh for round two. Well, God says we are to look to Him at times like these and not our circumstances. As we read on, God just changes the subject by giving this long genealogy again so, happy reading....

***9 And Moses spake so unto the children of Israel: but they hearkened not unto Moses for anguish of spirit, and for cruel bondage.***

***10 And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,***

***11 Go in, speak unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, that he let the children of Israel go out of his land.***

***12 And Moses spake before the LORD, saying, Behold, the children of Israel have not hearkened unto me; how then shall Pharaoh hear me, who am of uncircumcised lips?***

***13 And the LORD spake unto Moses and unto Aaron, and gave them a charge unto the children of Israel, and unto Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.***

***14 These be the heads of their fathers' houses: The sons of Reuben the firstborn of Israel; Hanoch, and Pallu, Hezron, and Carmi: these be the families of Reuben.***

***15 And the sons of Simeon; Jemuel, and Jamin, and Ohad, and Jachin, and Zohar, and Shaul the son of a Canaanitish woman: these are the families of Simeon.***

***16 And these are the names of the sons of Levi according to their generations; Gershon, and Kohath, and Merari: and the years of the life of Levi were an hundred thirty and seven years.***

***17 The sons of Gershon; Libni, and Shimi, according to their families.***

***18 And the sons of Kohath; Amram, and Izhar, and Hebron, and Uzziel: and the years of the life of Kohath were an hundred thirty and three years.***

***19 And the sons of Merari; Mahali and Mushi: these are the families of Levi according to their generations.***

***20 And Amram took him Jochebed his father's sister to wife; and she bare him Aaron and Moses: and the years of the life of Amram were an hundred and thirty and seven years.***

***21 And the sons of Izhar; Korah, and Nepheg, and Zichri.***

***22 And the sons of Uzziel; Mishael, and Elzaphan, and Zithri.***

***23 And Aaron took him Elisheba, daughter of Amminadab, sister of Naashon, to wife; and she bare him Nadab, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.***

***24 And the sons of Korah; Assir, and Elkanah, and Abiasaph: these are the families of the Korhites.***

***25 And Eleazar Aaron's son took him one of the daughters of Putiel to wife; and she bare him Phinehas: these are the heads of the fathers of the Levites according to their families.***

***26 These are that Aaron and Moses, to whom the LORD said, Bring out the children of Israel from the land of Egypt according to their armies.***

~ God is insistent on this genealogy. I think He wants to know that we know who He is talking about. We are His children; we are sons of God through faith in Christ; but we had better be sure about it! Three sons in verse seventeen constitute the Levites; and we are now examining the genealogy leading to Christ. Aaron was older than Moses so the decree by Pharaoh likely had not been entered at the time of Aaron's birth. So, we reach a rather discouraging place in our Spiritual Safari. The circumcised do not accept Moses and the uncircumcised also reject Moses. God absolutely has to be Who He claims to be before the children of Israel can be delivered. Christ must be the virgin born Messiah that we saw in Matthew or our salvation is false. Moses and Aaron must be THIS Moses and Aaron - and God confirms this is who He spake of. This is in the line of Levi; and Moses was brought up in the court of Pharaoh. Then, Moses ran off to Midian and got married. Now he's back. Well, they have some questions about Moses identity. They don't know who Moses really is and the credentials are extremely important. So, with this background the call is renewed to Moses and to Aaron....

***27 These are they which spake to Pharaoh king of Egypt, to bring out the children of Israel from Egypt: these are that Moses and Aaron.***

***28 And it came to pass on the day when the LORD spake unto Moses in the land of Egypt,***

***29 That the LORD spake unto Moses, saying, I am the LORD: speak thou unto Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I say unto thee.***

***30 And Moses said before the LORD, Behold, I am of uncircumcised lips, and how shall Pharaoh hearken unto me?***

## VII

***1 And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet.***

~ Moses makes another excuse for his inaction to the Lord in verse thirty of chapter six. Frankly, it's not a very pleasant task Moses has been assigned. Moreover, he has been rejected all the way along. So, it's no surprise that we see Moses hesitating. This is going to be our safari base-line definition of prophet, also. Moses will be as God to Pharaoh and Aaron will speak for him. God has sent prophets to speak to His people in the past. These prophets were men that spoke to man for God. They wrote down Gods thoughts so man could read them. A prophet has a message from God to the people. That is exactly the opposite of a priest, by the way. The priest goes to God FOR man in prayer. These are two completely separate offices and we see Aaron representing Moses before the people and Moses representing God before both the people and Pharaoh. I believe this is something wonderful that God would have us to see and know ~

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