

Wednesday Night Worship & Study
Exodus Bible Study
September 30rd, 2020

Last Week

Exodus 4: God and Moses at the burning bush Part II

- God and Moses at the burning bush finish their first conversation:
 - God gives Moses 3 signs for the Hebrews to believe him
 - God gives Moses Aaron to speak on his behalf

- Israel is God's firstborn

- God was going to kill Moses because he didn't circumcise his firstborn in obedience to covenant with Abraham

- Vs 30-31 – And Aaron spoke all the words which the LORD had spoken to Moses. The he did the signs in the sight of the people So the people believed and when they heard that the Lord had visited the children of Isarel and that He had looked on their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshiped.

- Application:
 - Generally, do the Great Commission (Matt 28:18-19)
 - Specifically, use your Spiritual Gifts (1 Cor 12:11)
 - God has given us signs as believers to confirm our message

Tonight

Exodus 5-6 the text –meeting Pharaoh

5:1-5 – 1st meeting with Pharaoh

- v1 – “let My people go”
- v2 – Pharaoh:
 - Who is the LORD, that I should obey Him?
 - I do not know the LORD nor will I let Israel go. (Moses should have recalled this from 3:19; 4:21)

- v3 – They restate the request more specifically plus the potential for divine judgment – “lest He fall upon us (*or He may strike us*) with pestilence or with the sword”
- vs 4-5 – Pharaoh tells them all their doing is keeping the people from their work!

vs 6-20 – Consequences on the Hebrews

- Pharaoh makes it much harder on the Hebrews to keep them focused on serving him:
 - Stopped providing them with straw for bricks requiring them to do the gathering too...without a reduction in quota of bricks
 - They had to collect their own straw from “abroad throughout all
- Order goes down the chain of command from Egyptians to Hebrew officers...and then the complaint came back to Pharaoh who said they had too much time on their hands if they could go and sacrifice to the LORD
- Hebrews connect their woes to Moses and Aaron and blame them for their seemingly hopeless *circumstances*

vs 5:22-6:13 – conversation between Moses and God: Israel’s deliverance is assured!

- vs 5:22-23 Moses’ accusations (*divine reality vs circumstances?*)
 - Moses – “Lord why have You brought trouble on this people? Why have You sent me? Your name has brought only Pharaoh’s evil on this people, nor have You delivered Your people at all!”
- vs 6:1-8 God responds
 - v1 Wait and see what I will do!
 - “I am the LORD” – How God reveals Himself in His name:
 - v2 God (*Elohiym* – the strong, creator God) says “I *am* the LORD” (*Jehovah* / YHWH/ Yahweh– Lord, master and relational God who is present and near to those who call on Him for deliverance, forgiveness, and guidance; strictly speaking the ONLY proper name for God)

- v3 God revealed Himself to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob as God Almighty (*El Shaddai* – Almighty God, speaks to God’s ultimate power over all) and not by LORD (*Jehovah*)
- LORD *again* tells Moses (*divine reality*):
 - vs 4-5 Recites and remembers the covenant to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob regarding the land and sees His people’s affliction
 - vs 6-8 Moses’ message is that the Lord will deliver His people with ‘an outstretched arm and with great judgment’
 - “I will” – 7Xs in this passage to fulfill God’s part of the covenant
 - Wonders and miracles of judgment to be done to Pharaoh (and previously revealed to Moses! 3:20; 4:21-23)
 - His people will be brought out of Egypt as He had promised Abraham
- v9 but the people did not heed Moses because of anguish of spirit and cruel bondage (*circumstances!*)
- vs 10-13 Repeating the command and another objection
 - if the Hebrews won’t listen then why would Pharaoh? (*Moses seeing his circumstances!*)
 - “uncircumcised lips”: slow of or stammering speech...
 - Command of obedience in spite of our circumstances and what we ‘see, think and/or feel’!

Vs 6:14-27 – Family of Moses and Aaron

- Moses and Aaron are descendants of Levi, 3rd son of Jacob by Leah.
- Both Aaron’s son Eleazar and grandson Phinehas would become Israel’s High Priests.

Application

- How do you describe your circumstances and expectations? (*your life, family, job, financials, job, church, relation with Christ, etc.*)
- How do you describe God and His promises?
- How close are these two? (more of Him or you in your thinking?)
- Name at least five things to help you balance and remind yourself to not focus on your circumstances and expectations but rather to recall and be fixated on God's promises?
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
 5. _____

Before Next Wednesday Night Read Exodus 6:28-8:32

Questions from last week (*Let Scripture interpret Scripture!*)

Q1 Why did the Israelites need mana (food from heaven) if they had their flocks and herds with them? Could they not eat them?

A1 Mana and quail were given to the people in Exodus 16. In Ex 17:3; 34:3 we see they indeed had their livestock. *Couple of thoughts:*

- *The complaint by the people was when they were in Egypt they sat by pots of meat and ate bread to the full" (16:3). They apparently enjoyed eating bread which would have been very difficult 'on the road' in the desert as they were.*
- *God says He will provide bread to "test them, whether they will walk in My law or not." (gathering so much, not on the 7th day, etc.)*
- *It does not say they didn't also eat some of the livestock. Quail would have been much easier to prepare daily than slaughtering and preparing meat from the livestock.*
- *God heard their complaints and provided for them.*

Q2 What sits at the mercy seat? Is it one of the two men who didn't die (Elijah and Enoch)?

A2 <https://www.gotquestions.org/mercy-seat.html> In short, it was the lid or cover of the ark of the covenant. Here God provided mercy to the people when blood of the atonement sacrifice was sprinkled. In regards to the two men who didn't die, some have speculated they are the two witnesses of Revelation 11 but it does not say that.

Q3 Why did God want to kill Moses (4:24) if he'd already chosen him to lead his people out of Egypt?

A3 Exodus 4:24 says God 'baqash' (Hebrew – seek, request, sought, desire, etc.) to kill Moses. Couple thoughts on this:

- 1. God 'sought' to kill Moses unless or until the circumcision was completed. Once He was appeased, Moses was spared ('let go').*
- 2. In Moses disobedience, God has the right and prerogative to have mercy or not. God was not dependent upon Moses whatsoever and could have used another.*

Q4 Is it ok to agree to disagree?

A4 It is ok to agree to disagree. We see this in Scripture most prominently between Paul and Barabas in Acts 15:36-41. We are to exercise Christian liberty on things that are optional or subject to different opinions – Romans 14:12-16; Galatians 5:13; 1 Corinthians 8. We can disagree in a Godly way as well as in a very unGodly way. Key is always to check one's heart and motivation.

Q5 What was the purpose of circumcision? (or What does the Bible say about circumcision?)

A5 <https://www.gotquestions.org/circumcision.html>

Q6 What about Bible translations we don't agree with or even find objectionable?

A6 First it is necessary to understand some basics about the various Bible translations and how they are developed, and how Antioch's leaders use them:

- 1. There are many views on translations as seen at www.gotquestions.org/Bible-translations.html. We are very blessed we have so many approaches to translations and the different 'perspectives' they bring. It is important to understand that they all translations come up short apart from the original text; understanding*

- the specific audience, their circumstances, culture, geography, etc.; and the Holy Spirit's teaching us.*
2. *The Bible was originally written Hebrew, Aramaic (limited) and Greek. Ultimately, this is the 'source' from which every other translation comes. Even today as we read our Bible we have to aware of this and as necessary go back to the original lanuage to best interpret Scripture. Fortunately, there are some fairly simple and readily available tools to help us do this in sites such as www.blueletterbible.org.*
 3. *English translations are always a 'trade off' between a 'word for word' from the original language and a 'thought for thought' approach. The latter attempts to identify the concept and intent (thought) from the original writer into today's language. Some translations try and staddle the fence such as the NIV. All approaches (and everything in between) loses accuracy and intent from the original language due to the items described in item 1.*
 4. *At Antioch, the Elders generally use a 'word for word' translation such as the ESV, NKJV, NASB for study and supplement these with 'thought for thought' translations such as NLT and NIV (some versions but not all!). Additionally, they will go back to the original lanuage to ensure they better appreciate and understand what was specifically said and the words used. So it is not one translation but many that are used to ensure correct theology and interpretation.*