

WHY IS THIS SO HARD?

EXODUS 4-5 – ERIC SIMPSON – NOVEMBER 5, 2017

Exodus 5:22-23

²² Moses returned to the LORD and said, "O Lord, why have you brought trouble upon this people? Is this why you sent me? ²³ Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble upon this people, and you have not rescued your people at all."

You can be in the center of God's will, doing God's work, God's way for God's glory and find yourself on the downward slope of bad-to-worse.

The rhythm of a God-guided life...

➤ Glimpse

A leading from God about where He's guiding you.

A "nudge" from the Holy Spirit that is saying, "step up and step out."

Exodus 3 – Lord, light a fire in my heart that doesn't need me for fuel.

➤ Descent

You say "yes" to this nudge from God and circumstances get worse.

The way you envisioned this going is vastly different from what's actually occurring.

Exodus 5 – Pharaoh increases the workload of the Israelites.

➤ Breakthrough

For those that persevere through the descent, eventually a breakthrough comes.

You begin to experience in reality what you got a glimpse of months/years earlier.

Exodus 12 – Moses and the Israelites pack their bags and begin to move out of Egypt.

"Descents are required to prepare us for greater vision because calling rests first upon our character...Authority to change the world flows first from who we are, not what we say or do. What we learn through disappointment, discouragement, or downright disillusionment makes us who we are and gives us the authority to influence change, sometimes well beyond our dreams. There's purpose, even virtue, in our suffering if we are brave enough to accept its wisdom." – Stephan Bauman