EXODUS 6:1-7:7 ASSURANCE FROM GOD

There are times when things just don't seem to be going the way we want them to go. We may be in the will of God but His will seems to take forever. Things can go from bad to worse and we wonder what God is doing. We then start to doubt God and forget what He has said in the first place. We may even complain and moan about the way things seem to turn out. But one thing, God is not finished yet. This all too familiar scene was what Moses went through as he was following the commands of the Lord. But Pharaoh did not go along with what Moses was asking and that left Moses in a quandry. The people were worse off than they were before Moses came to deliver them. Baffled, Moses went to God and asked why he was sent any way. What kind of god is Yahweh anyway. Is He a good God? Do you keep your promises, God?

Moses had a lot to learn about God because God never breaks His promises, such as the covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God's character is at stake here, and Moses must know this. He must remember that God said "I will be with you." This just hadn't sunk in to Moses' mind yet. He is confused and despondent, the people have turned their backs on him, and the Pharaoh's pride is increasing.

This is where God comes in and responds to Moses. God says, "Now look at what I will do. I made a promise and I will keep it". Moses really needed to hear this. He needed to know this reassurance that God was giving him. God knew what He was doing and He was ready to do something about it.

1. THE LORD BRINGS TO MIND HIS PROMISES VV1-9

God did not rebuke Moses for his doubt and complaining. He gave Moses two pieces of counsel. One was about His person. Another was about His work. He wanted Moses to have his eyes on Him, not on the circumstances. Keeping our eyes on the Lord is the cure all.

A. THE TIME IS NOW 1

Pharaoh is at the height of his pride and Israel is at it lowest depth so now it was time for the Lord to get things rolling. When man is at his wit's end, God uses a great opportunity to save. When man realizes he is utterly hopeless is when God does His work. Psalm 12:5

B. STRONG HAND OF THE LORD 1

God's deliverance will be accomplished when He takes the work into His own hands. The strong hand of His justice breaks those

who would not bend.

C. GOD'S NAME, YAHWEH (The Person) 2-3

He begins by telling Moses who He was. After this He will tell Him what He is going to do. It is like God is saying, "Remember who I am. Get your eyes back on me. This is the best counsel there is. Keep looking at the Lord, the sovereign Lord of the universe, always faithful, good, compassionate, gracious, wise, just, changeless. Exodus 3:14 I Am that I Am Ex 6:2,6,7,8,29

This is the fountain of being and infinite perfection. All of creation leans upon Him for support. God wanted Moses to lean upon Him too. He would now be known by His name Yahweh.

Abraham came to know Him as Yahweh, Jireh, the LORD will Provide. The LORD also was known as Yahweh Tsidkenu, the LORD our Righteousness. Another name was Yahweh Nissi, the LORD our Banner. There were other names that God revealed about Himself that would help them know who He was. God was now going to show them an intimacy with deity they had never known, a level of caring and commitment, and a control over nature they had never experienced.

This verse does not say that God is now giving a new name, but that God's name is now going to be fully known. The significance of the name is going to be understood. His salvation name is now fully known. The patriarchs knew God as El Shaddai, the all sufficient and all powerful God. By being delivered from Egypt, the Israelites will come to know God in a way that the patriarchs did not. The focus of God's message to the Israelites is on who He is, and their understanding of the situation is based on that fact. D. COVENANT 4

Gen 15 and Gen 17 were chapters dealing with God's covenant with Abraham. The covenants God makes, He establishes. They are as solid as the truth of God can possibly be. What He says He will do, He will do. We can stand upon His truth. He is the one who appeared to their ancestors and bound Himself to them in a covenant. God had not forgotten that covenant, nor it's promises to give them the land of Canaan.

E. COMPASSION 5

God is good. If evil comes, it is not because He arbitrarily does it. If it happens, it is for the greater good. Of course the cross is the best exhibit of this. Everything was working according to plan, bad as it looked. Whenever it feels like God has abandoned us, we need to remember, "Cast all your cares upon Him, for He cares for you." 1 Peter 5:7

Exodus 2:24

God fully knows when His people go through heavy adversity and He feels for them.

F. THE LORD'S RESOLUTIONS (The Work) 6-8

After reminding Moses of who He was, He now reminds him of what He was going to do. These are absolute guarantees.

The I will statements Here is line upon line, to assure them that there will be a victorious exodus.

I will bring God was going to bring them out of their burdens.

That was what they were presently consumed with. Pharaoh had made the burdens excessive. Conditions were impossible. God said that He would take care of that. As far as we are concerned, we were burdened by our sin, and God took those from us.

I will deliver The Israelites were living a life of bondage. They had no freedom but God would set them free.

For us, He led us out of bondage, and His truth set us free.

This is an image, easy to understand.

I will redeem This is a great image of what He would do. The Book of Ruth is a beautiful picture of the kinsmen-redeemer. Boaz was a nearest relative who redeemed Ruth by marrying her. He did that on behalf of her who had come into dire circumstances. God would use His mighty power and justice in doing this. He would intervene into history with great acts of judgement. He would come and impose order on the situation.

I will take Another picture that God uses is marriage. He would claim them as His own people. He would make Israel as His bride. He was moving them to a new level of intimacy. He wants them to know Him like they had never before.

I will be He would have a special relationship with them. It would be on a personal basis. They would know that Yahweh was God. When we became converted, He became our God and we bowed down to Him and acknowledged Him as such.

I will bring The land of Canaan would be like a wedding gift.

Canaan was promised to the patriarchs

I will give Canaan would be their possession, but they would be Yahweh's possession.

G. UNBELIEF 9

Now, you would think these would have been encouraging words to the Israelites and would have encouraged and revived them. But Pharaoh's strategy was working. He had discredited Moses to the people, and broken the will of the Israelites. Moses had not helped their cause and had even made it worse on

them.

The people were so consumed with their problems that they didn't heed Moses. They were so cast down that they didn't believe him. They will not be fooled again. Their present reality rules over what they think God can do and not do. They were very discouraged. We too can become discontent and fret and grumble and not believe. We then deprive ourselves of the comfort and joy that God gives.

2. THE LORD'S COMMANDS VV10-13

A. GOD SENDS MOSES THE SECOND TIME 10-11

This sounds familiar. This had been done before. The Lord tells Him once more to go to Pharaoh. What is the Lord doing, would be the question.

B. MOSES' OBJECTIONS 12

The people had not learned the lesson and neither had Moses, yet. Moses had reached the depths of discouragement when the elders would not listen to him. When we feel like being in despair, we need to not pay attention to the feelings and do what God tells us to do.We need to leave it with Him.

Moses is saying, "It's no use, Lord. If my own people won't listen What makes You think Pharaoh will?" Moses doesn't get it, yet. His eyes are on circumstances, rather than on the Lord. Oh how so often we find ourselves in the same situation.

Phil 2:14 God's authority is sufficient to answer all objections and binds us to obedience without murmuring.

C. THE COMMAND

God reiterated the orders. His plan was going to be carried out. Jere 1:5-8 Phil 1:6

3. THE GENEALOGY VV14-27

The providential working of the Lord is seen here. It definitely features the Levite family, which is the family of Aaron. He would later be the head of the Levitical priesthood. This is not a whole genealogy of the 430 years of being in Egypt. It does go back to the patriarchal period and ends with the grandson of Aaron. This shows the broad historical perspective. Aaron is established as a worthy partner in the deliverance of Israel. By the end of the genealogy, Aaron's pedigree is established.

4. THE LORD ENCOURAGES HIS SERVANTS 6:28 --7:-6

A. THE CHARGE 28-29

It picks up where it left off at v 13 The game plan has not changed. The God of Israel is in control.

B. THE OBJECTION 30

This is the same tiring complaint found in 4:10 and 6:12. Moses is making excuses again. He has been rejected, so in His humanness, he is ready to give up. Ok, I'm in the right line as far as the genealogy is concerned but I don't want to go.

A. HE GIVES POWER AND AUTHORITY 1-5

The real focus in these verses is Yahweh.

1.Representative

God makes Moses His representative as magistrates are called gods. He was authorized to act in God's name. He was given power beyond the natural. There will be no doubt that the source of the power is from Yahweh. God is acting through Moses.

- 2. Assistant Aaron would be a prophet. God made provisions for The speech problems.
- 3.Resistance will be overcome God twisted the heart of Pharaoh He was going to squeeze out what was in it. God forced him to Do things he really wanted to do. God is going to bring Pharaoh into court and make him admit how he really feels. It showed what was really in his heart. All, sooner or later will be seen for who they really are. This can be rather frightening.
- 4.God's glory It is God who fights the battle. He is to get all the glory. It was not about Moses but it was for the display of God's character and nature.
- B. OBEDIENCE TO THE COMMAND 6 In the end, this is what matters.

Now, the stage is set, the drama is ready to unfold.