



SHEMOT - THE NAMES

Exodus 1:1 to 6:1
Jeremiah 1:1 to 2:3
Hebrews 11:23-26

Moses

The book of Exodus is the second of five books Moses wrote that make up the Torah. The Torah is the foundation that governs God's *Elohim* Kingdom here on earth.

Scripture now has the reader travel forward over three hundred years. From the time of Joseph's death, we follow the continuing history of Jacob's family, the Israelites. As the book of Exodus opens, it recounts the success Jacob's grandchildren had in maintaining their individual tribal identities, keeping the same Torah lifestyle their forefathers kept, and how they preserved themselves by not assimilating with the Egyptian culture around them.

🦁 **Exodus 1:7** "The Israelites were fruitful, multiplied and became exceedingly numerous."

The New Pharaoh

As time passed and life within the Israelite camp flourished, Egypt came under the rulership of a new Pharaoh. This king was not familiar with the history of Joseph, the contributions the Israelites made to the Egyptians, nor the special provision given them as outlined by the previous Pharaoh. While in Egypt, the Israelites became very prosperous and multiplied considerably. This new Pharaoh did not see this as a blessing but felt the Israelites would be a threat to his leadership because of their success in his country. The insecurity and jealousy of this new king grew to hatred and soon he began dealing with the Israelites shrewdly. To bring them under his subjection, he devised ways to oppress Jacob's family with intent to destroy. This Pharaoh saw himself as the principal god of Egypt. He chose to govern with that in mind to provide a vital link between the Egyptian people and their gods. Therefore, those who worshiped the God/*Elohim* of Israel stood in direct opposition to Pharaoh's plans thus were a threat to his kingdom.

Pharaoh, as a god, saw himself encompassing both the physical and spiritual world, which to Egyptians were one in the same. He settled legal disputes and led the religious rituals that were the backbone of the Egyptian culture. In his role as a god-king, Pharaoh was responsible for

maintaining the role of *Ma'at*, the keeper of balance. *Ma'at* was the god who ruled over the chaos that was waiting to envelop the world. The primary duty of Pharaoh was to uphold order by maintaining the law and administering justice. As a reflection of this decree, many Pharaohs took the title *Beloved of Ma'at*, emphasizing their focus on justice and truth. As long as Pharaoh and commoner alike enforced the laws of the gods, then balance was maintained, and all would be well. Should Pharaoh fail in his role, the Egyptians felt the entire world would suffer and descend into a state of anarchism.

God's/*Elohim* plans are higher than man's. We will soon see that although God/*Elohim* allowed Pharaoh to play a role in Israel's history, it was God's/*Elohim* hand alone who would deliver His people at His appointed set time. He had not forgotten Israel or His Covenantal promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

📖 **Genesis 15:13-14** Then He said to Abraham, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be *enslaved and mistreated four hundred years*. But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions."

Devious Plans

This Pharaoh began planning hardships for the Israelites that were designed to bring about their subjugation.

📖 **James 1:14-15** "But each one is tempted when, by his *own* evil desire, he is dragged away and enticed. Then, after desire has conceived, it gives birth to sin; and sin, when it is full-grown, gives birth to death."

To bring the Egyptian people onside with his plans, Pharaoh contrived suspicion among his people toward the Israelites. With the Egyptians incited by jealousy, the scene was set for the delivery of God's/*Elohim* people. Pharaoh declared,

📖 **Exodus 1:9-10** "Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we; come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land."

The Israelites were a flourishing and competent people in their own right and had blessed Egypt through their own economy. However, Pharaoh's plan was successful and soon the Hebrews were given Egyptian names and hard taskmasters to oppress them. In their enslavement, the Israelites were forced to build the store-cities of Pithom and Raamses both located in Lower Egypt. Pithom means *the city of justice* and Raamses *child of the sun*.

Pharaoh's plan to enslave God's/*Elohim* people had four phases:

- Recruitment for public service (Exodus 1:11).
- Enslavement under hard labor (Exodus 1:13-14).
- Changing the names Hebrew to Egyptian in hopes they will lose their identity and assimilate (Exodus 1:15-16).

- Pharaoh's final solution - kill all male Hebrew babies (Exodus 1:22).

The enemies of Israel have tried to use these tactics for eons, setting up pogroms, the Inquisition and the Holocaust etc. Throughout history, man's attempt to thwart God's/Elohim people and His plans have never succeeded.

The Hebrew Midwives

- ✿ **Exodus 1:16** “When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birth stools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live.”

With the Israelites doing so well, Pharaoh feared that if a war broke out, the Hebrew slaves would unite with those attacking Egypt and pilfer their land. If that happened, Egypt's economy would fail. In an attempt to prevent this, the king decreed all Hebrew male babies be killed while the female babies were allowed to live.

It was during this time we see Egyptian names being applied to the Hebrews. The rabbis believe that the two midwives, whose names were *Shiphrah* (*fair*) and *Puah* (*splendid*), were Jochebed and Miriam, the mother and sister of Moses (Exodus 1:10-15). Scripture states that their actions saved many Hebrew babies. Allowing the male babies to live soon had the midwives explaining their actions before Pharaoh.

- ✿ **Exodus 1:19** “The Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come to them.”

Because of the midwives brave actions, God/Elohim blessed them. The Hebrews continued to flourish, which outraged Pharaoh even more. He said,

- ✿ **Exodus 1:22** “Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive.”

God's/Elohim prophecy was about to unfold. He chose a baby named Moses in His great plan of redemption for Israel's return to the Promised Land. Moses' life was a prophetic picture of Yeshua. He came as the Kinsman Redeemer for His brother *Israel*. Both Moses and Yeshua came into this world in vulnerable positions - *as babies*.

Why do we fear? Here God/Elohim presents His plan of redemption through the very vehicle that the enemy was attempting to destroy - a baby! God/Elohim reveals to us that His Covenant promises are so powerful that even if we are spiritually helpless as children, walking in His truth will bring delivery (Matthew 18:1-6).

- ✿ **Isaiah 7:14** “Therefore the Lord/Adonai himself will give you a sign: The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel, meaning God/Elohim with us.”

🌿 **Luke 2:4-7** “Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem the town of David, because he belonged to the house and line of David. He went there to register with Mary, who was pledged to be married to him and was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born, and she gave birth to her firstborn, a son.”

🌿 **Matthew 18:1-6** “At that time the disciples came to Jesus/*Yeshua*, saying, ‘Who then is greatest in the kingdom of heaven?’ Then Jesus/*Yeshua* called a little child to Him, set him in the midst of them, and said, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, unless you are converted and become as little children, you will by no means enter the kingdom of heaven. Therefore whoever humbles himself as this little child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven. Whoever receives one little child like this in My name receives Me. But whoever causes one of these little ones who believe in Me to sin, it would be better for him if a millstone were hung around his neck, and he were drowned in the depth of the sea’” (Mark 4:30-32).

As baby Moses’ life was threatened, so also was Yeshua’s.

🌿 **Matthew 2:13, 15-16** “An angel of the Lord/*Adonai* appeared to Joseph in a dream. ‘Get up,’ he said, ‘take the child and his mother and escape to Egypt. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.’ And so was fulfilled what the Lord/*Adonai* had said through the prophet: ‘*Out of Egypt I called My Son*’ [Hosea 11:1]. When Herod realized that he had been outwitted, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.”

The Basket Exodus 2:1-10

Moses’ parents Amram and Jochebed were of the Kohath priestly line of the Levite tribe. Scripture reveals the principles for childbirth in Leviticus 12 that if the mother births a male child she is to separate/*niddah* forty days for her purification. If she delivers a female child, she is to take eighty days or three months to complete the days of her purification.

🌿 **Leviticus 12:1-5** “If a woman has conceived, and borne a male child, then she shall be unclean seven days; as in the days of her customary impurity she shall be unclean. And on the eighth day the flesh of his foreskin shall be circumcised. She shall then continue in the blood of her purification thirty-three days. She shall not touch any hallowed thing, nor come into the sanctuary until the days of her purification are fulfilled. But if she bears a female child, then she shall be unclean two weeks, as in her customary impurity, and she shall continue in the blood of her purification sixty-six days.”

Jochebed, seeing she had a male child, put her trust in God/*Elohim* by hiding him from the public eye for three months, acting as if she had birthed a female child. She believed in the Scriptures and trusted that her son would be protected from Pharaoh’s death sentence and live.

🌿 **Hebrews 11:23** “By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict.”

When Jochebed could no longer hide her son, she wove a basket for him and coated both sides with a pitch to keep the little ark afloat. The Hebrew word for pitch *karp* is the same Hebrew word that translates as atonement and covering, as in covering for sins. Jochebed placed her son in the ark, concealing it among the reeds and floated him on the waters of the Nile River.



As the Hebrew male babies were to be thrown *into* the Nile, this child was *placed on the waters of tribulation* to be led by the Spirit of God/*Elohim* (Ecclesiastes 11:1). The waters that represented *judgment* to the Egyptians brought Israel *deliverance* from death. Jochebed knew God/*Elohim* would not have given her a son and then take him from her. She also knew that with the Covenant came a prophecy that said *the Israelites would be four hundred years in a country not their own, but in the fourth generation they shall return here* [the Promised Land - Israel] (Genesis 15:13-16). Jochebed discerned the time of exile in Egypt was soon coming to an end and put her faith in the *faithfulness* of God/*Elohim* for His Deliverance.

Just as Noah entrusted his entire family into God’s/*Elohim* care by concealing them in a pitch covered ark that floated upon the waters of tribulation and brought deliverance from death, so too Jochebed placed Moses in an ark on the water and in doing so preserved the whole Nation of Israel.

The Israelites were looking for a Savior. Moses became the forerunner of the Messiah. This ark housed the one who would free Israel from Egyptian enslavement, a type of world system. Moses’ story is prophetic of the Messiah, who became the Redeemer for all Nations through the gift of His Atonement (John 4:42; 1 John 4:14).

In the study *Noah*, the waters represent people groups in the nations to whom the waters did not provide deliverance or life, but held judgment and death. With *Moses*, he lay hidden *in* the ark that floated *on* the waters of tribulation/deliverance. In these two pictures, God/*Elohim* shows us how to walk during turbulent times - in His Covenantal ways, and by following His appointed times and seasons (Ezekiel 44:23-24).

Shortly after the little ark was placed on the Nile, Pharaoh’s daughter arrived to bathe at the river’s edge. When she saw what this unique basket held, she realized a Hebrew mother had the courage to defy her father to uphold her Torah lifestyle (Exodus 2:5-6). She had no idea this baby facing her was destined to become a great leader and prophet to Israel, chosen to reveal God’s/*Elohim* word through the manifestation of the Messiah and bring His people home (John 5:46-47).

Water (or *mikvah*) represents truth and a status change. The basket (ark) represents a Torah lifestyle. Just as the daughter of Pharaoh had the basket brought near to her, believers are to draw near to God's/*Elohim* teaching and instruction. Then the eyes of their understanding will open enabling them to *see* the Redeemer of Israel, the Messiah - *Yeshua Ha Mashiach* and His Kingdom.

Later, in Deuteronomy, Moses shared God's/*Elohim* words with the Children of Israel,

🌿 **Deuteronomy 18:18-19** “I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their brothers; I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I command him. If anyone does not listen to my words that the prophet speaks in my name, I myself will call him to account.”

🌿 **John 5:46-47** Yeshua said, “For if you believed Moses, you would believe Me; for he wrote about Me. But if you do not believe his writings, how will you believe My words?”

Miriam, who was watching her baby brother from the shore, approached Pharaoh's daughter. Her actions were very courageous, as she was both inferior in age and status to this Egyptian princess. Miriam suggested a Hebrew wet nurse. After receiving royal approval, she ran for the baby's mother. Being reunited with her child, Jochebed was overjoyed at God's/*Elohim* faithfulness. She nursed him until he was weaned. During that time, she taught her son the Gospel, the keys to the principles of God's/*Elohim* Kingdom on earth. They became his foundation that kept him all the days of his life.

🌿 **Proverbs 22:6** “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old he will not depart from it.”

When their time together came to an end, and the child was weaned, Jochebed was able to trust her son into God's/*Elohim* care. She presented him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. Only then was the child named *Moses*, meaning *one who is drawn out* (Exodus 2:7-10). Pharaoh, the great persecutor of the Hebrew people, now had living in his very own household the one who would deliver the Israelites from his wrath.

Who Made You Ruler and Judge Over Us?

Exodus 2:11-15

🌿 **Acts 7:22-35** (From Stephen's last speech before his death by the hand of his brothers) “Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action. When Moses was forty years old, he decided to visit his fellow Israelites. He saw one of them being mistreated by an Egyptian, so he went to his defense and avenged him by killing the Egyptian. Moses thought that his own people would realize that God/*Elohim* was using him to rescue them, but they did not. The next day Moses came upon two Israelites who were fighting [*representing the two Israel brothers who fought against brother*]. He tried to reconcile them by saying, ‘Men, you are brothers; why do you want to hurt each other?’ But the man who was mistreating the other pushed Moses

aside and said, ‘*Who made you ruler and judge over us? Do you want to kill me as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?*’” (Exodus 2:11-14).

“*Who made you ruler and judge over us?*” Where have we heard these words before? Joseph’s brothers made a similar statement, “*Do you intend to reign over us?*” “*Will you actually rule us?*” (Genesis 37:8). Like Joseph’s brothers, Yeshua’s kinsmen were also envious over His Kingdom (bloodline) authority, accusing Him of *ruling over them*. They too would plot his murder.

Moses Flees To Midian

Exodus 2:15-22

When Pharaoh heard that Moses murdered an Egyptian, he sought to kill him. Fleeing for his life, he journeyed to Midian (Acts 7:29) the place of his forefather Abraham’s relatives. The Midianite heritage was through Midian, the fourth son of Keturah, Abraham’s concubine. They were a nomadic people who inhabited northern Arabia. Being the most dominant among the tribal people, they were the rulers of Arabia. The peninsula of Sinai was pastureland for their flocks. It was to one of their caravans that Joseph was carried to Egypt (Genesis 25:2; Genesis 37:28,36; 1 Chronicles 1:32).

Arriving at Midian, Moses rested by a well. The priest of Midian had seven daughters who were shepherdesses. When they reached the well to water their father’s flock other shepherds attempted to drive them away, but Moses rescued their flocks and watered them himself. This prophetic picture is of the Messiah redeeming His Father’s flocks and watering them with Living Water (Exodus 2:15-17; John 4:1-42; Matthew 10:6, 15:24).

We learned through the stories of Isaac and Rebekah, and Jacob and Rachel that wells in Scripture carry a prophetic language. They represent the living water that Yeshua, the Living Torah, freely gives. Wells in Scripture are also a picture of walking in His gift of Redemption and blessings.

 **John 7:38** Yeshua said, “If a man is thirsty, let him come to me and drink. Whoever believes in me, as the Scripture has said, streams of living water will flow from within him.”

The number seven represents a completed number in God’s/*Elohim* Kingdom as seen in Creation and in the book of Revelation 1:11 when Yeshua declared to John, “*I am the Alpha/Aleph and the Omega/Tav, the First and the Last*” and “*What you see, write in a book and send it to the seven churches/ekklesia...*” (*Ekklesia* Strong’s G1577 - assembly).

When the Midianite sisters returned from watering their flocks, their father Reuel (Jethro) remarked, “*Why have you returned so early today?*” They answered, “*An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds. He even drew water for us and watered the flock.*” His daughters had not recognized Moses as a man of God/*Elohim* for he was still in his Egyptian clothing. However, their father discerned he was not Egyptian, as the Egyptians detested shepherding and would not

have cared for *his* sheep as this man had. Reuel had his daughters bring Moses home to break bread together.

The Friend Of God

Moses agreed to stay with Reuel (whose name means *friend of God*). In gratitude for the care shown his sheep and toward his daughters, Reuel gave Zipporah in marriage to Moses. She and Moses had a son, Gershom, whose name means, “*I have become a stranger in a foreign land*” (Exodus 2:22, Exodus 18:3-4).

The Cry For A Redeemer

Exodus 2:23-24

Scripture now keeps us informed of events transpiring in Egypt while Moses was in Midian. Time had passed and the Pharaoh king who ordered the death of Moses died. The Israelites groaned under the weight of their slavery and cried out to God/*Elohim* for help. Scripture says that God/*Elohim* heard their cry and remembered His Covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. The appointed time for their deliverance was at hand.

The Burning Bush

Exodus 3

As Moses tended his father-in-law’s flock, he came upon a strange sight - a bush that was burning in the middle of the wilderness. As he approached, he noticed that the flames did not consume the bush. As he drew closer, a voice called to him from within the burning, “*Moses! Moses!*” And Moses said, “*Here I am.*” The Voice said: “*Do not come any closer, take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.*” (Exodus 3:4-5; Acts 7:30-34)

In Hebrew thought, as referenced in Exodus 3:11-16, this took place at Mount Sinai where the future Israelites would become betrothed. *Taking off your sandals* intimates the giving and receiving of an inheritance: the Marriage Covenant. Moses was about to enter a marriage Covenant and change of status with God/*Elohim*, as had Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob before him.

The Sacred Name Revealed

📖 **Exodus 3:13-15** “Then Moses said to God/*Elohim*, ‘Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, The God/*Elohim* of your fathers has sent me to you, and they say to me, ‘What is His name? What shall I say to them?’ And God/*Elohim* said to Moses, ‘I AM WHO I AM.’ And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, **I AM** has sent me to you.’ Moreover God/*Elohim* said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: The LORD God/*Yahweh Elohim* of your fathers, the God/*Elohim* of Abraham, the God/*Elohim* of Isaac, and the God/*Elohim* of Jacob, has sent me to you. *This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.*’”

Compromise

📖 **Exodus 3:6-10** “I am the God/*Elohim* of your father, the God/*Elohim* of Abraham, the God/*Elohim* of Isaac and the God/*Elohim* of Jacob. I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey-- the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. *I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.*”

Suffering from low self-esteem, Moses hid his face from God/*Elohim*. He may have felt guilty for having killed a man earlier. It could also be that Moses hid pride. Pride cannot stand before Truth. Therefore, Moses hid his face. In harboring pride, Moses could not see himself as God/*Elohim* saw him. Pride also brings up feelings of vulnerability and hides behind fear. For Moses, it was the fear of not being able to do a task. When Moses became defensive and gave excuses - that was pride speaking. Pride pushes people away. It does not want to give up *self* for any *thing*, any *one*, or any *cause*. Proudful people like being alone. Moses tried very hard to make it easy for God/*Elohim* not to choose him as an ambassador. In reality, excuses reveal a heart that hides behind lying, self-focus, and idols.

Having a lack of faith brings a distorted image of how we see God/*Elohim*. This pride, self-focus, and lack of self-esteem are prejudice against His Word, His Covenant, and His Faithfulness leading to excuses that hinder God's/*Elohim* work. Pride can affect His people personally or indirectly plus change the lives of thousands of others. Serving God/*Elohim* is never about us; it is about blessing God's/*Elohim* people. God/*Elohim* never exposes His people to something He has not already prepared ahead of time for them. Our *job* is to come into agreement with His Word and say, “*Here I am! Send me*” (Isaiah 6:8).

Moses' queries, fears, and excuses as to why God/*Elohim* should not appoint him to lead Israel out of Egypt are lessons for us today. Pride positioned behind fear is one of the largest epidemics in the world today. When God/*Elohim* asks us to serve Him, He has already prepared the way and knows what tests might lay before us. He is asking for our obedience in spite of the challenges we *think* might be ahead of us. Not answering God's/*Elohim* call on our lives will diminish the blessings He intends to bestow on His people. If we bow down to fear or compromise in our hearts, we may be settling for second best in our lives, bringing dishonor to God/*Elohim* (John 19:30).

📖 **Revelation 3:16** “So then, because you are lukewarm, and neither cold nor hot, I will vomit you out of My mouth.”

Moses' five excuses:

- ☐ *Pride in the feeling of unworthiness*: Moses said to God/*Elohim*, “Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?” God/*Elohim* said, “I will be with

you. And this will be the *sign* to you that it is I that have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God/*Elohim on this mountain.*” (Exodus 3:11)

- *Fear of man:* Moses said to God/*Elohim*, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God/*Elohim* of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?” God/*Elohim* said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM (*or I WILL BE WHAT I WILL BE*).” This is what you are to say to the Israelites: “I AM has sent me to you” (Exodus 3:13).
- *Fear of rejection:* Moses answered, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, ‘God/*Elohim* did not appear to you?’ ” With this, God/*Elohim* had him throw his staff on the ground, and a snake appeared. He then had Moses pick the snake up, and it turned back to a staff again. Then, God/*Elohim* had Moses put his hand inside his cloak and pull it out. His hand was covered with a skin affliction. Repeating this healed Moses’ hand like the other again (Exodus 4:1).
- *Influence of previous experiences:* “Then Moses said to the LORD/*Yahweh*, ‘O my Lord/*Adonai*, I am not eloquent, neither before nor since You have spoken to Your servant; but I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.’ So the LORD/*Yahweh* said to him, ‘Who has made man’s mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD/*Yahweh*? Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say.’” (Exodus 4:10-12).
- *Need for a mandate from God/*Elohim*:* Moses said, “O my Lord/*Adonai*, please send by the hand of whomever else You may send.” (Exodus 4:13).

That was his last excuse. The number five represents grace. Moses had tried God’s/*Elohim* patience to the limit, and His anger burned against him. He promised to bring Aaron, his brother, to help and said, “*I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do*” (Exodus 4:13).

The Departure

Moses then took his staff, returned to Jethro to ask permission to go back to his people in Egypt. With Jethro’s blessing, Moses gathered his wife, their two sons, and all their possessions to begin his long journey back to Egypt. God/*Elohim* said to Moses,

📖 **Exodus 4:21-23** “And the LORD/*Yahweh* said to Moses, ‘When you go back to Egypt, see that you do all those wonders before Pharaoh which I have put in your hand. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go. Then you shall say to Pharaoh, ‘Thus says the LORD/*Yahweh*: ‘Israel is My son, My firstborn. So I say to you, let My son go that he may serve Me. But if you refuse to let him go, indeed I will kill your son, your firstborn.’”

Circumcise Before Taking A Leadership Role

Exodus 4:24

Moses' heart needed circumcision as had Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph's before him. Believers cannot move forward expecting to walk in God's/*Elohim* power and authority if they have one foot in His Kingdom and the other foot in a mixture of compromise. They cannot serve two masters. Fear is the sin of dishonor. It needed to be attended to before Moses could walk upright as God's/*Elohim* representative before Pharaoh.

One night, after the family had settled, God/*Elohim* met with Moses. His anger so burned against Moses that He was ready to slay him. Zipporah intervened and saved her husband's life. Moses had not yet trusted enough to offer his whole heart to God/*Elohim*. The lack of heart circumcision reflected in his lack of action to the instruction to circumcise his son. The Egyptian mission was so important that circumcision had to take place in the heart of the father *first* and then applied to the hearts of his family *before* they could enter into God's/*Elohim* service, as *the father is the source of the family*. The family needed to be in total agreement with the Covenant as all authority and power is held in obedience to His Word. Otherwise, the mission would fail. Believers can do nothing in their own strength. Although Moses was preparing to enter Egypt, not the land of Israel, he was about to serve in God's/*Elohim* Presence as His ambassador on the earth. Therefore, the circumcision of Moses' heart was vital for all Israel and for the *salvation of his soul* – which brings the blessings to future generations. It was Zipporah's understanding of this and her quick action that saved his life.

Moses neglected the basic fundamental requirement. Today, as it was then, the voluntary circumcision of our heart attitude allows God/*Elohim* to write His Word where sin and dishonor had formerly lodged. This action precedes outward signs of His presence in us. Zipporah took a flint knife and cut off her son's foreskin, touching Moses' feet with it and said to him, "*Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me.*" Blood atones sin. The act of obedience protected Moses just as the blood sacrifice put on the doorposts of the Israelite homes would protect them from the angel of death on the night of their coming Exodus.

At these *end of days/Messianic Era*, we have the Spirit of the Holy One's protection from destruction from the world around us *when we walk in God's/*Elohim* Kingdom protocols/principles by applying them in our lives*. Our job is to be finished with compromise, mixture, and any lukewarm reasoning or attitudes that still exist in our lives. When we cleanse our heart (temple), then the world will have no hold over us. That is the walk of trust and obedience.

🌿 **2 Corinthians 5:1-7** "For we know that if our earthly house, this tent, is destroyed, we have a building from God/*Elohim*, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this we groan, earnestly desiring to be clothed with our habitation which is from heaven, if indeed, having been clothed, we shall not be found naked. For we who are in this tent groan, being burdened, not because we want to be unclothed, but further clothed, that mortality may be swallowed up by life. Now He who has prepared us for this very thing is God/*Elohim*, who also has given us the Spirit as a guarantee. So we are always

confident, knowing that while we are at home in the body we are absent from the Lord/Adonai. ***For we walk by faith, not by sight.***”

Without trust (action) in the Gospel, we cannot enter in. We need to strengthen our walk by letting go of all that is in our fleshly desires and that which tries to tempt or hold us back. If we do not have belief and trust in the Gospel, we will never overcome our weak fleshly desires. We must not shrink back as Moses tried to do. We must learn to walk in the ways of God's/Elohim Kingdom. God/Elohim is teaching His Torah to His lost sheep of the House of Israel and those who are scattered among the Nations. It is *the sign* that we are indeed in the Messianic Era (Ephesians 5:8; Acts 1:9-12; Isaiah 2:1-3).

God/Elohim sent Aaron, the brother of Moses, just as promised. Aaron brought support and encouragement. The two embraced as they met for the first time since being separated. Moses shared with Aaron all of what God/Elohim had revealed. They then brought together the Israelite elders from the *twelve tribes* to share that God/Elohim had not forgotten them. With that, Moses unveiled God's/Elohim plans that were spoken so long ago. When the elders heard this, they were overwhelmed and bowed with thankful hearts to worship God/Elohim (Exodus 4:27-31).

Bricks Made Without Straw

Exodus 5

With God's/Elohim plan of deliverance set in motion, the events that would deliver an entire nation from Egypt had begun. At various times in our lives, when God/Elohim is about to do a great work, it may look to be the opposite of what we are expecting. Many miss His blessings if they pull out too early instead of holding on and waiting upon God/Elohim for His timing and mighty hand to deliver. In judgment (of the world/flesh) is our deliverance.

Before Pharaoh

Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh to tell him what God/Elohim said, *“Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the desert.”* The festival Moses spoke about here would be the *Feast of Shavuot/Pentecost* at Mount Sinai, the betrothal of Israel to God/Elohim in the wilderness.

Upon hearing these words, Pharaoh's heart hardened. He ordered heavier tasks for the Israelites, forcing them to make the daily quota of bricks but without straw. The enormous burden to perform this seemingly impossible task was a staggering pressure on the people. The Israelite foremen appointed by Pharaoh appealed to him but to no avail. The Israelites did not cry out to God/Elohim but to Moses and Aaron, accusing them of being the cause to all their problems. *And they said to them, “Let the LORD/Yahweh look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us.”* Then the LORD/Yahweh said to Moses, *“Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh. For with a strong hand he will let them go, and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land”* (Exodus 5:21, 6:1).

🌿 **Jeremiah 1:5-8** “The LORD/Yahweh said to Jeremiah, ‘Before I formed you in the womb I chose you, before you were born I set you apart; I appointed you as a prophet to the nations.’ ‘Ah, Sovereign God/Elohim,’ I said, ‘I do not know how to speak; I am only a child.’ But the LORD/Yahweh said to me, ‘Do not say, ‘I am only a child.’ You must go to everyone I send you to and say whatever I command you. **Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,**’ declares the LORD/Yahweh.”

To be continued...

Shabbat Shalom

Julie Parker

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