

Sermon Notes – October 27, 2024

Review

- ⇒ Exodus is the second book in the Torah (the first five books of the Bible), the section often called, “The Books of Moses.” Exodus is a continuation of the story that began in Genesis.
- ⇒ The **themes** and **details** of Exodus show up throughout the Bible. Listen as the “music” of Exodus plays on the pages of Scripture! Our theme is “No Longer Slaves,” a theme that spans the entire Bible.
- ⇒ Last week in **Exodus 4:18-31** we saw God shape, gather and send his team to Egypt. God’s people went, trusting in his plan and promise lifted by his provision. When they met their fellow Hebrews, the message of redemption was met with Worship to God.

Today’s Text: READ 5:1-6:30

In today’s text we see the already dark situation become even darker! Is that possible? Well, yes. Clearly, the salvation that God has in mind will not be accomplished by smart people, slick words, and a sharp business plan. From the positive start back in 4:31, it appears that we are back at square one! If deliverance is going to happen, it will clearly be an act of God, as in **Isaiah 43:11**.

Have you ever been obedient to God and things got worse? (5:1-23)

- ⇒ Following God’s command, **Moses and Aaron** went before Pharaoh and delivered a message from God “Let my people go” to hold a feast in the wilderness! They were following a cultural _____ technique, starting with a small request and building to a larger ask.
- ⇒ When introduced to the LORD, **Pharaoh** expressed he did not know Him, implied he will never care to know Him, and defied his command, doing the _____ of what He asked.
- ⇒ As a result of Pharaoh’s command, **the children of Israel** were required to do more work in less time, and were beaten when they didn’t meet their quota. They pled to Pharaoh to lessen his demands, but their plea was rejected!

- ⇒ The children of Israel _____ Moses and Aaron for their dire situation, saying “the LORD look on you and judge.”

Do you cry out to God in times of rejection & when life doesn't make sense? (5:22-23)

- ⇒ The first time that Moses was rejected by his people (2:11-14) he fled to the wilderness. This time, Moses cried out to God. No matter our guilt, despair, anger or fear, we must remember that we serve a God who invites us to run TO him, not AWAY from him. (Hebrews 4:15-16).
- ⇒ Moses struggled to understand why God allowed _____ to come to his people instead of good, and he resonated with the accusations against him personally, considering himself inadequate to complete God's task. (see 6:12, 30). Have you ever been there?

Will you trust in the promise and power of the Redeemer and follow his call? (6:1-30)

- ⇒ Humanly speaking, this would be the time for God to build up Moses' _____ - _____. Instead, God invited Moses to find his confidence in the LORD.
- ⇒ The LORD was fulfilling **his promise** – the same promise that he had given to Abraham Isaac and Jacob. These men lived _____ in God's promise and now Moses would see God *act* on his promise. (6:2-4).
- ⇒ The LORD would deliver Israel by **his power**. Clearly, modern negotiation techniques were useless and Moses was inadequate to save the people. The text turns on these words: “Now you shall see...” (6:1) and God will redeem his people “with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgement” (6:6)
- ⇒ With God's power and promise firmly in place, God continues to invite Moses and Aaron to follow **his call**. The genealogy and emphasis of the two people in that long list of names that God selected, shows his special calling for this moment. (6:14-29)

Responding in Faith And Obedience (6:28-30)

- ⇒ Where do you go when you are in trouble or when life doesn't turn out how you'd like or how you expected? Who do you turn to?
- ⇒ God's call is big and small. Making disciples (Matthew 28) is a daily opportunity, as is loving your spouse (Ephesians 5) and training your children in the Lord (Ephesians 6) and endless other “calls” in scripture. Even when you are unsure of the “big” call on your life, take the next step and do what is right in front of you!

Community Group Notes

Getting Started

How do you feel about dropping someone's name to open doors for you? Are there situations where it seems appropriate and others when it doesn't? Do you like doing it? Or does it always feel a bit uncomfortable? Have you ever mentioned someone's name and gotten a response like – "Who is that?"

Looking Back and Taking it Home (Review)

1. Think back on Exodus 5:1 – 6:30. What stood out to you from Sunday's sermon?
2. Read **Exodus 4:30 – 6:9** together as a group and note any verses that describe the attitude of the people of Israel. Are they excited? Hopeful? Discouraged? Angry? Are their feelings reasonable in light of the circumstances? What about their actions?
3. Consider the seven "I will" statements in Exodus 6:6-8. Are these promises that we can claim for ourselves today? Or do they apply only to the people of Israel? Which ones seem to reflect the message of the Bible as a whole? Is there one in particular that resonates strongly with you?
4. Compare and contrast Pharaoh's question, **Who is the LORD?** (Exodus 5:2), with Moses' question, **What is His name?** (Exodus 3:13). Are the two questions similar in any way? How are they different? How does the LORD respond to each?

Preparing for Next Week's Sermon

5. Read Exodus 7:1 – 8:19 together as a group and use your Scripture Journal to do the following:
 - ⇒ Note each place where a new sign, wonder or miracle is introduced and write in the margin a brief description of that sign. (e.g., *Staffs to Snakes* at 7:10)

⇒ Look for purpose statements and mark them in some distinctive way. Purpose statements tell *why* something has happened or is going to happen. They are *sometimes* signaled by the word **that**. There are several really important ones in this section!

6. Look again at Exodus 7:1 – 8:19. Note what you learn about the magicians.

	Sign, wonder or miracle	Could they do the same?	Could they have practiced ahead?	How does it end?
1				
2				
3				
4				

7. The Hebrew word translated **serve** in Exodus 7:16 and 8:1 is sometimes also translated **work**. The English words **slave** and **slavery** also come from the same root word. Look up the following verses and mark the words **serve**, **work**, **slave**, or **slavery**. Note below who the people of Israel are being asked to work for or serve in each situation.

Exodus 1:13 _____ 1:14 _____ 2:23 _____ 3:12 _____
 4:23 _____ 5:18 _____ 6:5 _____ 7:16 _____
 8:1 _____ 8:20 _____ 9:1 _____ 9:13 _____

8. On a scale of 1 to 10, how serious are each of these signs, wonders and miracles so far? (1 = merely annoying, 10 = life-threatening) Base your answer mostly on the responses of the people rather than the scientific description of the event.

Sign 1 _____ Sign 2 _____ Sign 3 _____ Sign 4 _____

Time to PRAY (Or do this at the beginning of your group time)

Share prayer requests that relate to the people in your group & PRAY for them!



Communion Worship Next Sunday: November 3, 2024

“God Patiently Dismantles Our False Gods”

(Exodus 7:1 – 8:19) Pastor Kevin Brubaker