

TruthInScripture
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Exodus 5. Moses and Aaron go
the Pharoah: Let GOD's people
go! The Exodus. CH 5.

Let's do just a bit of review before we go on. So far in our study:

The Hebrews are in slavery. According to Jewish tradition and secular historians, as soon as Yakob was dead, the Israelites (Hebrews) began to feel the dominance of bondage from the Egyptians.

Remember the Pharoah of Yosefs days were long long gone.

Although slavery began later, their choice land in Goshem was slowly

confiscated by the Egyptian Pharaoh. The Pharaoh had ignored or had forgotten all the love for Yosef.

However, while a single one of the sons of Yakob was alive, the Egyptians did not get violent with the Israelites.

It was only when Levi, the last of the sons of Yakob, had died that real oppression began.



So, the first hostile act on the part of the Egyptians was to deprive the Israelites of their fields, their

vineyards, all that Yosef had given to them.

Soon, that lead to actually doing harm to the Israelites. The reason for the hatred of the Egyptians was envy, jealousy, and fear.

/The Israelites had increased by a lot, they had grown to about 600,000 young men...not counting women and children...

Therefore, they had become alarming to the Egyptians. Not long after the death of Levi, there was a battle between the Egyptians and tribes of Esau.

And the Israelites helped Egypt and actually saved the Egyptians from defeat. (secular historians and

the book of Yasher). Instead of being grateful the Egyptians sought even more to destroy the Israelites.

So, in the minds of the Egyptians, these Israelites might just turn on us and they just might defeat us.

Of course, GOD could have made that happen, but GOD had a different plan. And that plan very likely saved many Egyptians, and they came to the GOD of Israel.

So, the slavery actually started with a plan by the Pharoah to fortify the cities of Ramses and Pithom near Goshen and the Israelites at first were paid to build there.

And the plan was after the Israelites fortify the cities for the Egyptians, the Egyptians could then easily move to enslave them. This is recorded in the Book of Yasher and historians' secular and non-secular.

So, at first the Egyptians were actually working with the Israelites, but after a while, some of the Hebrews refused to work without wages, and their Egyptian taskmasters began to beat the Israelites, and made them return by force to labor.

The children of Israel were greatly afraid of the Egyptians, and they came again and worked without pay.

It was said that only the tribe of Levi refused to become slaves. Perhaps why the LORD chose Moses who was from the tribe of Levi as was Aaron of course.

All right just a bit of history to get us to CH 5. Remember the LORD told Moses and Aaron that the Pharaoh would only give way to GOD's wrath. Well, the LORD's wrath is about to begin on the Egyptians.

4:28 Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD with which HE (the LORD) had sent him, and all the signs that HE (the LORD) had commanded him (Moses) to do.

29 Then Moses and Aaron went and assembled all the elders of the sons of Israel;

30 and Aaron spoke all the words which the LORD had spoken to Moses. He then performed the signs in the sight of the people.

31 So the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD was concerned about the sons of Israel and that He had seen their affliction, then they bowed low and worshiped.

No breaks...but there is a period a time here that transpires. A day, days a week or weeks or more. But I think it was pretty quick.

/5:1 And afterward Moses and Aaron came and said to Pharaoh, “Thus says the LORD, the GOD of Israel, ‘Let MY people go that they may celebrate a feast to ME in the wilderness.’”

Many wonder how it was that Moses and Aaron and later the leaders themselves of the Hebrews could meet with the Pharaoh.

But according to Egyptian historical findings it is clear that Pharaoh did just that.

In the case of Moses and Aaron, Pharaoh thought if I can meet with them, I can later turn that against

to the people, and get the people to reject Moses and Aaron.

2 But Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD (YHVH) that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and besides, I will not let Israel go.”

Interesting Pharaoh uses the YHVH twice, this is seen as a snub, like who is this, even if I did know him I would not let you go! Notice the arrogance.

3 Then they said, “The GOD of the Hebrews has met with us. Please, let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness that we may sacrifice to the LORD our GOD, otherwise HE will fall

upon us (pah gah = fall upon all) **with pestilence or with the sword.”** So really our GOD the GOD will lay waste to this place.

So here is what they say to Pharoah. If you don't let us go per this request, there will be pestilence and there will be destruction. In fact, the LORD will say let MY Son Israel go or I will kill your firstborn son.

The entire public lived to serve the Pharaoh. He was considered Divine from the sun god ra. His power and authority were therefore supreme. Top dog, head honcho...

/Having grown up in the royal courts of Egypt, Moses knew this

well; but he also knew that Pharaoh was just a man. So, with the authority of the living GOD, Moses confronted Pharaoh.

Let My people go: GOD, through HIS messengers, Moses and Aaron that the Hebrew people were HIS people GOD's people.

So, the Pharaoh says: I do not know this GOD you speak of. Pharaoh knew of many gods but not the LORD (YHVH) Who claims ownership of these Hebrews, or Israelites. Therefore, Pharaoh refuses the request.

2 But Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD (YHVH = using the sacred name of GOD) that I should obey

HIS voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and besides, I will not let Israel go.”

Pharoah says who is this YHVH. And we can't be sure that Pharoah did not know about YHVH. Some believe he did know and didn't care, or knew about HIM but ignored HIM.

Others give Pharoah benefit of the doubt, maybe Pharoah did not know about GOD (Yahweh YHVH).

But regardless, at this point GOD does reveal HIMself to Pharoah through Moses, Aaron and the elders.

5:3 Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please (naw = please – the LORD commanded Moses to say please EXO 3:18), let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God, otherwise He will fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword.”

Please, let us go three days’ journey into the desert and sacrifice to the LORD our GOD:

Moses relayed the demand GOD first gave him in CH 3 Vs 18.

GOD presented the smaller request to Pharaoh first so that the request would be as appealing and as easy

to accept as possible. GOD did this so Pharaoh would have no excuse at all for refusing GOD and hardening his heart.

4 But the king of Egypt (Pharaoh) said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why do you draw the people away from their work? Get back to your labors!”

5 Again Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now many, and you would have them cease from their labors!”

The people are numerous. So that if they were to all stop working, well nothing would get done. And don't forget the Egyptians were in fear of the Israelites waring against

them. As we saw in the opening there would be no way to get all the Israelites back if they did not want to return.

Plus, Pharaoh here is concerned, in that these people all leaving certainly would be hard to get back if they didn't want to come back. If Pharaoh did let them go, would he send soldiers along to watch them?

Well, that is how the first meeting between the elders, Moses Aaron and the Pharaoh ends.

Another thing that jumps out here is: Why do Moses and Aaron say three days, when they know they are not coming back if and when

they leave. Well, first and foremost this is what the LORD told Moses to say. **EXO 3:18** ‘**The LORD, the GOD of the Hebrews, has met with us. So now, please, let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our GOD.**’

So that is the first thing, he was told say exactly that and so he did.

And it was a test for Pharoah, if he would not let them take a break for 3 days he certainly will not let them go forever...

And so the mighty Hand of GOD now takes action. 3 days 3 =

divinity. And indeed a revelation is about to take place.

Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now many, and you would have them cease (שָׁבַת *šābat* = rest) from their labors!”

6 So the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters over the people and their foremen, saying,

Notice Pharaoh does not even think about his next move. This is a statement of judgment, Pharaoh makes a judgement against GOD’s people, GOD will bring a judgement on Pharaoh.

Many Israelites will suffer and die from the judgement of Pharaoh,

many Egyptians will suffer and die from the LORD's judgement.

This is not a tit for tat thing by GOD, this is a result of leaders making ungodly decisions and the people reap the consequences. In America elections have consequences.

/7 “You are no longer to give the people straw (teh ben = straw) to make brick (lobena = made from clay and straw) as previously; let them go and gather straw (tehben = straw) for themselves.

8 “But the quota of bricks which they were making previously, you shall impose on them; you are not to reduce any of it.

Because they are lazy, therefore they cry out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our GOD.’

So, Pharaoh says since these people have time to go worship another GOD, they need to be kept busier. They didn't have enough to do. Plus, Pharaoh does not want the Israelites to live. He intends to work them to death. If they go they could be a problem. Remember Satan is behind this ultimately. And through Pharaoh the plan was to ultimately kill the Israelites.

By working them to death. Men were kept away from their wives to prevent pregnancies.

9 “Let the labor be heavier on the men, and let them work at it so that they will pay no attention to false words.”

/Pharaoh knew that the previous attempts to cut the population of Israel had failed. The children death sentence failed.

The Israelites still continued to multiply. This was good for Israel, but bad for Pharaoh. Not bad for the labor force, but that labor force was getting big and could be a problem down the road for Pharaoh. Again, remember our opening.

Pharaoh commanded that the Israelites must gather their own

materials (specifically, straw) for making bricks.

Straw was used as it made the bricks stronger. The use of straw in making bricks in Egypt during this period is confirmed by archaeology.

Some of that work is still around and has been found in various digs or finds.



/Bricks of all sorts have been found in Egypt, some with regularly chopped straw, some with rough roots and oddments, some without straw at all.

The point here is that the Israelites were provided the straw in the brick making process. This made the process much faster.

But now they (the Israelites) had to go find the straw, gather it and bring it back. So, this added extra work and time, but the quota for making bricks remained the same. We will see also that there is another word used for straw.

9 Let the labor fall heavy upon the men and let them work at it,

and let them not talk about false matters (deceptive matters).

Let the work be even more and more hard on the people.

10 So the taskmasters of the people and their officers came out and spoke to the people, saying, 'So said Pharaoh, 'I am not giving you straw.

11 You go take for yourselves straw from wherever you find [it], because nothing will be reduced from your work.' "

12 So the people scattered throughout the entire land of Egypt, to gather a gleaning for stubble (kash = chaff...).



So, after the harvest of the grain, the straw was cut bundled and used for a variety of things including brick making.

Apparently, the taskmasters provided the bundles of straw. Now that was being withheld. So, the Israelites had to go out and find straw but here the text indicated they were forced to use the chaff the stubble...so just realize that the point is the work was now even harder than it was before.

**/12 So the people scattered (פוץ)
pûṣ = dispersed) through all (כּל
kōl = everywhere) the land of**

**Egypt to gather stubble ($\text{q}\check{\text{a}}\text{š}$)
for straw.**

So, the point is being made that we discussed.

13 The taskmasters pressed them, saying, “Complete your work quota, your daily amount, just as when you had straw.”

/14 Moreover, the foremen of the sons of Israel, whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over them (the Israelites), were beaten and were asked, “Why have you not completed your required amount either yesterday or today in making brick as previously?”

Beaten = $\text{n}\hat{\text{a}}\text{k}\hat{\text{a}}\text{h}$ here to be severely struck.

The immediate effect of Moses answering the call of GOD, was, to make it harder on the very people that GOD told Moses HE GOD was going to set free.

But GOD Confronting the evil of Egyptian bondage would not be quick nor easy. Power only gives way to Power and even then reluctantly.

Remember when the LORD Yeshua was with James and John and the transfiguration occurred? AT Mt. Horeb BTW.

But the LORD came back to the other Disciples. According to Luke, after this the LORD and the Apostles came down the mountain

back to the Sea of Galilee area and the crowds were coming to HIM.

LUK 10 tells us that a man from the crowd begged Yeshua to heal the man's son. And the LORD does so. But as the LORD is approaching the boy, while HE was still some distance the spirit seizes the boy screams in pain and is thrown to the ground.

/The boys goes into a convulsion with foaming at the mouth; and only with difficulty does this demon leave him. The demon gives the boy one last beating.

But Yeshua rebuked the unclean spirit, and healed the boy and gave him back to his father.



Always remember: Power only gives way to power and even then reluctantly. What an example of that very principle, right.

13 The taskmasters pressed them, saying, “Complete your work quota, your daily amount, just as when you had straw.”

14 Moreover, the foremen of the sons of Israel, whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over them (the Israelites), were beaten and were asked, “Why have you not completed your required amount either yesterday or today in making brick as previously?”

15 Then the foremen of the sons of Israel (shah tare = officer of authority) came and cried out to Pharaoh, saying, “Why do you deal this way with your servants?”

Notice they call themselves servants of Pharaoh.

16 “There is no straw given to your servants, yet they keep saying to us, ‘Make bricks!’ And behold, your servants are being beaten; but it is the fault of your own people.”

Notice they reiterate that they are servants not of YHVH but Pharaoh.

17 But he said, “You are lazy, very lazy; therefore you say, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.’

Pharaoh is evidently pleased with his plans. It seems that to Pharaoh overworked people with idleness were not overworked enough.

/Pharaoh is saying the Israelites were using their religion as a mere pretense to take a holiday.

So, Pharaoh is saying you people do not want to worship. You want a holiday.

18 “So go now and work; for you will be given no straw, yet you must deliver the quota of bricks.”

So, Pharaoh says I reject both of your requests. Straw shall not be given; and the number of bricks required shall be no less.

17 But he said, “You are lazy, very lazy; therefore you say, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.’

18 “So go now and work; for you will be given no straw, yet you must deliver the quota of bricks.”

19 The foremen of the sons of Israel saw that they were in trouble because they were told, “You must not reduce your daily amount of bricks.”

/LXX 19 And the accountants of the children of Israel saw themselves in an evil light, [men] saying, Ye shall not fail to deliver the daily rate of the brick-making.

These were the appointed Israelite leaders taskmasters over their own people. They didn't want any trouble. They were probably treated a little better than the rest. The holocaust.

But they were also the first to be punished and it is believed they would then punish the others.

So these leaders knew they were doing evil. They were not in the plan of GOD. And the lesson here

is this: Being in the plan of GOD is the only place that we are going to find rest.

When we are doing what GOD wants us to do we will be at peace. Despite the turmoil around.

And these leaders were blaming everything on Moses and Aaron and ultimately GOD.

LXX 19 And the accountants of the children of Israel saw themselves in an evil light, [men] saying, Ye shall not fail to deliver the daily rate of the brick-making.

So here they the leaders are in an evil situation. They have been

begging to the Pharaoh, look we are loyal just be nice to us.

Look what happens when these leaders are leaving the presence of Pharaoh and they run right into Moses and Aaron. BTW this is not a coincidence, no such thing. GOD arranges this meeting.

Look at how Moses responds to this meeting and accusation by these leaders.

These officers of the children of Israel, these foremen were the go-between between the Egyptian leadership and the Israeli people.

20 When they left Pharaoh's presence, they met Moses and

Aaron as they (Moses and Aaron) were waiting for them.

/Remember, GOD has allowed all of this. In fact, HE designed it. GOD could have freed Israel from Egypt without any struggle at all.

But often times as it is worth our children, making things tough or letting them experience the consequences of their mistakes (to a degree) is the best thing for their growth. Well, this was the case with the children of Israel.

GOD knew that the transition from slavery to free people of the promised land, some testing and strengthening spiritually had to

occur. That applies to believers today and throughout time.

/20 And they met Moses and Aaron, who stood (like pillars) in the way, (S-H7125 natsab = stationed, not by chance) as they came forth from Pharaoh:

This was the situation: GOD has sent messengers and HE sent them the leaders of Israel first. And they believed, but for a short time.

Then after the messengers GOD sent, Moses and Aaron, met with the Pharaoh for the opening encounter, the leaders of Israel went running to Pharaoh after he Pharaoh responded to the messengers GOD sent.

You see the problem, they lost faith in GOD and put it back in Pharoah,

/21 And they said unto them (Moses and Aaron), The LORD (YHVH) look upon you, and judge (you); because you have made our savor to be abhorred (you have made us like a bad smell to Pharaoh) in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us.

So much for the faith they had not long ago when Moses told them GOD was going to free them.

So, these leaders are saying: May GOD do something against you

Moses and Aaron, let HIM judge you. Notice the attitude here: Leave us alone this did not work, you are lying to us.

And I always wonder, and I think deep down these leaders knew they were not in the plan of GOD, but certainly were acting like they were. Maybe they knew, maybe they didn't.

20 They (those appointed Israelites) **met Moses and Aaron standing before them when they came out from Pharaoh's presence.**

21 And they said to them, "May the LORD look upon you and judge, for you have brought us

into foul odor (בַּאֲשׁ בָּאֵשׁ bā'aš bah ash = bet, aleph, shin. Used first when Simeon and Levi brought this upon Yakob from their actions in Shechem) **And they said to them** (Moses and Aaron), **“May the LORD look upon you and judge, for you have brought us into foul odor in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of his servants, to place a sword into their hand[s] to kill us.”**

Those leaders of the children of Israel were not happy when they came from the presence of Pharaoh, and they thought it was all the fault of Moses and Aaron.

They would have been heroes in the eye of the people if they could

have gotten the straw back.
Amazing that people would do
that...

Either they (the officers) of Israel
were certain that GOD was on
their side, and anything that made
the immediate condition of Israel
worse was not of the LORD.

Or they were simply cowards and
were rejecting GOD's messengers,
Moses and Aaron.

Or they wanted to remain the
leaders of the people.

When Israel was an obedient slave
to Pharaoh, they thought he was
their friend. After all they were fed
and not beaten, if they worked.

Now that the idea of freedom had entered, Pharaoh showed how he felt about them all along. He hated them.

You know the KOD can seem friendly when one lives in it the KOD. Likewise, when a believer is freed from that slavery, Satan will try to make life difficult for them.

Satan will then show his true feelings for mankind and GOD, Satan hates GOD, and he hates the things of GOD and that included mankind.

A great movie the devils advocate, great lines but when Pacino (who plays Satan...) says I'm a fan of man, NO he; Satan is no fan of

man at all. Although the movie does paint that correctly....

Even those who worship satan or his KOD, he and it will turn on them...

21 And they said to them, “May the LORD look upon you and judge, for you have brought us into foul odor in the eyes of Pharaoh and in the eyes of his servants, to place a sword into their hand[s] to kill us.”

Well, they should have humbled themselves before GOD, but instead of that they go to the world, Pharoah.

/Now how does Moses respond to these leaders who had just come

from Pharoah? Well Moses should have said, you fools, trust in GOD, HE said HE would free us, He is with us, we are HIS people not Pharoahs. But instead Moses goes to the LORD.

/22 Then Moses returned (שׁוֹב (šûb shoob = retreated) to the LORD and said, “O Lord, why have You brought harm to this people? Why did You ever send me?

Some commentators/preachers view this as a good question for Moses. But it really shows the weakness of Moses. Moses has spoken to the LORD. The LORD has spoken to Moses.

This was not what Moses should be doing. His question if any to the LORD should have been something like LORD please reveal to me a little more, I'm sort of wondering here...

/Moses, it seems, had already forgotten what GOD told him at the burning bush, that Pharaoh would not easily let go of Israel.

Power only gives way to power...

Moses did wrong in forgetting or ignoring what GOD had said. The LORD told him, I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go. So I will stretch out MY hand and strike Egypt with all MY wonders

which I will do; and after that he will let you go. (EXO 3)

That happens with many believers. Believers who are still growing, ones who haven't been living in the promises of GOD.

Those who forget or ignore the Word of GOD when tribulation, trials trouble from the world comes.

Some of which is from our own stupid decisions,, and we all have them. Some however are from GOD Who allows those things to strengthen us for HIS service.

Remember what James wrote in

/JAM 1:2-4, 2 Consider it all joy, my brothers and sisters, when you encounter various trials, knowing that the testing of your faith produces endurance. And let endurance have its perfect result, so that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

All right lets finish ch 5 of Exodus.

**22 Then Moses returned (שׁוֹב)
šûb shoob = retreated) to the LORD and said, “O Lord, why have You brought harm to this people? Why did You ever send me?**

23 “Ever since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name,

**he has done harm to this people,
and You have not delivered
Your people at all.”**

**GOD immediately replies in CH
6 Vs 1...no breaks so this is a
bad break. BUT...**

**/6:1 Then the LORD said to
Moses, “Now you shall see what
I will do to Pharaoh; for under
compulsion he will let them go,
and under compulsion he will
drive them (sons of Israel) out of
his land.”**

That is where we will pick it up on
Thursday...

Thank you to those who support
this channel. Thank you for your

prayers. Pray for each other,
married couples pray together...