

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
JANUARY 1, 2025
EXODUS 18:1-12

INTRODUCTION:

1. The defeat of the Amalekites came through brethren showing support.
 - a) **EXODUS 17.12:** *“And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.”*
 - b) Temptations, hardships, relationships, can make life hard. But we can be steady in the faith when we stand by each other’s side and support one another. (1 Thess. 5.14)
2. Exodus 18 draws our attention to a conversation between Moses and Jethro.
 - a) **EXODUS 18.1:** *“And Jethro”* Appears ten times. Also known as Reuel (Ex. 2.18)
 - b) **EXODUS 18.1:** *“the priest of Midian”* Descendant of Abraham. (Gen. 25.2; cf. Heb. 5.1)
 - c) **EXODUS 18.1:** *“Moses’ father-in-law”* (Ex. 2.15-21; 3.1)

I. JETHRO AND MOSES MEET

- A. The reason for their meeting.
 1. Reason #1: He came because of what he heard.
 - a) **EXODUS 18.1:** *“And Jethro...heard of all that God had done for Moses and for Israel His people—that the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt.”*
 - b) How did Jethro hear about Israel’s deliverance? (Ex. 15.14,15; Num. 14.13,14)
 - c) The works of God were intended to be public knowledge. (Ex. 9.16)
 2. Reason #2: He came to reunite the family of Moses.
 - a) **EXODUS 18.2:** *“Then Jethro, Moses’ father-in-law, took Zipporah, Moses’ wife”*
 - b) **EXODUS 18.3,4:** The composition of the family of Moses. (cf. Ex. 2.21,22)
 - c) *“...after he had sent her back”* (Ex. 18.2; cf. 4.24-26)
- B. The location of their meeting.
 1. **EXODUS 18.5,6:** *“in the wilderness, where he was encamped at the mountain of God.”* The mountain of God was a reference to Mount Sinai. (cf. Ex. 3.1)
 2. This was a passage taken out of chronological order. (Ex. 19.1,2; Deut. 1.6,9-13)
 3. Why did Jethro meet with Moses at the mountain? (Ex. 3.12; Ex. 18.1)

II. MOSES AND JETHRO PRAISE GOD

- A. The initial conversation between Moses and Jethro.
 1. They expressed concern for each other. (Ex. 18.7)
 2. Consider the topic of their conversation.
 - a) **EXODUS 18.8:** *“all that the LORD had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians”*
 - b) **EXODUS 18.8:** *“all the hardship that had come upon them on the way, and how the LORD had delivered them.”*
 3. Consider how Jethro reacted to the news.
 - a) **EXODUS 18.9:** *“Then Jethro rejoiced for all the good which the LORD had done”*
 - b) **EXODUS 18.10:** *“And Jethro said, ‘Blessed by the LORD’*
 - c) **EXODUS 18.11:** *“Now I know that the LORD is greater than all the gods”*
 - d) **EXODUS 18.12:** *“Then Jethro...took a burnt offering and other sacrifices to offer to God.”* As a priest who served other gods, this was a significant change.
- B. Our conversations with our family can have a powerful influence.
 1. Our family is where we will have the most impact. (Acts 10.24,33; 1 Pet. 3.1,2)
 2. How often do we talk about God and what He has done in our lives?
 - a) **ZECHARIAH 8.23:** *“Let us go with you, for we have heard that God is with you.”*
 - b) Brethren praised God after hearing of Saul’s conversion. (Gal. 1.23,24)
 - c) Does your family see the hope that is in you? (1 Pet. 3.15)
 3. How we live is important, but it is also important what we say. (Matt. 12.33-37)