

WEDNESDAY NIGHT BIBLE CLASS
FEBRUARY 14, 2024
EXODUS 1:8-14

INTRODUCTION:

1. The book of Exodus records the fulfillment of God's promise to Abraham.
 - a) **GENESIS 15.12-15:** Abraham's descendants would live in captivity four hundred years.
 - b) **GENESIS 15.16:** *"for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."* A reference to the punishment of the inhabitants of Canaan. (cf. Josh. 24.14; Deut. 9.4-6; Lev. 18.24,25)
 - c) God fulfills His promises in keeping with His timeline. (cf. John 2.4; Acts 17.31)
2. The promise of God to make Abraham a great nation is fulfilled.
 - a) God uses two metaphors to describe the nature of his descendants. (Gen. 13.16; 15.5)
 - b) **EXODUS 1.7:** *"But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly"*
3. The book of Exodus is divided into two major sections.
 - a) **EXODUS 1-18:** Deliverance by Moses. (Intro to Moses, ten plagues, mass exodus)
 - b) **EXODUS 19-40:** Law of Moses. (Ten commandments, worship, golden calf, tabernacle)

I. THE CAUSE OF SLAVERY

- A. DETACHMENT: There was no connection between Pharaoh and Joseph.
 1. **EXODUS 1.8:** *"Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph."*
 2. A significant time had passed from the death of Joseph. (Ex. 1.7)
 3. New (hadas): "denotes the state of being different" [Mounce] (cf. Ecc. 1.9)
 4. Know (yada): "to recognize, to respect" [Mounce]. He chose not to acknowledge.
- B. DANGER: Pharaoh felt threatened by the children of Israel.
 1. **EXODUS 1.9:** *"the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we"*
 2. **EXODUS 1.10:** *"that they also join our enemies and fight against us"*
 3. **EXODUS 1.10:** *"and so go up out of the land."* Not a threat of conquest, but a threat of emancipation. (Ex. 3.19; Ex. 5.2)
- C. DREAD: Pharaoh was afraid of the children of Israel.
 1. **EXODUS 1.12:** *"they were in dread of the children of Israel."*
 2. Dread (qus): "feel disgust, repugnance for" [Strong]. (cf. Gen. 43.32; 46.34)
 3. In keeping with His timeline, God turned the heart of Pharaoh against the children of Israel to fulfill His promise of deliverance. (Ps. 105.24,25; Acts 7.17,18)

II. THE EFFECT OF SLAVERY

- A. In spite of their afflictions, the children of Israel multiplied.
 1. **EXODUS 1.10:** *"come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply"*
 2. **EXODUS 1.11:** Pharaoh assigned taskmaster. (Ex. 1.10,11; cf. Gen. 37.36; Ex. 2.14).
 - a) Afflicted: To bend down, to weaken. Physically and mentally. (cf. Ps. 102.23)
 - b) Burdens (siblot): "forced labor" [Mounce]. (cf. Gen. 47.11)
 3. **EXODUS 1.13,14:** *"So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor."*
 - a) Rigor carries the idea of treating them with harshness, violence. (cf. Ec. 2.11)
 - b) The first attempt to oppress the Israelites failed, so Pharaoh doubled down.
 4. **EXODUS 1.12:** *"But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew"*
- B. Though we may face the hardships of life, we can still grow and thrive.
 1. **2 CORINTHIANS 4.7-9:** Paul was beaten, but not destroyed.
 2. Through every hardship, God is with us. (Matt. 28.19; Acts 18.9,10; 23.11)