

THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD

**A Journey Through the
Old Testament**

Romans 15:4 For everything that was written in the past was written for our instruction,
so that through endurance and the encouragement of the Scriptures, we might have hope.

Exodus 5

Two Viewpoints:

1. Pharaoh is a type of Satan who is the slave master of all who are slaves to sin

Isaiah 51

**9 Awake, awake, put on strength,
O arm of the LORD.**

**Wake up as in days past,
as in generations of old.**

Was it not You who cut **Rahab to pieces,
who pierced through the **dragon**?**

**10 Was it not You who dried up the sea,
the waters of the great deep,
who made a road in the depths of the sea for
the redeemed to cross over?**

Exodus 5

Two Viewpoints:

1. Pharaoh is a type of Satan who is the slave master of all who are slaves to sin
2. Pharaoh as a king of the earth who oppresses God's people

Exodus 5

1 After that, Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let My people go, so that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness.’ ”

Exodus 5

**2 But Pharaoh replied,
“Who is the LORD that I should obey
His voice and let Israel go?
I do not know the LORD, and I will not
let Israel go.”**

Romans 8

**6 The mind of the flesh is death,
but the mind of the Spirit is life and peace,
7 because the mind of the flesh is hostile to
God:**

**It does not submit to God's law, nor can it
do so.**

**8 Those controlled by the flesh cannot
please God.**

Exodus 5

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“Who is the LORD that I should obey
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I do not know the LORD, and I will not
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Exodus 5

3 “The God of the Hebrews has met with us,” they answered.

“Please let us go on a three-day journey into the wilderness to sacrifice to the LORD our God, or He may strike us with plagues or with the sword.”

Exodus 5

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

**5 Pharaoh also said, “Look, the people
of the land are now numerous, and you
would be stopping them from their
labor.”**

Exodus 5

6 That same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their foremen:

7“You shall no longer supply the people with straw for making bricks.

They must go and gather their own straw.

8 But require of them the same quota of bricks as before; do not reduce it.

For they are lazy; that is why they are crying out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’

9 Make the work harder on the men so they will be occupied and pay no attention to these lies.”

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9 Make the work harder on the men so they will be occupied and **pay no attention to these lies.**”

Exodus 5

10 So the taskmasters and foremen of the people went out and said to them, “This is what Pharaoh says: ‘I am no longer giving you straw. 11 Go and get your own straw wherever you can find it; but your workload will in no way be reduced.’ ”

Exodus 5

12 So the people scattered all over the land of Egypt to gather stubble for straw.

13 The taskmasters kept pressing them, saying, “Fulfill your quota each day, just as you did when straw was provided.”

14 Then the Israelite foremen, whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over the people, were beaten and asked, “Why have you not fulfilled your quota of bricks yesterday or today, as you did before?”

Exodus 5

15 So the Israelite foremen went and appealed to Pharaoh:

“Why are you treating your servants this way?

16 No straw has been given to your servants, yet we are told, ‘Make bricks!’ Look, your servants are being beaten, but the fault is with your own people.”

Exodus 5

17 “You are slackers!” Pharaoh replied.

“Slackers!

That is why you keep saying, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.’

18 Now get to work.

You will be given no straw, yet you must deliver the full quota of bricks.”

19 The Israelite foremen realized they were in trouble when they were told, “You must not reduce your daily quota of bricks.”

Exodus 5

20 When they left Pharaoh, they confronted Moses and Aaron, who stood waiting to meet them.

21“May the LORD look upon you and judge you,” the foremen said, “for you have made us a stench before Pharaoh and his officials; you have placed in their hand a sword to kill us!”

Exodus 5

22 So Moses returned to the LORD and asked,

“Lord, why have You brought trouble upon this people?

Is this why You sent me?

23 Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has brought trouble on this people, and You have not delivered Your people in any way.”

1. Let's consider a 'what if'...

What if God had not hardened Pharaoh's heart; and that he would have let the people go at this first request?

- **Then God would not have been glorified in bringing judgement upon him.**

Romans 9

17 For the Scripture says to Pharaoh:

**“I raised you up for this very purpose,
that I might display My power in you,
and that My name might be proclaimed in
all the earth.”** [Exodus 9:16]

18 Therefore God has mercy on whom He
wants to have mercy, and He hardens
whom He wants to harden.

1. Let's consider a 'what if'...

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- **Then God would not have been glorified in bringing judgement upon him.**
- **Then God would not have been able to show the riches of His glory to His elect people.**

Romans 9

22 What if God, intending to show His wrath and make His power known, bore with great patience the vessels of His wrath, prepared for destruction?

23 What if He did this to make the riches of His glory known to the vessels of His mercy, whom He prepared in advance for glory—

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- **Then God would not have been glorified in bringing judgement upon him.**
- **Then God would not have been able to show the riches of His glory to His elect people.**
- **Then God's people would not have learned to trust the LORD in the face of great suffering.**

1. Let's consider a 'what if'...

What if God had not hardened Pharaoh's heart; and that he would have let the people go at this first request?

- **Then God would not have been able to teach His people to walk by faith in His word rather than faith in what they see and experience.**
- **Then the rest of the world would not have feared the God of Israel as they left Egypt.**

1. Let's consider a 'what if'...

What if God had not hardened Pharaoh's heart; and that he would have let the people go at this first request?

- **Then God would not have been able to teach His Church about Satan's devices,
- and future ones like Jannes and Jambres.**
- **Then we would not have this illustration of how God also delivers us from our slavery to sin by His sacrificial Passover Lamb.**

**2. When God brings judgement onto the world,
His people will become targets of the world's
anger.**

Revelation 12

7 Then a war broke out in heaven:

Michael and his angels fought against the dragon, and the dragon and his angels fought back.

8 But the dragon was not strong enough, and no longer was any place found in heaven for him and his angels.

9 And the great dragon was hurled down—that ancient serpent called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world.

He was hurled to the earth, and his angels with him.

Revelation 12

**10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven saying:
“Now have come the salvation and the power
and the kingdom of our God,
and the authority of His Christ.**

**For the accuser of our brothers has been
thrown down—**

**he who accuses them day and night before our
God.**

Revelation 12

11 They have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb

and by the word of their testimony.

**And they did not love their lives
so as to shy away from death.**

**12 Therefore rejoice, O heavens,
and you who dwell in them!**

**But woe to the earth and the sea;
with great fury the devil has come down to you,
knowing he has only a short time."**

Revelation 12

13 And when the dragon saw that he had been thrown to the earth, he pursued the woman who had given birth to the male child.

17 And the dragon was enraged at the woman, and went to make war with the rest of her children, who keep the commandments of God and hold to the testimony of Jesus.

Matthew 10

16 Behold, I am sending you out like sheep among wolves; therefore be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves.

17 But beware of men; for they will hand you over to their councils and flog you in their synagogues.

18 On My account, you will be brought before governors and kings as witnesses to them and to the Gentiles.

19 But when they hand you over, do not worry about how to respond or what to say. In that hour you will be given what to say.

Matthew 10

20 For it will not be you speaking, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

21 Brother will betray brother to death, and a father his child; children will rise against their parents and have them put to death.

22 You will be hated by everyone because of My name, but the one who perseveres to the end will be saved.

Matthew 10

24 A disciple is not above his teacher, nor a servant above his master.

25 It is enough for a disciple to be like his teacher, and a servant like his master.

If the head of the house has been called Beelzebul, how much more the members of his household!

**3. When God brings judgement onto the world,
His people will be tempted to turn on each
other.**

John 15

12 This is My commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you.

13 Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends.

18 If the world hates you, understand that it hated Me first.

19 If you were of the world, it would love you as its own.

Instead, the world hates you, because you are not of the world, but I have chosen you out of the world.

4. God's people must, must, must, have a long view of justice.

Romans 12

17 Do not repay anyone evil for evil. Carefully consider what is right in the eyes of everybody.

18 If it is possible on your part, live at peace with everyone.

19 Do not avenge yourselves, beloved, but leave room for God's wrath.

For it is written: "Vengeance is Mine; I will repay, says the Lord." [Deuteronomy 32:35]

**4. God's people must, must, must,
have a long view of justice.**

Jeremiah 23

**5 Behold, the days are coming, declares the
LORD,**

**when I will raise up for David a righteous
Branch, and He will reign wisely as King and will
administer justice and righteousness in the land.**

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