

January 29th, 2022
Pinecrest Baptist Church
a.m.

Sermon Series: Delivered: Rescued from Bondage
Sermon #3 Title: *A Doom With a View*
Sermon #3 Text: (Exodus 3:16-22)

*Note – One of the most wonderful things that God ever gave Moses, or you and I for that matter, is a look at the complete picture. The total work. –

- No man may know what God is specifically doing at the moment, but all men can know what God will do in the end.

- In God's great mercies, He has seen fit to show us the ends of all God's work, that with patience and peace we might endure the process of all of God's work.

One of the things that God did on that mountain side commission of Moses; was not just to give him step by step instructions; but God gave him some point-by-point conclusions!

- He did not just give him directions to follow, but He gave Him conclusions to look forward to. – And it was supposed to be that Pre-Revealed Conclusions to provide a Personally Resolved Confidence.

I. The Instructions to be Communicated – vs 16-18

*Note – We are looking at these verses from two different angles. 1.) We are working to learn something about this verses; and 2.) From these verses.

A. The People Expected to Hear – “Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them...”

*Note- The first thing that Lord told Moses to do, was to bring the elders of the nation to the table of information.

1.) Most likely these are the heads and recognized leaders of the 12 tribes.

a.) the word means both “older” and “official dignitary.” –

b.) the idea was to gather the people that the people looked to, and proclaim to them, what I tell you to proclaim to them.

*Note – Now the issue to take note of is “why?” Why not just send Moses in with the full magnitude of miracles that would follow and get them out of there?

2.) Because they were going to have to WANT TO LEAVE.

a.) God's plan was not merely to make the oppression cease...and let them stay....God's plan was to make the oppression cease by directing them to LEAVE.

*Note – There is an eternal difference between wanting Misery to cease, AND following the Lord away from where you are!

(That's like wanting God to remove the “consequential results of sin,” without removing the sin. – Never get in the mindset where one says, “Lord, its not this prison I hate, it is the pain in the prison!” – Just remove the pain, and let me stay!

- Lord, I don't want you to deliver me from sin; I just want you to deliver me from the punishment of it; from the consequences of it.

*Note – Know this. – Jesus didn't come to Clean and Polish sin, just so the consequences won't be so bad; He came to

CLEANSE SINNERS, and then remove them from the sewer they are standing in.

*Note – That being said here is a good answer to a bothering question...

- Why did God allow Israel to go through this great suffering and oppression?

*Note – In this we find the deep wisdom of God. – I want you to realize that in this scene right here a “divine reason for earthly affliction” comes to the light.

- Israel may never have wanted to leave Egypt without it.

- God would not allow His nation to enjoy a long lived, long loved comfortable history in a lost pagan culture.

- What happened in Egypt on a historic scale is what happens every day on a personal scale. – The world of Egypt, like sin, started out a kind, comforting, welcoming provider and protector of Israel. – It started thrilling and fulfilling – under false demonic gods. – Then became oppressive and afflicting, stealing and killing, (As sin and this world always comes to.)

- There is no greater danger for a society than to be in love with false gods who satisfy all sinful desires.

- The elders were going to have to lead the people to “Choose to Leave Egypt”, not just make it a nicer circumstance for Israel to live in.

B. The Plan Explained for All – “and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt: 3:17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

*Note – Here is the two-verse sermon that Moses was to preach them.

1.) – The God of Israel has spoken to Me.

a.) Not one of the idol gods of Egypt

b.) Not some new God that has just come on the scene.

c.) The God that has always been our people’s God. – Not the one THEY Chose, but the God that chose Them!

*Note – One of the most important things to always know about the God of Israel, is the fact that He is not “the god they chose out of many.” – They are the earthly nation He Chose out of all!

*Note – Here is one point of reference that distinguishes and differentiates false religion, idolatry, and even homemade Christianity from all truth.

- To borrow from Augustus Neander, German Theologian from the 1800’s... - “We look upon Christianity, not as a power that has sprung up out of the hidden depths of man's nature,

but as one which descended from above, when heaven opened itself anew to man's long-alienated race;"

- This Word from Moses was a Communication from Heaven Down, not an Imagination from the Heart Up.

- What can be said of Moses here, can be Said of the Bible, and of Christ today. – It all came to us as Information from the Outside In – Not from the Inside out!

2.) "I will bring you out of the affliction of Egypt."

*Note – Here are some things for us to think about pertaining to the Lord's Intricate Discretion.

#1 – He chose to make Israel leave the land, rather than the Egyptians.

- a.) We remember that one; Pharaoh declared that there were enough Israelites to overcome the Egyptians if a war were to break out.

- b.) We remember that the Lord would use the Israelites to Remove the Canaanites from their land. – Some Group of People was going to lose their land; and He chose it to be the Canaanites, not the Egyptians.

- c.) We remember that the Lord had promised the man Abraham, that his descendants would inhabit and possess this land.

*Note – So if there is anything here to take note of, it is the fact that God moves nations, kingdoms, and countries, in order to keep His promise.

#2 – He brings them "out of the affliction." – This was the generation of Israelites that had endured the suffering.

*Note – Israel had been in Egypt for 400 years. But it was only this generation of Israelites that had lived under the Pharaoh that "knew not Joseph."

- It was this Pharaoh that had tried to kill the Israelite newborns.

- It was this Pharaoh that rejected the Historical blessing Joseph had been, as well as the blessing of having God's people in their land.

- When that Generation of Egyptian leaders turned on Israelites is when all of the affliction, suffering, and bondage began.

(Life-together became bondage for Israel, and Poisonous guilt for the Egyptians.)

*Note – All of that being said, here is a historic event that has repeated itself over and over throughout history. – The world always and ultimately turns on the people of God!

- Throughout history, nations of the world have a repeated cycle of isolating, oppressing, afflicting and persecuting people groups they decide to hate.

- Furthermore, throughout history, and yet to come in the future, is the reality of nations, cultures, and countries of the world turning on the people of God.

- Historically it has been the earthly nation of Israel.

- Presently and Prophetically it is and will be both the earthly nation of Israel, as well as the Lord's churches and the Lord's Saints.

- And just one more thing to note – all the time that it took in Egypt and all the time that it takes throughout history is "One Generation" of leaders who "Know Not the God of Joseph!"

3.) “unto the land of the Canaanites”

*Note – Never get the idea that God has no where for you to come or to go. His message to them was plain. I am not just getting you out of Egypt, but I am getting you Into Canaan.

- I am not here for you just to follow me “out of” bondage . . . but “into the place I have for you.”

(Not the place you have for you – the place I have for you.)

*Note – Here’s the fullest idea I can give you. – Though not said this way, it may very well could be that God is not saying, “I am not here to get you out of trouble – I am here to Keep My Word, and do My Work, and You can be with me in it, or not.”

- That’s the message, Moses, I want you to preach to those people.

C. The Promise Expressed to Moses – vs 18 “And they shall hearken to thy voice.”

1.) This was a promise that Moses would forget.

*Note – Sometimes we do not hear all that God says, and sometimes we hear things that God did not say.

a.) He did not say that they would “immediately hearken to his voice.” – because they wouldn’t. The first thing that would happen, is that the people would get angry at Moses the first time Pharaoh made a bad thing worse.

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b.) Though they did not immediately, they would ultimately.

- The Lord just said to Moses – “they will hear you.” – Just proclaim it to them, and keep proclaiming it to them.

*Note – Now that being said, we see both “about” these verses and “from these verses” that God was speaking to a Nation through a Man, as well as showing a man that He was over the nation!

II. The Resistance to be Anticipated – vs 18-19

*Note – Not only would Moses be speaking to and leading the nation of Israel, but he would be charged to go and speak to the Pharaoh himself.

- *Note – Now this is a different Pharaoh than the one who tried to have him killed as a child, and the one who Moses fled from forty years prior...

(4:19 – “And the Lord said unto Moses in Midian, go return into Egypt: for all the men are dead which sought thy life.”)

A. A Pointed Confrontation – “and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt,”

*Note – Moses was not to make his case to the Egyptian public. There would be no “diplomatic approach”, there would be no “political approach” only a pointed one.

- 1.) God was not primarily dealing with Egyptians. (though He would)

- 2.) God was dealing with Pharaoh – the Man.

*Note – As God called the man Moses to lead Israel out – God would call the man Pharaoh to let them go.

B. A Biblical Confrontation – “and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days’

journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

*Note – God’s message to these two men were both pointed, and personal with the same essential message.

- God spoke directly to Moses – and then God spoke directly Through Moses to Pharaoh.

*Note – He said to both men – “I want you to obey me!”

- Pharaoh would get the same message that Moses got.

- Pharaoh would get a different instruction than Moses got.

Moses – you lead them out to sacrifice to me.

Pharaoh – you let them go to sacrifice to me.

*Note – It’s almost as though the Lord said to them both – Moses you bring Israel out here for a time of Worship – and Pharaoh you watch and learn something.

*note – Can you imagine the blessings that may have fallen upon Egypt, rather than plagues, had Pharaoh bowed his unworthy head, and said, “Yes Lord?!”

Write this down and notice what gets said – 9:16 – When God would explain to Pharaoh plainly why all of these plagues would come upon them, and why it was happening during his tenure...

- “And in very deed for this cause have I raised thee up, for to shew in thee my power; that my name may be declared throughout all the earth.”

*Note – Now I want you to think about the mighty power that was poured out on Egypt in plagues. – All of the movements of God in blood, frogs, flies, lice, boils, fiery hail, murrain, darkness, locusts, and death...

- Now I want you to imagine that same power Blasting Egypt with BLESSINGS! -With Abundance, with Health.

*Note – Now note this – the Bible never says this; this is my imagination, and I am not proclaiming it, but I am suggesting it...

God essentially said to Pharaoh – I raised you up to show my power to the world. – And that’s exactly what I am going to do. I can show it in Blessing, or I can show it in Plague, but I am going to show it!

*Note – But now all of that being said, He tells Moses, here is what to expect. – This will be a pointed confrontation, this is to be a Biblical confrontation, and rest assured right now, this will be a Lengthy confrontation.

C. A Lengthy Confrontation – “And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand.”

1.) When you read the Torah – the Jewish translation of this verse, it reads – “Yet I know that the king of Egypt will let you go only because of a greater might.”

2.) The idea is simple – “The King of Egypt will not let you go except by a Mighty hand.”

- Moses – He is not going to believe what you say. Furthermore, the way it would turn out, Pharaoh would not yield based even upon what he saw.

*Note – Later on Moses would forget this, and be frustrated because things happened as long and as enduring as God said they would, and did not immediately take place.

5:22-23 – “And Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, Lord, wherefore hast thou so evil entreated this people? Why is it thou hast sent me? For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Thy name, he hath done evil to this people; neither hast thou delivered thy people at all.”

*Note – Here is one of the ever-present failures of the faithful. Every time something “bad” in life happens, we loose our marbles, and act like the rest of the critics of God. – “Oh, I just don’t understand why all of this is happening!” – What do you not understand... the Lord said it would!

- The Lord said – the world is going to treat you bad.
- The Lord said – “boast not thyself of tomorrow thou knowest not what a day may bring.”
- The Lord said – “time and chance happeneth to all”
- The Lord said – “it is appointed unto man once to die”
- The Lord said – some “need to be in sorrow”

Exactly what is it that you don’t understand!?

Moses, I am telling you now – this is going to be long, lengthy, hard and difficult so you won’t get frustrated then!

- yet he still did.

- This Word of God is not kidding, and should never be surprising. Yes we may get traumatized by all of the sorrows and anxieties that fall upon us – but we are never to be without understanding.

III. The Conclusion that will be Venerated– vs 20-22

A. A Ruined Nation – (vs 20a) And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt...

- 1.) (literally) to “strike” the nation. – Both property and people; land and livelihoods;

B. A Relinquishing Enemy – (vs 20b) – “with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.”

C. A Rich Bounty – (vs 21-22) – “And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty: (22) But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

Conclusion:

- Moses, here’s the whole picture before it happens.
- You are going to go through great pains, and problems carrying out my will.
- You are going to see great victories and celebrations doing so.
- Pharaoh – I raised you up to pour out my power on you, and show the world all that I can do. It will either be blessings, or punishments – however you respond is up to you!