

The Story of Redemption

Ex 6:2-8

2 And God spoke to Moses and said to him: "I am the LORD. 3 I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name LORD I was not known to them. 4 I have also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, in which they were strangers. 5 And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel whom the Egyptians keep in bondage, and I have remembered My covenant. 6 Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the LORD; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments. 7 I will take you as My people, and I will be your God. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. 8 And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and I will give it to you as a heritage: I am the LORD.'" NKJV

Wow, did you get all that read this week? All of Exodus and Leviticus. That was a lot of information. Almost the entire religious system of the Jewish people is found in those passages.

All the offerings and sacrifices, the priests, the tabernacle with all of the minute descriptions.

But, oh yes, there was that little thing at the beginning called the Exodus. Now wasn't the book really better than the movie. When you understand that coordinated ancient history to make it all come out that way, even beginning with the seven year drought that Joseph foretold.

As a matter of fact God had told Abraham that his descendants would come up out of Egypt a mighty nation after 400 years. Gen. 15:13

But why did God go to all the trouble? Why not put them in the land of Canaan, keep them safe and just let them grow until they outnumber all their neighbors. It seems that God has a flare for the dramatic. And He does. As it is said in our text, v-7, "Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians."

Where does our story open? All the descendants of Jacob now number about 2.5 million. They are now slaves, not a favored people as they were in the beginning. They are being afflicted by Egypt who is trying to kill the baby boys as they are born. They are in forced labor to build the mighty works of the Egyptians.

I. Who is this God?

A. And God spoke to Moses and said to him: "I am the LORD. 3 I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by My name LORD I was not known to them. 4 I have also established My covenant with them, to give them the land of Canaan, the land of their pilgrimage, in which they were strangers. 5 And I have also heard the groaning of the children of Israel whom the Egyptians keep in bondage, and I have remembered My covenant.

B. The same God that spoke to the patriarchs.

1. But he has been silent for pretty much 400 years.

2. God is always near those who put their trust in Him but He is not always knocking on your door, trying to get your attention. He is looking for you to seek Him with all your heart and then you will find him.
 - a. Deut 4:29 But from there you will seek the Lord your God, and you will find Him if you seek Him with all your heart and with all your soul. NKJV
- C. The God that made a covenant with them to give them the land and to bless them.
1. So although He seems to be absent, yet He is operating on His schedule on his time.
- II. God's message to Israel
- A. 6 Therefore say to the children of Israel: 'I am the LORD; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments.
1. The ten plagues; God Brings Them out by a Mighty Hand
 - a. Against the god of the Nile River
 - b. Against the Egyptian frog goddess Heqet, who assisted women in childbirth, was running amok.
 - c. Lice
 - d. Flies
 - e. Disease on the cattle
 - f. Boils
 - g. Thunder & hail
 - h. Locusts
 - i. Darkness
 - j. Death of the Firstborn
 2. Notice what the servants of Pharaoh say, "How long shall this man be a snare to us? Let the men go, that they may serve the Lord their God. Do you not yet know that Egypt is destroyed?" Ex 10:7 NKJV
 3. Before God can redeem us He must destroy the gods we have been worshiping.
 - a. The god of self & self confidence.
 - b. The god of pleasure
 - c. The god of money
 - d. The god of whatever consumes us and our time.

- e. The god upon which we depend.
- 4. But be mindful that God has limitless options.
- B. 7 I will take you as My people, and I will be your God.
 - 1. Redemption is not simply to set them free.
 - a. It is to make them His people because He has purchased them.
 - b. A people simply set free will be set free to sin, as the children of Israel constantly did.
 - 2. There is a relationship in redemption.
 - a. They will be His and He will be theirs.
 - b. They will not have other gods to worship or serve.
 - c. The very first commandment is, You shall have no other gods before Me.
 - 3. In our redemption Paul says:
 - a. Titus 2:13 looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, 14 who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works. NKJV
- C. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God who brings you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.
 - 1. This seems to me to be something very important to the Lord.
 - 2. In the book of Ezekiel, a prophet to a very rebellious people who God would bring upon them great judgement, God says, Then they shall know that I am the Lord your God.”
 - 3. As that preacher said at promise keepers, God has a problem, He thinks that He is God.
 - 4. I think that it is significant that the Scripture says that every knee will bow to Him and every mouth shall confess that He is Lord.
- D. 8 And I will bring you into the land which I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; and I will give it to you as a heritage: I am the LORD."
 - 1. God’s purpose for us to the bless us.
 - a. For the children of Israel this meant a physical land for themselves and their children forever.
 - b. For us God has something much better and something that lasts forever.