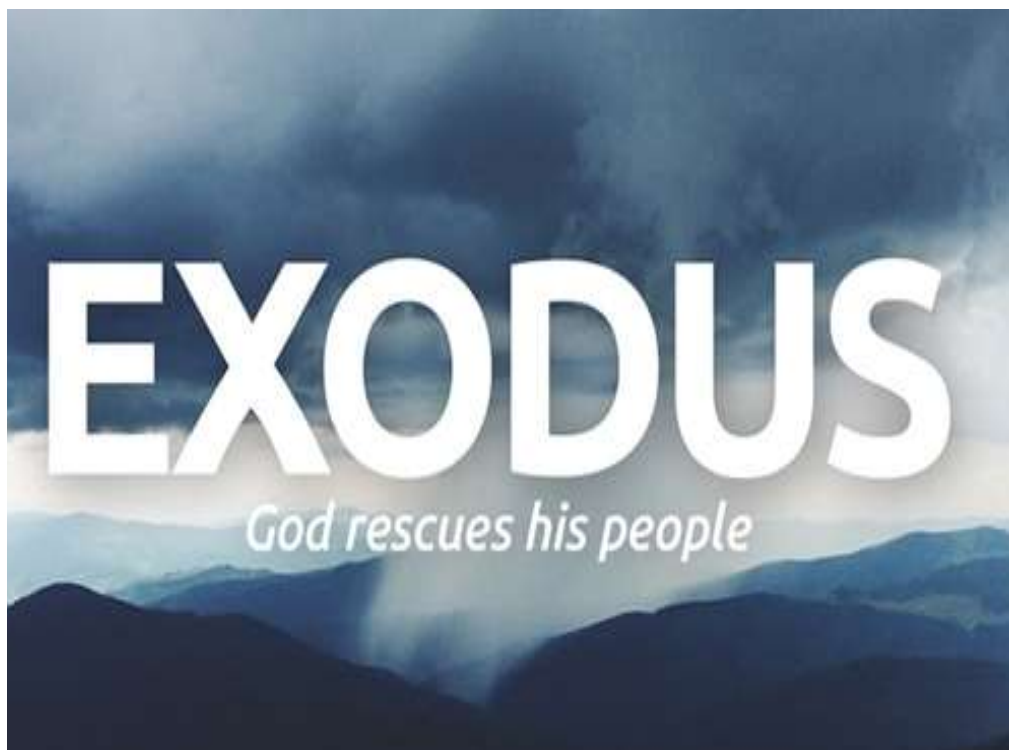


Let's Worship God

30th Dec. - 4th Jan. 2019

Mark



EXODUS

Monday - Exodus 1:1-7: God's Covenant Promises Continue

We are going to look at the book of Exodus using notes written by Rev. Philip Moffett. Exodus chapter 1 verse 1 is a continuation of the Genesis account. The book of Genesis finished with Jacob, his sons, and their families having come down to Egypt. But this raises a serious question - "what has happened to the promises of God?" Will God keep his promise when it looks like all is lost? What we find is that Exodus is more than just the continuation of the story of a family, but it is the continuation of God's continued dealing with his Covenant people. God's promises to Abraham are still being fulfilled. Exodus is a continuation of what God is doing in saving a people for himself.

Verses 1-7 show us that God is continuing to keep his promise of blessing his people. Just over 100 years have passed since these 70 people came down to Egypt until the time when a new king rose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. But during these years we are told in verse 7 that the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly, they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong, so that the land was filled with them. This was part of the covenant promise given to Abraham in Genesis 12 & 17, where God said he would make him into a great nation, he would have descendants as numerous as the stars in the sky. In Genesis 35:11 God said to Jacob, "I am God Almighty; be fruitful and multiply. A nation and a company of nations shall come from you, and kings shall come from your own body". God continues to keep his covenant promises, even when his people are living in a foreign land. But this is also going to set up for us the great deliverance that God will bring to his people. God is going to set them free.

Wonderfully this also makes Exodus our history. This is the account of God's people, his church. God has worked these events for us that we might better understand and know for sure how we have been saved through Jesus Christ. Exodus, through its language and pattern is going to prepare us for the greater deliverance that we have in Jesus Christ.

Questions

1. In what ways has God kept his promises to you even while you have been in difficult situations? 2. What should we be looking forward to most as we see God faithfully keep his promises?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for the promises God has kept to you.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." Exodus 20:2

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 2 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Tuesday - Exodus 1:8-16: Opposition to God's People

Just because God is faithful in keeping his promises does not mean that everything will be plain sailing. We are given a short but foreboding sentence in verse 8. "There arose a new king who did not know Joseph." The past deliverance that God brought to the land of Egypt all those years previously has now been forgotten. The new Pharaoh sees the increasing number of Israelites, and he fears that they might take over, or enter into an alliance with a foreign power and bring down Egypt's superpower status. To Pharaoh God's people are a threat, so he opposes them. They are put into forced labour (verse 10,11,13). There is bitter hostility between Pharaoh and God's covenant people. To make matters worse Pharaoh will have an additional plan (verse 15-16). He calls 2 of the Hebrew midwives to a meeting where he tells them they are now responsible for taking any sons born to the Hebrew women and murdering them. This plan will ultimately fail, so Pharaoh will then call on the whole of Egypt to enact this awful attack (verse 22).

Where does this type of opposition come from? Was it just that the Egyptian king didn't know what Joseph had done for Egypt? Did it stem from his fear that the number of Hebrews could mean Egypt would lose power? Or does the answer go even deeper? The answer is found in the one at work in this present dark age. Satan is at enmity with the seed of the woman. Back in Genesis in chapter 3:15, after the Fall, God pronounces the curse, and we are told that there are 2 kingdoms at war. The kingdom of the promised seed will be in opposition to the kingdom of the serpent. Christ's kingdom and Satan's kingdom are in opposition.

As God's people we should not be surprised at the opposition we face as we live in a fallen world. The world hates us because they hate Jesus. But we also know that God keeps his promises and delivers those that he has set his love upon.

Questions

1. What kinds of opposition do you face?
2. What great hope do we have as we go through opposition (Genesis 3:15)?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for Christians being persecuted in other countries.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." Exodus 20:2

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 3 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Wednesday - Exodus 1:15-22: God Provides for His People

There are 2 surprising heroes in this first chapter, and their names are remembered and recorded in God's Word: Shiprah and Puah. Notice that we don't have the name of the Pharaoh! Pharaoh is a title, like Caesar or king. Where this powerful Pharaoh is just recorded for us by his title God has forever recorded the names of these midwives. This is because God provides these 2 Hebrew midwives to frustrate the plans of powerful Pharaoh, and ultimately the plans of Satan. Shiprah and Puah, who are familiar with delivering babies, will be used by God to help deliver a nation. Even though they were under Pharaoh's orders Shiprah and Pauh served another king, a greater king, the Covenant God. They feared God, and so they were obedient to God. In refusing to obey Pharaoh they say to him that the Hebrew women are strong and have very short labours, so the sons are born quickly, before they get there! These women are commended for their obedience to God and in return God blesses them. As we saw earlier God's promises are in force, but what we must do is trust and obey, even when it is difficult. God is keeping the Covenant promises made to Abraham, and God will not break his Covenant promises, so he provides these 2 deliverers for his people.

Shiprah and Puah also point us to the truth that God is going to provide a deliverer. There will be one who comes from among the people, one who will deliver the people of God from the place of slavery. The offspring of the woman will crush the head of the evil one. Exodus points us firstly to Moses, the one God provides to bring his people up out of Egypt, but ultimately it is pointing us to Jesus Christ. He is the greater Moses, the greater deliverer. The nature, the pattern, and the language of deliverance is here to prepare God's people for Jesus. God the Father has provided one to deliver us from slavery, from opposition, and from death. Not even the efforts of the evil one can destroy God's plans.

Questions

1. What encouragement is there in knowing that God knows all about our serving King Jesus?
2. What comfort is there in knowing that God's plans cannot be overthrown?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that you would faithfully serve Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." Exodus 20:2

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 4 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Thursday - Exodus 2:1-10: The Protected Saviour

In chapter 2 a son is born. A child is born into the house of Levi, a priestly family. Yet he is a son born under oppression, a son born under a death sentence! Also in verse 2 we are told that he is a fine child. In Acts 7:20 we are informed that this means that he was beautiful in the sight of God. Here is a child on whom God's favour rests. This is no ordinary child but one for whom God has a special purpose. God is raising up a saviour for his people. And God is going to protect this saviour.

In Hebrews 11:23 we are told that by faith Moses was hidden for 3 months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. They trusted that God had a plan and purpose for Moses, and so they protected their son. After 3 months they then made a little ark, placed their son in this ark, and then set him out among the reeds in the River Nile. These are parents of faith who trusted that God would protect this child.

In God's providence Pharaoh's daughter goes down to this very part of the Nile to bathe. The edict of Pharaoh, that all Hebrew boys are to be thrown into the Nile is to be obeyed by all, which includes Pharaoh's daughter. But she has compassion on this child. God so worked in the Pharaoh's daughter's heart that she felt pity for what was most certainly a Hebrew boy. Moses' sister Miriam who has been nearby comes out of her hiding place and wisely asks the princess if she would like her to fetch a nurse maid, someone to feed and care for the child for her. Wonderfully she agrees and Miriam brings her own mother, who has her son restored to her, and even receives payment for looking after him. Moses is now under the protection of the royal household of Pharaoh. God is protecting his servant. Every detail and every moment planned out.

Already in this chapter we see that we are being prepared for a greater Saviour. God, in raising up Moses, is preparing us, and pointing us to Jesus Christ, the true Saviour of God's people who was protected in his earliest days.

Questions

1. In what ways was Jesus a favoured son, born under oppression and born under a death sentence?
2. How do we see God's providence in protecting Jesus Christ as an infant?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God is in control of all things.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." Exodus 20:2

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 5 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Friday - Exodus 2:11-22: The Prepared Saviour

Moses has been with his own family as his mother cares for him. He is taught about the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob and is instructed in the covenant promises of God. We can't be sure at what age he goes to live in the palace, but we do know that Moses knew exactly where he was from. Exodus 2:11 tells us that he went out to his people. Acts 7:23 comments on this, "it came into his heart to visit his brothers, the children of Israel." Moses knew he was from the covenant people. But he is also educated in all things Egyptian. He grows up in the palace and he is taught as an Egyptian. Again Acts 7:22, "And Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and deeds." He has a position of privilege and wealth. And so he has a choice to make; either be an Egyptian prince and inherit the throne, or identify with the covenant people, God's people. Hebrews 11:24, "By faith, Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward." At the age of 40 Moses considered the covenant promises of greater worth than all the treasure of Egypt, so he identified with Christ's people, even though it would mean suffering for a time. But Moses had to learn that the salvation of God's people would not be brought about in his own strength and timing. He needed to learn that the people were not ready, and that he wasn't ready. Moses has to be prepared further. In Midian God will continue to prepare Moses for the task of delivering God's people. 40 years of learning to be a shepherd. Feeding and taking care of thousands of sheep.

God doesn't waste time. His deliverer will come at just the right time. Prepared and ready for the task given to him. In the fullness of time God sent forth his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law so that we might receive adoption as sons.

Questions

1. How was Jesus prepared for the task that the Father had set for him?
2. In what ways might we have to trust God's timing in our lives?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would trust that God's timing is perfect.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." Exodus 20:2

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 6 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Saturday - Exodus 2:23-25: The Purpose of the Saviour

Chapter 2 ends with wonderfully comforting words. Did you also notice that this is the first time God is mentioned in this chapter! Although this is the first mention of God we know that God has been working in his providence. Now we are clearly told that God hears, God remembers, God sees, and God knows. These are covenant terms. God hears the cry that comes up from oppressed people. He is the God who hears his children. The Father is listening. What a great help this is to people who are suffering and under oppression. There is one who is in heaven, and he hears the cries of his people. God remembers. He remembers the Covenant promises he has made. He will bless us, he will make his family great, he will give us an eternal home, a resting place. This God who keeps covenant with his people has promised salvation. The word remember does not imply that God forgot and has only just now remembered. Rather, God is now bringing into action what he has said he will do. This is now the allotted time when God has promised to act. God sees and God knows. This is immensely comforting. He isn't just aware of us but is intimately involved. This is why he raises up a Saviour. The covenant God has compassion on his people and sends a Saviour to bring them up out of slavery.

All of this points us to our greater Saviour. The one who is our great high priest, who came to earth, who had the favour of God the Father on him, born into oppression, and more than just born under the threat of death, but born under the certainty of death. He is the one protected, brought down to Egypt and then back up out of Egypt. He grew in wisdom and stature. He was mighty in word and deed. And he identified himself with his people. He left the glories of heaven. The royal son made himself nothing taking the form of a servant. He identified with his people so that might deliver us and set us free. All of this was in God's perfect timing. God hears, remembers, sees and knows. And he has provided a Saviour for us. Jesus Christ.

Questions

1. What was the purpose of God in sending Moses? What is the purpose of God in sending Jesus Christ?
2. Why is it good to remember that God hears our cries, remembers his covenant, sees his people and knows?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery." Exodus 20:2

Praise: Psalm 119:Part 7 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced for the RP Global Alliance
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