

Justice must be done

Many, many years ago there was An Ancient People who, had found themselves enslaved to a despotic power and had been in slavery for hundreds of years. Every single person of those ancient people had been born in slavery, their parents had been born in slavery, and their grandparents had been born in slavery. They knew no one, among those people who knew what it was like, to be a free man. In their case, they were trapped. They had no way out.

God himself had to intervene and rescue them. Of course the people were the children of Israel. Their captors were the Egyptians, Pharaoh in particular. Their story is one of the most dramatic in the history of man.

It is a story we are probably very familiar with. We learn from the Bible and from things like books and movies. We learn about the miracles in the story of how the Israelites were delivered from Egypt.

They were delivered miraculously.

The story of how free people can become slaves is also a story of Israel. There was a man named Jacob, whose name eventually was changed to Israel by God. He had 12 sons who became the 12 tribes of Israel. This is all very familiar to us. They went down into Egypt, about 70 altogether in their families . They were a free people, and they had favor with the Pharaoh and with the Egyptian people. They gave them a section of country to live in, Goshen. Joseph, one of Jacob's sons had really saved Egypt economically as a nation and had made them great through a time of seven years of plenty and seven years of famine, so Israel were good people in the eyes of the Egyptians (Genesis 47).

But in the process of time, they multiplied. They grew. They were a strong, active, outdoor agricultural people. The Egyptians population was in decline.

The Israelites, were having kids and having more kids. This became a major political problem in Egypt. In the process of time, that Pharaoh died, another Pharaoh rose up, who didn't feel he owed Joseph, or Joseph's people anything. And this is where the trouble began (Exodus 1:8).

Exodus 1:9-10), Pharaoh and his counselors began to talk this over and they said ("Look, the people of the children of Israel are more and they are stronger than we

are, in other words, Israel had grown to the place to where they had out populated the Egyptians in their own country. He said, "Let's deal shrewdly with these people. We are going to have to be really careful because they are going to multiply and it is going to happen in the event of a war, they might turn around and join our enemies and fight against us and we would be helpless if that happened. {11} So they began to set taskmasters over them. They began to put them to more work and to afflict them with more burdens.

The more the Egyptians afflicted them, the more Israel multiplied and grew .

It got to the place where the Egyptians were in absolute dread and fear of the children of Israel. They made Israel's lives bitter with hard bondage and mortar and brick and all manner of service in the field. But it didn't work.

The Egyptians were able to force their will on the people of Israel because they had the weapons and the army. They made complete and total slaves out of the Israelite people.

And Pharaoh said to all of his people, "Every son that is born of the Israelite slaves, I want you to throw him into the river to the crocodiles. You can save the daughters alive" (Exodus 1:22).

Wow! This is attempted genocide. They really wanted to put a stop to the development of the Israelite people entirely. The women posed no great threat, but they didn't want any more Israelite boys. Kill them all. So the Egyptians killed the baby boys..

Now there was a man of the house of Levi (Exodus 2), who had a wife, one of the daughters of Levi who conceived and bore a son. When she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him for three months and when she couldn't hide him any longer, she knew that she was going to have to do something or he would be crocodile bait. So she took some bulrushes and made an ark and dabbed it with asphalt and pitch so it would float, put the child in it and laid it in the reef by the rivers bank. His sister stood way off to see what would become of this child.

Well it's a familiar story (Exodus 2:5), the daughter of Pharaoh found the baby. She adopted the baby, took him into her household and Moses became Prince Moses.

Now there is one fact we need to remember about this. (Exodus 1:22). The Pharaoh commanded ALL his people saying, "Every son who is born, you will cast them

into the river to the crocodiles" What this means is, that the Egyptian people as a whole, all of them were participating in the killing of hundreds, perhaps thousands of Hebrew boy babies. This act is a criminal act of genocide and cannot go without justice from God.

After all these years and after all that had happened, after all the pain and all the suffering, these people still knew to pray, God still considered them His people, and He heard their prayer. He said, "I'm going to do something about it. I've come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, to bring them from there to a good land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite tribes.

"Now therefore, behold the cry of the children of Israel has come to me, and I've seen what the Egyptians have done to them" (Exodus 3:9).

What God has to mean by that is, He saw all the babies being thrown into the Nile River. He saw the Egyptians killing them. Throwing them to the crocodiles! He saw it all.

There is going to have to be justice for this. They are going to have to pay for their sins. No one will ever believe that God is God or that God is a God of justice if he's willing to allow the Egyptians to get off scot free with their sins.

The penalty they will suffer; will be a succession of 10 terrible plagues which will absolutely destroy the economy of Egypt, and in the end, they will lose, not every male child, but every firstborn male child of the Egyptians will die.

God is not only a God of mercy, He is a God of justice and justice was about to be visited upon the Egyptians. You get some idea of how cruel the Egyptians had been by the series of plagues that God sent on them. Each plague was for their sins.

Was 9 plagues enough? Had justice finally been done? No ; there was still the matter of the generation of little Israelite babies thrown into the Nile river to drawn. There was more justice to come.

It was time they got paid.

I don't' know how the U.S. will have to pay for their sins against God.

But somehow justice must be done.