**Moses and Pharaoh - Living with Difficult People**

**Text - EXODUS 5:1-9**

5 And afterward Moses and Aaron came and said to Pharaoh, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Let My people go that they may celebrate a feast to Me in the wilderness.’” 2 But Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and besides, I will not let Israel go.” 3 Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please, let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness that we may sacrifice to the Lord our God, otherwise He will fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword.” 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 labors!” 5 Again Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now many, and you would have them cease from their labors!” 6 So the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters over the people and their foremen, saying, 7 “You are no longer to give the people straw to make brick as previously; let them go and gather straw for themselves. 8 But the quota of bricks which they were making previously, you shall impose on them; you are not to reduce any of it. Because they are lazy, therefore they cry out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’ 9 Let the labor be heavier on the men, and let them work at it so that they will pay no attention to false words.”

**Overview**

God is reasonable and patient, but He will not be scorned. The heathen may rage (Psalm 2), but God is sovereign. Those who defy Him will be judged and judged severely, but God will show Himself faithful to those who are faithful to Him.

**Lesson Goals**

At the conclusion of this lesson, students should:

1. Note the change in Moses as he allowed God to work through him.

2. Understand God's workings as He judges the wrong and vindicates the right.

3. Decide to stand boldly for the Lord in their daily lives.

**Teaching Outline**

I. The Appeal of Moses

• A. He spoke for God.

• B. He spoke for God's people.

II. The Arrogance of Pharaoh

• A. He was motivated by pride.

• B. He was motivated by prejudice.

III. The Anger of God

• A. Judgment was decreed.

• B. Judgment was delivered.

**2 Corinthians 5:20 -** 20 Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God were making an appeal through us; we beg you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God.

**ACTS 5:32 -** 32 And we are witnesses of these things; and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey Him.”

**Exodus 6:10-11, 28—29 -** 10 Now the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, 11 “Go, tell Pharaoh king of Egypt to let the sons of Israel go out of his land.”

28 Now it came about on the day when the Lord spoke to Moses in the land of Egypt, 29 that the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “I am the Lord; speak to Pharaoh king of Egypt all that I speak to you.”

**Psalm 119:130 -** 130 The unfolding of Your words gives light; It gives understanding to the simple.

**Isaiah 55:11 -** 11 So will My word be which goes forth from My mouth; It will not return to Me empty, Without accomplishing what I desire, And without succeeding in the matter for which I sent it.

**Hebrews 4:12 -** 12 For the word of God is living and active and sharper than any two-edged sword, and piercing as far as the division of soul and spirit, of both joints and marrow, and able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart.

**2 Timothy 1:13 -** Retain the standard of sound words which you have heard from me, in the faith and love which are in Christ Jesus.

**1 Thessalonians 5:14 -** 14 We urge you, brethren, admonish the unruly, encourage the fainthearted, help the weak, be patient with everyone.

**Proverbs 14:31 -** He who oppresses the poor taunts his Maker, But he who is gracious to the needy honors Him.

**Exodus 10:7 - 7**Then Pharaoh’s servants said to him, “How long shall this man be a snare to us? Let the [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+10%3A7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-1785a)]people go, so that they may serve the Lord their God. Do you not yet [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Exodus+10%3A7&version=NASB#fen-NASB-1785b)]realize that Egypt is destroyed?”

**Psalm 2:1-5 -** Why are the nations in an uproar And the peoples devising a vain thing? 2 The kings of the earth take their stand And the rulers take counsel together Against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying, 3 “Let us tear their fetters apart And cast away their cords from us!” 4 He who sits in the heavens laughs, The Lord scoffs at them. 5 Then He will speak to them in His anger And terrify them in His fury, saying,

**Exodus 7.22-23 -** 22 But the magicians of Egypt did the same with their secret arts; and Pharaoh’s heart was hardened, and he did not listen to them, as the Lord had said. 23 Then Pharaoh turned and went into his house with no concern even for this.

**Isaiah 14:13-14 -** “But you said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; I will raise my throne above the stars of God, And I will sit on the mount of assembly In the recesses of the north. 14 ‘I will ascend above the heights of the clouds;

I will make myself like the Most High.’

**Proverbs 6:16-19 -** There are six things that the Lord hates, Seven that are an abomination [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+6%3A16-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-16557a)]to Him: **17**Haughty eyes, a lying tongue, And hands that shed innocent blood, **18**A heart that devises wicked plans, Feet that run rapidly to evil, **19**A false witness who declares lies, And one who [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Proverbs+6%3A16-19&version=NASB#fen-NASB-16560b)]spreads strife among brothers.

**Mark 7:20-23 - 20**And He was saying, “That which comes out of the person, that is what defiles the person. **21**For from within, out of the [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+7%3A20-23&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24481a)]hearts of people, come the evil thoughts, acts of sexual immorality, thefts, murders, acts of adultery, **22**deeds of greed, wickedness, deceit, indecent behavior, [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+7%3A20-23&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24482b)]envy, slander, [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Mark+7%3A20-23&version=NASB#fen-NASB-24482c)]pride, and foolishness. **23**All these evil things come from within and defile the person.”

**1 John 2:15-17 - 15**Do not love the world nor the things in the world. If anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. **16**For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh and the lust of the eyes and the boastful pride of life, is not from the Father, but is from the world. **17**The world is passing away and also its lusts; but the one who does the will of God continues to live forever.

**Exodus 8:25-32 -** 25 Pharaoh called for Moses and Aaron and said, “Go, sacrifice to your God within the land.” 26 But Moses said, “It is not right to do so, for we will sacrifice to the Lord our God what is an abomination to the Egyptians. If we sacrifice what is an abomination to the Egyptians before their eyes, will they not then stone us? 27 We must go a three days’ journey into the wilderness and sacrifice to the Lord our God as He commands us.” 28 Pharaoh said, “I will let you go, that you may sacrifice to the Lord your God in the wilderness; only you shall not go very far away. Make supplication for me.” 29 Then Moses said, “Behold, I am going out from you, and I shall make supplication to the Lord that the swarms of flies may depart from Pharaoh, from his servants, and from his people tomorrow; only do not let Pharaoh deal deceitfully again in not letting the people go to sacrifice to the Lord.” 30 So Moses went out from Pharaoh and made supplication to the Lord. 31 The Lord did as Moses asked, and removed the swarms of flies from Pharaoh, from his servants and from his people; not one remained. 32 But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and he did not let the people go.

**John 17:17 - 17**Sanctify them in the truth; Your word is truth.

**1 John 4:8 - 8**The one who does not love does not know God, because God is love.

**Malachi 3:6 - 6**“For [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Malachi+3%3A6&version=NASB#fen-NASB-23127a)]I, the Lord, do not change; therefore you, the sons of Jacob, have not come to an end.

**Deuteronomy 4:24 - 24**For the Lord your God is a consuming fire, a jealous God

**Hebrews 12:29 - 29**for our God is a consuming fire.

**Deuteronomy 32:35 -** Vengeance is Mine, and retribution; In due time their foot will slip. For the day of their disaster is near, And the impending things are hurrying to them.’

**EXODUS 11:1-10 -** 1 Now the Lord said to Moses, “One more plague I will bring on Pharaoh and on Egypt; after that he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out from here completely. 2 Speak now in the hearing of the people that each man ask from his neighbor and each woman from her neighbor for articles of silver and articles of gold.” 3 The Lord gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Furthermore, the man Moses himself was greatly esteemed in the land of Egypt, both in the sight of Pharaoh’s servants and in the sight of the people.

4 Moses said, “Thus says the Lord, ‘About midnight I am going out into the midst of Egypt, 5 and all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of the Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the slave girl who is behind the millstones; all the firstborn of the cattle as well. 6 Moreover, there shall be a great cry in all the land of Egypt, such as there has not been before and such as shall never be again. 7 But against any of the sons of Israel a dog will not even bark, whether against man or beast, that you may understand how the Lord makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.’ 8 All these your servants will come down to me and bow themselves before me, saying, ‘Go out, you and all the people who follow you,’ and after that I will go out.” And he went out from Pharaoh in hot anger.

9 Then the Lord said to Moses, “Pharaoh will not listen to you, so that My wonders will be multiplied in the land of Egypt.” 10 Moses and Aaron performed all these wonders before Pharaoh; yet the Lord hardened Pharaoh’s heart, and he did not let the sons of Israel go out of his land.

**Hebrews 9:22 - 22**And almost all things are cleansed with blood, according to the Law, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness.

**Genesis 3:21 - 21**And the Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife, and clothed them.

**John 1:29 - 29**The next day he \*saw Jesus coming to him, and \*said, “Behold, the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world!

**Exodus 12:21-28 -** 21 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel and said to them, “ Go and take for yourselves lambs according to your families, and slay the Passover lamb. 22 You shall take a bunch of hyssop and dip it in the blood which is in the basin, and apply some of the blood that is in the basin to the lintel and the two doorposts; and none of you shall go outside the door of his house until morning.

A Memorial of Redemption

23 For the Lord will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when He sees the blood on the lintel and on the two doorposts, the Lord will pass over the door and will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite you. 24 And you shall observe this event as an ordinance for you and your children forever. 25 When you enter the land which the Lord will give you, as He has promised, you shall observe this rite. 26 And when your children say to you, ‘What does this rite mean to you?’ 27 you shall say, ‘It is a Passover sacrifice to the Lord who passed over the houses of the sons of Israel in Egypt when He smote the Egyptians, but spared our homes.’” And the people bowed low and worshiped. 28 Then the sons of Israel went and did so; just as the Lord had commanded Moses and Aaron, so they did.

**John 14:6 - 6**Jesus \*said to him, “I am the way, and the truth, and the life; no one comes to the Father except through Me.

**John 19:30 - 30**Therefore when Jesus had received the sour wine, He said, “It is finished!” And He bowed His head and gave up His spirit.

**Exodus 12:29-36 -** 29 Now it came about at midnight that the Lord struck all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of cattle. 30 Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians, and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was no home where there was not someone dead. 31 Then he called for Moses and Aaron at night and said, “Rise up, get out from among my people, both you and the sons of Israel; and go, worship the Lord, as you have said. 32 Take both your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and go, and bless me also.”

Exodus of Israel

33 The Egyptians urged the people, to send them out of the land in haste, for they said, “We will all be dead.” 34 So the people took their dough before it was leavened, with their kneading bowls bound up in the clothes on their shoulders.

35 Now the sons of Israel had done according to the word of Moses, for they had requested from the Egyptians articles of silver and articles of gold, and clothing; 36 and the Lord had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have their request. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.

**Romans 12:19 (Deuteronomy 32:35) - 19**Never take your own revenge, beloved, but [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Romans+12%3A19+&version=NASB#fen-NASB-28253a)]leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written: “Vengeance is Mine, I will repay,” says the Lord.

**Revelation 20:10 - 10**And the devil who deceived them was thrown into the lake of fire and [[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=Revelation+20%3A10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-31037a)]brimstone, where the beast and the false prophet are also; and they will be tormented day and night forever and ever.

**2 Thessalonians 1:6-10 - 6**[[a](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Thessalonians+1%3A6-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29643a)]For after all it is only right [[b](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Thessalonians+1%3A6-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29643b)]for God to repay with affliction those who afflict you, **7**and to give relief to you who are afflicted, along with us, [[c](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Thessalonians+1%3A6-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29644c)]when the Lord Jesus will be revealed from heaven with [[d](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Thessalonians+1%3A6-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29644d)]His mighty angels **8**in flaming fire, dealing out retribution to those who do not know God, and to those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. **9**These people will pay the penalty of eternal destruction, away from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of His power, **10**when He comes to be glorified among His [[e](https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=2+Thessalonians+1%3A6-10&version=NASB#fen-NASB-29647e)]saints on that day, and to be marveled at among all who have believed—because our testimony to you was believed.

**Study Questions**

1. What was the message Moses carried to Pharaoh on God's behalf?

2. What was Pharaoh's response to the appeal of Moses?

3. List some of the plagues God brought upon Egypt.

4. What did the Israelites have to do in order to avoid the death of their firstborn?

5. What opportunities do you have to speak for God in the course of your daily life?

6. What opportunities do you have to stand up for others in the course of your daily life?

7. In what ways do we see the arrogance of the world displayed today?

8. What does the Bible say about God's coming judgment on this world?

**Memory Verse**

**PROVERBS 14:31 -** He who oppresses the poor taunts his Maker, But he who is gracious to the needy honors Him.