

**“The arms of the wicked shall be broken: but the LORD upholdeth the righteous.”**

**Exodus 1:1-2:10**

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## INTRODUCTION

Exodus opens with the familiar family list of Genesis. It is a continuation of the story of God and His people. Genesis started with a perfect garden and ended with a grave. Exodus starts with Israel in slavery and ends with Israel set free to worship God in the beauty of holiness. Exodus shows us how God turns every evil plan to good for those who love Him, and He catches evil people in the trap that they prepare for others.

**WALK WITH GOD AND DO NOT FEAR THE POWER OF THE WORLD!**

## **Exodus 1:1-7 God's People Go from Few to Many and Mighty**

**Vs 1-5** About 70 people went into Egypt. We are told of this small beginning to show us the faithful power of God in multiplying Israel according to His promise...

“And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty, and the land was filled with them.”

**Vs 7** This should remind us of God's original command to Adam and Eve, “be fruitful and multiply.” Just like Israel in Egypt, this verse multiplies and escalates: “fruitful...increased abundantly...multiplied, waxed (became) exceeding mighty.” God is doing a work!

When God does a work, we have a choice. We can respond in holy trust or in selfish fear; we can work with God or work against Him. If we work with God, we are blessed even though the whole world is against us. But if we work against God, we are doomed even though the whole world be with us

We will see Pharaoh chose selfish fear over blessing - death over life. May we learn from this and chose to ...

*Walk with God by putting yourself on His side!*

## **Exodus 1:8-12 Evil Driven by Fear Leads to Self-Destruction**

**Vs 8** “New king” This Pharaoh that was not related to the Pharaoh that Joseph served. Archaeology gives us some details about what happened: When Joseph was sent into Egypt, the ruling dynasty were foreigners called “Hyksos” who had conquered Egypt centuries before. About one-hundred years before the Exodus, the native Egyptians rebelled and expelled the Hyksos. This new dynasty hated and feared non-Egyptians.

**Vs 10** Pharaoh's policy was one of worldly wisdom, and so it ended in horrible wickedness. Joseph did not deliver Egypt from famine by worldly wisdom. But this Pharaoh did not know Joseph. This Pharaoh's policy of fear and evil, wise in a worldly sense, would destroy.

**Vs 12** Somehow the more Egypt tried to destroy of the people of God, the more they grew. God turned what was meant for evil into good for His people. “The more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew.”

The power of the world was against Israel, but God turned what was meant for evil into good.

*Walk with God; do not allow worldly wisdom or worldly fear to drive you!*

Worldly fear begins with evil and leads to self-destruction, but...

### **Exodus 1:13-21 The Fear of the Lord Leads to Life and Blessing**

**Vs 15** These two women were probably not the only midwives to serve the Hebrew nation. They were probably leaders of something like a union or professional association representing the midwives that worked among the Hebrews.

**Vs 18-19** The midwives lied. They saved the children because they feared God (vs17) but they made up a story to try to protect themselves (vs18).

God honored the midwives' faith and chose to overlook their sin. We should not be very critical of these women. By courage and faith, they saved many lives. But their lie was an unnecessary compromise to sin. Never do wrong to have a chance to do right.

Could God have protected them if they told the truth?

Was God watching this in heaven saying "I hope these women think of a good lie so they can get themselves out of this mess!" When we do wrong to "do right", we put ourselves above God. Would it really be so hard for God to protect the midwives and save the children if they had just told the truth?

What would be harder: for God to deliver the midwives who told the truth and keep protecting the children, or for God to cause a virgin to conceive a son who would be both God and man, and the savior of the world? Luke 1:37 "For with God nothing shall be impossible."

Either that is true or it is not. If it is true, then God never needs you to sin. If it is not true, then God is not God.

*Walk with God by doing right!* God attends to those who honor him, and He sends evil back on the heads of those who do it. Also, remember that you never need to do wrong to do right, because...

### **Exodus 1:22-2:10 The Lord is Able to Deliver Those who Trust Him**

**Vs 22** Pharaoh to kill the sons of Israel but instead, he dooms Egypt's sons. Pharaohs would drown the sons of Israel but soon Israel will sing "Ex 15:4 Pharaoh's chariots and his host hath he cast into the sea: his chosen captains also are drowned in the Red Sea. 5 The depths have covered them: they sank into the bottom as a stone."

Pharaoh's own decree, to drown the sons of Israel, lead to him bringing his destroyer into his house!

Proverbs 28:10 "Whoso causeth the righteous to go astray in an evil way, he shall fall himself into his own pit (trap)"

Psalm 7:10 ¶ "My defence is of God, which saveth the upright in heart. 11 God judgeth the righteous, and God is angry with the wicked every day...15 He (the wicked) made a pit, and digged it, and is

fallen into the ditch which he made. 16 His mischief shall return upon his own head, and his violent dealing shall come down upon his own pate (head).”

*Walk with God because He sends evil back on the heads of those who do it!*

**Vs 2:1-4** Moses' parents were people of faith, but they knew that if they kept Moses he would be killed. So his mother carefully prepared a small vessel for her son, set him in the water, and committed him to God. She followed the letter of Pharaoh's evil command but committed her son to God.

**Vs 2:5-10** Against all hope, by a miracle of Providence, Moses was taken into the one house in Egypt that could keep him safe! And his mother would still be able to love and care for her son!

*Walk with God because he knows how to deliver those who trust in him!*

## CONCLUSION

Egypt driven by fear oppressed God's people. But the more Israel was oppressed the stronger they grew in God's blessing. Don't fear the world; walk with God!

A few brave woman defied the power of the world and did right as best as they could. God blessed them and showed that He can deliver those who trust in Him. Do what it right and walk with God!

Egypt's own evil came back upon their heads. The sins that they committed against others came back to haunt them. Those who plan evil fall into their own trap, so walk with God!

**WALK WITH GOD AND DO NOT FEAR THE POWER OF THE WORLD!**