

**Bible Study – Exodus Lesson 5 - Chapters 4-5
God Calls Moses to Service - Not to Kill Him**

The Book Of Exodus – <i>Shemoth</i> – “Names”								
Reference	1	2	3	4-11	12-14:	15-18	19-24	25-40
Focus	Redemption From Egypt						Revelation From God	
Plan	Slavery In Egypt	Birth of Moses	Call of Moses	Return of Moses to Egypt	Deliverance By Blood & Power	Marching To Sinai	Giving of the Law	Blueprint & Construction of the Tabernacle
Purpose	To continue the record of God working in Israel’s birth as a nation, their moving into Egypt and the ensuing slavery endured by them until God comes down and delivers Israel out of bondage into a land flowing with milk and honey.							
Subject	Deliverer				Deliverance			
Location	Egypt		Midian	Egypt		Sinai		
Time	430 Years – From Abrahamic Covenant To Deliverance – (Galatians 3:17)					2 Months	10 Months	

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

We find God had a plan all along. Israel was confused by their slavery, (even though it was prophesied earlier), but God was actually teaching them and us today. Even before they cried out to God, God was already using one fact in which Pharaoh was not counting. This fact was that the heart of a woman can quickly be melted by a crying baby. Have you ever noticed that even people who hate each other still love the other’s babies? God used the compassion of a woman for a baby to save His deliverer.

Moses mother, Jochebed, (Exodus 6:20), had been a brave woman of faith to fear God more than the pharaoh. In fact, Jochebed made it into the “Hall of Faith” with this act of faith. This act of faith was much like the act of faith by the midwives in the last part of chapter one. All the heroes of Exodus one are women.

Jochebed strategically placed the baby, who was in a water tight basket, in a place in the Nile where the Pharaoh’s daughter would be sure to see it. Jochebed also placed her oldest, a daughter, in a place where she could ask a strategic question, and the Pharaoh’s money was used to pay Moses’ mother to nurse her own son – A son who had the death penalty placed on him by that very same Pharaoh. Here, in God’s plan, He has already used a mother of faith, and a heathen princess. To top that off, until Moses was grown, Jochebed must have had opportunity to teach Moses about God, His people, and His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. Moses then, was adopted by the Egyptian princess and he was learned in the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds. Moses was prepared by God in these forty years in Egypt in political administration that will be needed as he will guide the children of Israel with the Law and instructions of God.

What is evident throughout this story is the remarkable action of God in the affairs of His people. At every turn God is intervening and implementing His purpose and

thwarting evil intentions. This should greatly expand our knowledge of Divine Inspiration. It is much more than “verbal plenary” inspiration, as usually taught. In chapter two, we have the next forty years of Moses’ life in which he receives a higher degree in the backside of the desert, Moses’ BD degree, or backside of the desert degree. With this degree, Moses will be equipped with the desert survival teaching he will need to lead Israel through the wilderness. All said, it took eighty years to educate Moses for the task at hand. All God’s people need a BD degree.

Besides education, Moses met God face to face in the “Mountain of God”, and that is exactly how God used Moses to give God’s Word to His people face to face. This is just like the Son of God would later do. In fact, God using Moses to be the intermediary between God and the people and not speaking Moses’ own words, but the Words of God to the people was actually a prophecy, directly and by type of the Lord Jesus Christ. To prepare Moses for this task, God sent Moses to Midian for his BD degree and used him to handle God’s Words in order to deliver God’s people out of bondage and into a land flowing with milk and honey. God will do the same for us today. (See Deuteronomy 18:15-18; Deuteronomy 5:1-5; John 8:28-29; John 7:28; etc.)

Moses’ life is divided by three sets of 40 year periods. The first period of 40 years has Moses in Egypt. The second period is Moses living in Midian, and last we have Moses in the wilderness for 40 years.

I. Moses Looks On the Burdens of the Hebrews

Exodus 2:11 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren.

Exodus 2:12 And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.

Exodus 2:13 And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?

Exodus 2:14 And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killest the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

A. Moses Was Known For His Accomplishments And Military Prowess.

Acts 7:22 And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.

B. The Apostle Paul Fills in the Historical Gap

Hebrews 11:24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

Hebrews 11:25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

Hebrews 11:26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

1. Hebrew tradition teaches his royal mother had proposed to make him coregent and successor to the crown
2. Whether that is true or not, Moses would rather be called a Hebrew
3. Moses could do this because he esteemed the reproach of Christ
 - a. More than riches
 - b. He had respect for the recompense of reward

C. Moses, Went Out To Inspect the Condition Of His Brethren (Verse 11)

Acts 7:23 And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

1. **Moses saw an Egyptian hit a Hebrew without cause**

Acts 7:24 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian:

2. Moses killed the Egyptian and buried him in the sand. (Verse 12)
 - a. This act y Moses may seem unjustifiable – an assassination
 - b. We should not judge their culture by our own
 - c. Nowhere in Scripture is this referred to as a crime
 - d. A citizen had the right to avenge his brother – But
 - e. The man Moses killed was an Egyptian Official
3. Moses saw two Hebrews fighting (Verses 13-14)
 - a. Moses asked one of them, “Why?”
 - b. And he said, who made thee a prince and a judge over us?
 - c. Intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian?
 - d. Moses now knew that everyone knew what he had done

Hebrews 11:27 by faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

D. The Last Two Incidents Demonstrate:

1. The Israelites were not ready to leave Egypt
2. Moses was not ready to lead them out

James 1:20 For the wrath of man worketh not the righteousness of God.

3. It was to be by the staff and not the sword that god was going to lead

Isaiah 48:10 Behold, I have refined thee, but not with silver; I have chosen thee in the furnace of affliction.

II. Moses Flees From the Face of Pharaoh

Exodus 2:15 Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well.

Exodus 2:16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.

Exodus 2:17 And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.

Exodus 2:18 And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon to day?

Exodus 2:19 And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock.

Exodus 2:20 And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread.

Exodus 2:21 And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.

Exodus 2:22 And she bare him a son, and he called his name Gershom: for he said, I have been a stranger in a strange land.

A. Moses Flees to the Land Of Midian (Verse 15)

1. Midian was offspring from Abraham and Keturah
2. Midian is situated on the eastern shore of the gulf of the Red Sea
 - a. It extended north to the top of the gulf
 - b. It extended west across the Sanai desert

B. The Priest of Median (Verses 16-22)

1. Also known as ruler of Cushites or Ethiopians
2. Still held to the worship of the True God
3. Had seven daughters – Shepherdesses
4. Moses protected them from rude shepherds
5. Moses stayed with the family
6. Moses married one named Zipporah – “little bird” – She was called a Cushite

Numbers 12:1 And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married: for he had married an Ethiopian woman.

7. Moses undoubtedly obtained her as Jacob had earlier

Exodus 3:1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

8. Moses had two sons named after family incidents:

Exodus 18:3 And her two sons; of which the name of the one was Gershom; for he said, I have been an alien in a strange land:

Exodus 18:4 And the name of the other was Eliezer; for the God of my father, said he, was mine help, and delivered me from the sword of Pharaoh:

III. The King of Egypt Dies

Exodus 2:23 And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

Exodus 2:24 And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

Exodus 2:25 And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.

A. Israel after the Pharaoh Dies

1. Israel sighed by reason of the bondage
2. Israel cried
3. Their cry came up to God

B. God's Actions

1. God heard their groaning
2. God remembered His Covenant
3. God looked upon the children of Israel - God had respect unto them

C. Why Did God Respect The Israelites?

- D. Because of His Unconditional Covenant
- E. Because they cried to God

IV. God Comes Down To Announce His Deliverance

Exodus 3:1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

A. Moses Led the Flock To The Foot Of Mount Sinai

1. In time of less rain, this region was still had grass
2. Many times shepherds would lead their flock to this area

Exodus 3:2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

B. A fire in the desert where wood is scarce would be a familiar sight

1. The shepherd would need a fire for heat
2. The shepherd would need fire to scare off wild animals
3. But this one did not burn up the bush!

Exodus 3:3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

C. Moses Learns Lessons on The Holiness of God

Exodus 3:4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

Exodus 3:5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

Exodus 3:6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

1. Moses' Degrees Had Not taught him about The Holiness of God
2. Moses Was instructed not to get too close
3. Moses was instructed to take off his shoes – The holiness of God even affected the ground
4. Moses was afraid to look upon God

D. Why Did God Come Down? – We Have To Go Back To Chapter 2:

Exodus 2:23 And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.

Exodus 2:24 And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

Exodus 2:25 And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.

1. Israel sighed because of the bondage
 - a. Israel cried out to God
 - b. Israel's cry came up unto God
2. God's Response
 - a. **God Heard Their Groaning**
 - b. **God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob**
3. What was the reason God heard their groaning? - Grace

Exodus 3:7 And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

Exodus 3:8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

Exodus 3:9 Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

Exodus 3:10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

V. Moses has an objection

Exodus 3:11 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

A. God's Answer with confirmation

Exodus 3:12 And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

B. Moses wants more information

Exodus 3:13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

C. I AM sent you - Reminds me of Saul of Tarsus' encounter with this Jesus

Exodus 3:14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

Exodus 3:15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

Exodus 3:16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

Exodus 3:17 And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

Exodus 3:18 And they shall hearken to thy voice: and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

Exodus 3:19 And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand.

Exodus 3:20 And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.

Exodus 3:21 And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty:

Exodus 3:22 But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

VI. The NIV Tells us God Wanted to Kill Moses!

I know this is hard to believe, but let's see what is happening in chapter 4. The events of chapter 4, was the result of God calling Moses to service back to Egypt. God informs Moses that God was going to use Moses to confront the Pharaoh to let the people go out of Egyptian bondage. That God would deliver the people, and they would leave Egypt with many riches - that the Egyptians would lavish on them many riches.

A. Moses First Objection

Exodus 4:1 And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.

B. God's Response

Exodus 4:2 And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod.

Exodus 4:3 And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it.

Exodus 4:4 And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand:

Exodus 4:5 That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

Exodus 4:6 And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow.

Exodus 4:7 And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.

Exodus 4:8 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign.

Exodus 4:9 And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land.

C. Moses Second Objection

Exodus 4:10 And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

D. God's Response

Exodus 4:11 And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?

Exodus 4:12 Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

E. Moses Third Objection

Exodus 4:13 And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.

F. God's Third Response - God had already set it up with Aaron long before

Exodus 4:14 And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

Exodus 4:15 And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.

Exodus 4:16 And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

Exodus 4:17 And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.

G. Moses Acts on God's Word

Exodus 4:18 And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him, Let me go, I pray thee, and return unto my brethren which are in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive. And Jethro said to Moses, Go in peace.

H. God's Confirmation

Exodus 4:19 And the LORD said unto Moses in Midian, Go, return into Egypt: for all the men are dead which sought thy life.

Exodus 4:20 And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand.

I. God and Pharaoh's First Born Son - Warning to the Pharaoh about firstborn

Exodus 4:21 And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.

Exodus 4:22 And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:

Exodus 4:23 And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.

Exodus 4:24 And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the LORD met him, and sought to kill him.

J. Moses also mindful God's Words- Circumcised his Own Son

Exodus 4:25 Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet, and said, Surely a bloody husband art thou to me.

Exodus 4:26 So he let him go: then she said, A bloody husband thou art, because of the circumcision.

K. The Lord Had Already called Aaron

Exodus 4:27 And the LORD said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him.

Exodus 4:28 And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.

Exodus 4:29 And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:

Exodus 4:30 And Aaron spake all the words which the LORD had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.

Exodus 4:31 And the people believed: and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

Now, look how the Politically Correct and Gender Inclusive NIV Massacres the Narrative:

²¹ The LORD said to Moses, "When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go. ²² Then say to Pharaoh, 'This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, ²³ and I told you, "Let my son go, so he may worship me." But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.'"

²⁴ At a lodging place on the way, the LORD met Moses and was about to kill him. ²⁵ But Zipporah took a flint knife, cut off her son's foreskin and touched Moses' feet with it. "Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me," she said. ²⁶ So the LORD let him alone. (Exodus 4:21-26)

I know this is hard to believe, but the natural man can not receive the things of God, they are spiritually disarmed.

I Corinthians 2:14 But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God: for they are foolishness unto him: neither can he know them, because they are spiritually discerned.

I Corinthians 2:15 But he that is spiritual judgeth all things, yet he himself is judged of no man.

I Corinthians 2:16 For who hath known the mind of the Lord, that he may instruct him? But we have the mind of Christ.

God's Deliverance Was: Out of - and unto - As it is today

Exodus 3:8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

H. Today – God's Deliverance Is: Out of – And Unto

Ephesians 2:1 And you hath he quickened, who were dead in trespasses and sins;

Ephesians 2:2 Wherein in time past ye walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that now worketh in the children of disobedience:

Ephesians 2:3 Among whom also we all had our conversation in times past in the lusts of our flesh, fulfilling the desires of the flesh and of the mind; and were by nature the children of wrath, even as others. (Notice God's Built in Dictionary!)

Ephesians 2:4 But God, who is rich in mercy, for his great love wherewith he loved us,

Ephesians 2:5 Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;)

Ephesians 2:6 And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:

Ephesians 2:7 That in the ages to come he might shew the exceeding riches of his grace in his kindness toward us through Christ Jesus.

Ephesians 2:8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:

Ephesians 2:9 Not of works, lest any man should boast.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.

We Are Delivered Out Of Sin unto a Holy Life

The Israelites had to walk and so do we today:

Joshua 1:2 Moses my servant is dead; now therefore arise, go over this Jordan, thou, and all this people, unto the land which I do give to them, even to the children of Israel.

Joshua 1:3 Every place that the sole of your foot shall tread upon, that have I given unto you, as I said unto Moses.

Ephesians 2:10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.