

## **Moses the Servant of God**

Except for the first few chapters dealing with Moses' preparation for service, the types in Exodus have been directed to God's people individually. Starting with Abraham, God began to build a people. Already these people have been through their first war, but God had called them armies three times in this book of Exodus: Exodus 6:26, Exodus 12:17, Exodus 12:51. In chapter 18, we have a beautiful typical parable about Christ and His bride. Although not the first typical mention of Christ and the church, this type adds to our knowledge of the timing of the Rapture.

In the last half of this chapter, we will return to straight doctrinal teaching involving murmuring, but this time the rebuke is directed, not towards the "armies", but God directly warning the "generals". Last week the admonition was directed to each one individually to completely mortify the flesh. Now, God's instruments or leaders have to be aware of the subtlety of Satan using family members to draw God's servants away from His plan of service. With leaders in the group the admonition to the group is:

**Hebrews 3:12** Take heed, brethren, lest there be in any of you an evil heart of unbelief, in departing from the living God. God wasn't going to close this major division in the book of Exodus without giving doctrinal teaching on this important fact.

### **I. Jethro brings Moses' wife and two sons to Moses**

**Exodus 18:1** When Jethro, the priest of Midian, Moses' father in law, heard of all that God had done for Moses, and for Israel his people, *and* that the LORD had brought Israel out of Egypt;

**Exodus 18:2** Then Jethro, Moses' father in law, took Zipporah, Moses' wife, after he had sent her back,

**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:

**Exodus 18:5** And Jethro, Moses' father in law, came with his sons and his wife unto Moses into the wilderness, where he encamped at the mount of God:

**Exodus 18:6** And he said unto Moses, I thy father in law Jethro am come unto thee, and thy wife, and her two sons with her.

### **II Moses and Jethro, praise God for the way He delivered Israel**

**Exodus 18:7** And Moses went out to meet his father in law, and did obeisance, and kissed him; and they asked each other of *their* welfare; and they came into the tent.

**Exodus 18:8** And Moses told his father in law all that the LORD had done unto Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, *and* all the travail that had come upon them by the way, and *how* the LORD delivered them.

**Exodus 18:9** And Jethro rejoiced for all the goodness which the LORD had done to Israel, whom he had delivered out of the hand of the Egyptians.

### **III. A Gentile, rejoices and blesses God while offering sacrifice**

**Exodus 18:10** And Jethro said, Blessed *be* the LORD, who hath delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh, who hath delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.

**Exodus 18:11** Now I know that the LORD *is* greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly *he was* above them.

**Exodus 18:12** And Jethro, Moses' father in law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God: and Aaron came, and all the elders of Israel, to eat bread with Moses' father in law before God.

## IV. Moses, his Gentile bride, and Rapture

<b>The Book Of Exodus – <i>Shemoth</i> – “Names”</b>								
Reference	1	2	3	4-11	12-14:	15-18	19-24	25-40
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	Continuing the record of Israel’s birth as a People with God delivering Israel out of bondage, teaching them how to worship, and bringing them unto a promised land, thus becoming a Nation.							
Subject	Deliverer				Deliverance			
Location	Egypt		Midian	Egypt		Sinai		
Time	430 Years – From Abrahamic Covenant To Deliverance – (Galatians 3:17)					2 Months		10 Months

**We are closing in on the end of a major division in Exodus, the giving of the Law. We have seen God, visiting and redeeming His people; delivering Israel out of Egypt and marching them to Sinai.**

- They applied the blood of the Passover Lamb
- Ate the unleavened bread
- They were delivered first, from the hand of Pharaoh, a type of the antichrist
- Then from the hand of Amalek, a type of the flesh
- We witnessed as they experienced that Song of the Redeemed
- But before the song, God had miraculously saved them across the Red Sea

**That’s not all, because we have seen, in the manna, a type of the Word of God, the Holy Ghost, and Christ come down from heaven:**

- In the rock, a type of Christ smitten for His people
- In the stream of living water out of the Rock we see a type of the Holy Ghost indwelling and baptizing at the beginning of the church building that church on that Rock.
- We saw in the 3 rods, that of Moses, Aaron and the Rod of Iron all types of the three offices held by Jesus Christ.
- We saw those three offices appear on top of the hill, the command post when Amalek attacked Israel, with Moses playing the office of Prophet, Aaron, the part of Priest, and Hur from Judah, the part of the King.
- Now in this chapter, we will see in beautiful order, a picture of the future glory, divided into its three departments: the Jew, the Gentile, and the Church of God.

"During the time of Moses' rejection by his brethren, Moses was taken to the “backside of the desert” and there was given a Gentile bride. A help meet at the time of rejection. We see, in the first few chapters of Exodus, the character of Moses' relationship with this bride. He was "a bloody husband" to her.

**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.

This is precisely what Christ is to the Church. The church’s connection with Him is founded upon His blood shed at the death and then the resurrection.

## Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God

**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.

**Ephesians 2:11** Wherefore remember, that ye *being* in time past Gentiles in the flesh, who are called Uncircumcision by that which is called the Circumcision in the flesh made by hands;

**Ephesians 2:12** That at that time ye were without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers from the covenants of promise, having no hope, and without God in the world:

**Ephesians 2:13** But now in Christ Jesus ye who sometimes were far off are made nigh by the blood of Christ.

**I Corinthians 15:14** And if Christ be not risen, then *is* our preaching vain, and your faith *is* also vain.

**I Corinthians 15:15** Yea, and we are found false witnesses of God; because we have testified of God that he raised up Christ: whom he raised not up, if so be that the dead rise not.

**I Corinthians 15:16** For if the dead rise not, then is not Christ raised:

**I Corinthians 15:17** And if Christ be not raised, your faith *is* vain; ye are yet in your sins.

**I Corinthians 15:18** Then they also which are fallen asleep in Christ are perished.

The church is called to fellowship with His sufferings. It is, as we know, during the period of Israel's unbelief, and of Christ's rejection, that the Church is called out. But when the Church is complete, according to the Father, and when the "fullness of the Gentiles is come in," Israel shall again be brought back to Christ.

**Romans 11:26** And so all Israel shall be saved: as it is written, There shall come out of Sion the Deliverer, and shall turn away ungodliness from Jacob:

**Romans 11:27** For this *is* my covenant unto them, when I shall take away their sins.

This is exactly how it was with Zipporah and Israel. Moses had sent Zipporah back, during the time God sent Moses to Egypt for Israel's deliverance. Now when Israel was delivered out of Egypt we read that "Jethro", Moses' father-in-law, took Zipporah, Moses' wife to Sinai. So, Jethro brought Zipporah and her two sons back to Moses. The first son was named Gershom, because Moses had said: "I have been an alien in a strange land." The second son was named Eliezer, because Moses said: "The God of my fathers was mine help."

**So Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, went to see Moses with Moses' sons and Moses' wife in the wilderness. There they camped at the mount of God. At Sinai, Jethro said to Moses that he had brought with him Zipporah and Moses' two sons, who Moses had sent back home.**

**Then Moses went out to meet his father-in-law, and after the greeting they went into the tent where Moses told his father in-law all that the Lord had done unto Pharaoh, and the Egyptians, for Israel's sake. Moses told Jethro about all the travail that had come upon them by the way, and how the Lord delivered them out of all of them.**

**Exodus 18:10** And Jethro said, Blessed *be* the LORD, who hath delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians, and out of the hand of Pharaoh, who hath delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians.

**Exodus 18:11** Now I know that the LORD *is* greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly *he was* above them.

**Exodus 18:12** And Jethro, Moses' father in law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God: and Aaron came, and all the elders of Israel, to eat bread with Moses' father in law before God.

**What a beautiful typical scene to behold. Everyone, Moses being reunited with his family, and the whole congregation of Israel, priests and elders there and in triumph before the Lord. Here we have:**

## Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God

- A Gentile presenting sacrifice to the Lord
- Aaron the high priest was present
- All the elders of Israel were in attendance
- The Gentile bride of the deliverer, with the children whom God had given him, all reunited with Moses.
- This truly is an undeniable foreshadow of the Kingdom
- The Holy Ghost truly drew a beautiful word picture of the glory of God returning to earth.
- Yes, this is a wonderful picture of Jesus Christ coming again and the marriage of the Lamb.

John 14:1 Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me.

John 14:2 In my Father's house are many mansions: if *it were* not so, I would have told you. I go to prepare a place for you.

John 14:3 And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself; that where I am, *there* ye may be also.

I Thessalonians 4:16 For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first:

I Thessalonians 4:17 Then we which are alive *and* remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord.

I Thessalonians 4:18 Wherefore comfort one another with these words.

At this point we must remember that "The Jew, the Gentile, and the Church of God" are Scriptural truths that can never be overlooked or misunderstanding of the pure Words of truth which God has revealed in His holy Word may occur. These three entities have existed ever since the mystery of the Church was revealed. The church began in Acts chapter two, but here in Exodus we see it pictured as existing eternally in the mind of God. We can see this today when we comprehend the type in the Old Testament. The doctrine of the church was fully developed by the Apostle Paul in the New Testament and the church will be present with Christ all through the millennium and forever. Praise God!

I Corinthians 10:32 Give none offence, neither to the Jews, nor to the Gentiles, nor to the church of God:

Paul states, in his Epistle written to the Ephesians, by the inspiration of God, that the mystery of the Church had not been made known, in other ages, to the sons of men, as it was revealed to him in these last days. Ephesians 3:1-13

Ephesians 3:1 For this cause I Paul, the prisoner of Jesus Christ for you Gentiles,

Ephesians 3:2 If ye have heard of the dispensation of the grace of God which is given me to you-ward:

Ephesians 3:3 How that by revelation he made known unto me the mystery; (as I wrote afore in few words,

Ephesians 3:4 Whereby, when ye read, ye may understand my knowledge in the mystery of Christ)

Ephesians 3:5 Which in other ages was not made known unto the sons of men, as it is now revealed unto his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit;

Ephesians 3:6 That the Gentiles should be fellowheirs, and of the same body, and partakers of his promise in Christ by the gospel:

Ephesians 3:7 Whereof I was made a minister, according to the gift of the grace of God given unto me by the effectual working of his power.

Ephesians 3:8 Unto me, who am less than the least of all saints, is this grace given, that I should preach among the Gentiles the unsearchable riches of Christ;

Ephesians 3:9 And to make all men see what is the fellowship of the mystery, which from the beginning of the world hath been hid in God, who created all things by Jesus Christ:

## Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God

**Ephesians 3:10** To the intent that now unto the principalities and powers in heavenly places might be known by the church the manifold wisdom of God,

**Ephesians 3:11** According to the eternal purpose which he purposed in Christ Jesus our Lord:

**Ephesians 3:12** In whom we have boldness and access with confidence by the faith of him.

**Ephesians 3:13** Wherefore I desire that ye faint not at my tribulations for you, which is your glory.

**Now before the revelation of this mystery thru the Apostle Paul, the mystery of the church was not directly revealed in the Old Testament, but it had been written as a type in the Old Testament. It has also been reinforced by revelation in other types such as by Joseph's marriage to an Egyptian, both Gentiles. The type is a very different thing from a direct revelation of that truth. The great mystery of the Church was not revealed until Christ, in heavenly glory, revealed it to Saul of Tarsus except by type, yet the type began in Genesis and explained in Ephesians:**

**Genesis 2:21** And the LORD God caused a deep sleep to fall upon Adam, and he slept: and he took one of his ribs, and closed up the flesh instead thereof;

**Genesis 2:22** And the rib, which the LORD God had taken from man, made he a woman, and brought her unto the man.

**Genesis 2:23** And Adam said, This is now bone of my bones, and flesh of my flesh: she shall be called Woman, because she was taken out of Man.

**Genesis 2:24** Therefore shall a man leave his father and his mother, and shall cleave unto his wife: and they shall be one flesh.

**Ephesians 5:23** For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

**Ephesians 5:24** Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

**Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

**Ephesians 5:26** That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

**Ephesians 5:27** That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

**Ephesians 5:28** So ought men to love their wives as their own bodies. He that loveth his wife loveth himself.

So when we see this mystery in the Old Testament, it is not clear until we see the full picture by revelation in the New Testament. This, is the method to study God's types in the Old Testament Scripture.

**Romans 16:25** Now to him that is of power to stablish you according to my gospel, and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery, which was kept secret since the world began,

**Romans 16:26** But now is made manifest, and by the scriptures of the prophets, according to the commandment of the everlasting God, made known to all nations for the obedience of faith:

**Romans 16:27** To God only wise, *be* glory through Jesus Christ for ever. Amen.

**I Corinthians 15:51** Behold, I shew you a mystery; We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed,

**I Corinthians 15:52** In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trump: for the trumpet shall sound, and the dead shall be raised incorruptible, and we shall be changed.

**I Corinthians 15:53** For this corruptible must put on incorruption, and this mortal *must* put on immortality.

**I Corinthians 15:54** So when this corruptible shall have put on incorruption, and this mortal shall have put on immortality, then shall be brought to pass the saying that is written, Death is swallowed up in victory.

## Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God

**I Corinthians 15:55** O death, where *is* thy sting? O grave, where *is* thy victory?

**I Corinthians 15:56** The sting of death *is* sin; and the strength of sin *is* the law.

**I Corinthians 15:57** But thanks *be* to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

**I Corinthians 15:58** Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye steadfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord.

So, Exodus chapter 18 opens us up to a millennial scene. "*The Jew*" stands, at the second Advent as the great earthly witness of Christ's faithfulness, His mercy, and His power. This is what the Jew will

**Zechariah 8:23** Thus saith the LORD of hosts; In those days it shall come to pass, that ten men shall take hold out of all languages of the nations, even shall take hold of the skirt of him that is a Jew, saying, We will go with you: for we have heard that God is with you.

**"The Gentile" reads, in the book of God's dealing with the Jew, these deep lessons and can begin to see in this marvellous history, poetry, and prophecy that God is not only dealing with the Jew, but God sees through to every generation. Why?**

**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.

**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.

**With this revelation, the Gentile can proclaim: "Now I know, that the Lord is greater than all gods: for in the thing wherein they dealt proudly he was above them." (Ver. 11) This is what is blinding the Jew, but now in this dispensation, the Gentile can see it when the Word of God in the Old Testament is opened to him by the Holy Ghost, as was opened up by Jesus on the way to Emmaus:**

**Luke 24:32** And they said one to another, Did not our heart burn within us, while he talked with us by the way, and while he opened to us the scriptures?

**Now, The Church of God together, as prefigured by Zipporah, and in her sons, are presented as having the most intimate relationship with the Deliverer. All this is perfect eternal penmanship by God.**

**Ephesians 5:23** For the husband is the head of the wife, even as Christ is the head of the church: and he is the saviour of the body.

**Ephesians 5:24** Therefore as the church is subject unto Christ, so let the wives be to their own husbands in every thing.

**Ephesians 5:25** Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it;

**Ephesians 5:26** That he might sanctify and cleanse it with the washing of water by the word,

**Ephesians 5:27** That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.

**This, of course leads us back to Genesis chapter 2 and the presentation of the bride. Notice that this type of the Rapture was typified by God in the second chapter of the Bible! It was definitely on God's mind when He created the heaven and the earth.**

## Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God

Of course, the Jew, Gentile, and the church will not always be separate. In fact, Paul writes that all things in Christ will be made one.

**Ephesians 1:10** That in the dispensation of the fulness of times he might gather together in one all things in Christ, both which are in heaven, and which are on earth; even in him:

### V. The Doctrines of the "Type" and the Rapture

"What is the proof?" you may say. Before we answer this question it is imperative to realize that we can never build a doctrine on a type. Now, when a doctrine is revealed by a type, and the type is prescribed by God in His Word, it is profitable for study. The Holy Ghost will be right there to direct your study and reveal the type. We can understand this "mystery" only through the Word and the Holy Spirit's enlightening our study. Now Adam is compared and contrasted and called a "figure" or "type" of Christ: (In Romans 5:14, the word, "figure" in Greek is *tupos* from where we get "type").

**Romans 5:12** Wherefore, as by one man sin entered into the world, and death by sin; and so death passed upon all men, for that all have sinned:

**Romans 5:13** (For until the law sin was in the world: but sin is not imputed when there is no law.

**Romans 5:14** Nevertheless death reigned from Adam to Moses, even over them that had not sinned after the similitude of Adam's transgression, who is the figure of him that was to come.

**The Israelites are said to be examples and ensamples for us today:**

**1 Corinthians 10:1** Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the cloud, and all passed through the sea;

**1 Corinthians 10:2** And were all baptized unto Moses in the cloud and in the sea;

**1 Corinthians 10:3** And did all eat the same spiritual meat;

**1 Corinthians 10:4** And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ.

**1 Corinthians 10:5** But with many of them God was not well pleased: for they were overthrown in the wilderness.

**1 Corinthians 10:6** Now these things were our examples, to the intent we should not lust after evil things, as they also lusted.

**1 Corinthians 10:7** Neither be ye idolaters, as were some of them; as it is written, The people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.

**1 Corinthians 10:8** Neither let us commit fornication, as some of them committed, and fell in one day three and twenty thousand.

**1 Corinthians 10:9** Neither let us tempt Christ, as some of them also tempted, and were destroyed of serpents.

**1 Corinthians 10:10** Neither murmur ye, as some of them also murmured, and were destroyed of the destroyer.

**1 Corinthians 10:11** Now all these things happened unto them for ensamples: and they are written for our admonition, upon whom the ends of the world are come.

**1 Corinthians 10:12** Wherefore let him that thinketh he standeth take heed lest he fall.

**The study of types, like other forms of prophecy in the Bible, can be great gain to the child of God, and will draw him ever closer to the Lord. Types, must be discerned prayerfully and studied with a spiritual mind both to understand the doctrine or discern the type: and then, only possible with the Holy Ghost being the teacher. "**

**1 Corinthians 2:12** Now we have received, not the spirit of the world, but the spirit which is of God; that we might know the things that are freely given to us of God.

**1 Corinthians 2:13** Which things also we speak, not in the words which man's wisdom teacheth, but which the Holy Ghost teacheth; comparing spiritual things with spiritual.

**Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God**

**1 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.

**Back to the Rapture, I have seen in some confusion by there being two stages in the second coming of Jesus Christ. This should not be confusing, because other events of Christ had two stages also.**

- **No Surprise, It is the Same with Christ’s 1st Coming and Ascension – 1<sup>st</sup> private, 2<sup>nd</sup> public.**

<b>The Two Part First Advent Of Jesus Christ</b>	
<b>First Stage - Private</b>	<b>Believers like (Anna, Simeon, Wise Men, etc.)</b>
<b>Second Stage - Public</b>	<b>Public Baptism, Ministry, and Public Death</b>
<b>The Two-Part Ascension</b>	
<b>First Stage - Private</b>	<b>Seen only of Mary then ascends to the Father</b>
<b>Second Stage - Public</b>	<b>Seen of the twelve, and later 500 people</b>
<b>The Two-Part Second Advent</b>	
<b>First Stage - Private</b>	<b>Only the Church Sees Him</b>
<b>Second Stage - Public</b>	<b>The Whole World Affected</b>

There are many contrasting events between the Rapture, the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> Stages.

- **A New Testament Mystery, but there are many types in the Old Testament:**
- **There are many types in the Old Testament explaining this Mystery of the Rapture**

<b>Types of the Rapture Demonstrate at what point the Rapture Occurs</b>	
<b>Enoch is translated into heaven before the flood (A Type of the Tribulation)</b>	<b>Genesis 5:23-24; Flood Chapter 6</b>
<b>Lot is rescued out of Sodom before the fire fell (A Type of the Tribulation)</b>	<b>Genesis 19:15; Fire Fell 19:23-24</b>
<b>Joseph takes a Gentile Bride Before the famine (A Type of the Tribulation)</b>	<b>Joseph’s Egyptian Bride, Asenath – Genesis 41:45; Famine in Genesis 41:54. (But bread in Egypt.)</b>
<b>Moses takes a Gentile Bride Before the Plagues (A Type of the Tribulation)</b>	<b>Moses took his Midianite bride, Zipporah - Exodus 2:21-22; Plagues of Egypt begin in Chapter 7.</b>
<b>Each Event Happened Before The “Type” of the Tribulation – (See II Thessalonians 2)</b>	

- **After the Rapture, God Resumes His Dealings with Israel –**

**(Ending their Judgment since they rejected their Messiah and To Bring them back to God)**

- **When we read Joel 2, Matthew 24, and Revelation 6-19, We find scary things:**
- **It’s like all the lights are turned off. (Sun black as sackcloth, Moon turned to blood, etc.)**
- **But toward the end of the seven years, people will not need tactical flashlights, because the glory of Christ Jesus will be seen above the mountains.**

**Joel 2:1** Blow ye the trumpet in Zion, and sound an alarm in my holy mountain: let all the inhabitants of the land tremble: for the day of the LORD cometh, for *it is nigh* at hand;

**Joel 2:2** A day of darkness and of gloominess, a day of clouds and of thick darkness, as the morning spread upon the mountains: a great people and a strong; there hath not been ever the like, neither shall be any more after it, *even* to the years of many generations.

## V. Moses and Unbelief

Exodus 18:13 And it came to pass on the morrow, that Moses sat to judge the people: and the people stood by Moses from the morning unto the evening.

Exodus 18:14 And when Moses' father in law saw all that he did to the people, he said, What *is* this thing that thou doest to the people? why sitteth thou thyself alone, and all the people stand by thee from morning unto even?

Exodus 18:15 And Moses said unto his father in law, Because the people come unto me to inquire of God:

Exodus 18:16 When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between one and another, and I do make *them* know the statutes of God, and his laws.

Exodus 18:17 And Moses' father in law said unto him, The thing that thou doest *is* not good.

Exodus 18:18 Thou wilt surely wear away, both thou, and this people that *is* with thee: for this thing *is* too heavy for thee; thou art not able to perform it thyself alone.

Exodus 18:19 Hearken now unto my voice, I will give thee counsel, and God shall be with thee: Be thou for the people to God-ward, that thou mayest bring the causes unto God:

Exodus 18:20 And thou shalt teach them ordinances and laws, and shalt shew them the way wherein they must walk, and the work that they must do.

Exodus 18:21 Moreover thou shalt provide out of all the people able men, such as fear God, men of truth, hating covetousness; and place *such* over them, *to be* rulers of thousands, *and* rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens:

Exodus 18:22 And let them judge the people at all seasons: and it shall be, *that* every great matter they shall bring unto thee, but every small matter they shall judge: so shall it be easier for thyself, and they shall bear *the burden* with thee.

Exodus 18:23 If thou shalt do this thing, and God command thee *so*, then thou shalt be able to endure, and all this people shall also go to their place in peace.

Exodus 18:24 So Moses hearkened to the voice of his father in law, and did all that he had said.

Exodus 18:25 And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people, rulers of thousands, rulers of hundreds, rulers of fifties, and rulers of tens.

Exodus 18:26 And they judged the people at all seasons: the hard causes they brought unto Moses, but every small matter they judged themselves.

Exodus 18:27 And Moses let his father in law depart; and he went his way into his own land.

From verse 13 on to the end of this chapter, we have the rulers being appointed, to assist Moses in the management of the affairs of the people. This came from the suggestion of Jethro, who feared that Moses would "wear away" in consequence of his labours. Sadly, Moses agreed:

Numbers 11:11 And Moses said unto the LORD, Wherefore hast thou afflicted thy servant? and wherefore have I not found favour in thy sight, that thou layest the burden of all this people upon me?

Numbers 11:12 Have I conceived all this people? have I begotten them, that thou shouldest say unto me, Carry them in thy bosom, as a nursing father beareth the sucking child, unto the land which thou swarest unto their fathers?

Numbers 11:13 Whence should I have flesh to give unto all this people? for they weep unto me, saying, Give us flesh, that we may eat.

Numbers 11:14 I am not able to bear all this people alone, because *it is* too heavy for me.

Numbers 11:15 And if thou deal thus with me, kill me, I pray thee, out of hand, if I have found favour in thy sight; and let me not see my wretchedness.

## Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God

In all this we see Moses evidently slipping from God's honour role.

- This is a great honor God gave to Moses. If God wants to make Moses His only instrument to judge the people, Moses should accept the privilege God gave Him. This was, of course, a huge responsibility, but Moses was not to do it alone because God is there right beside him all the way. Of course Moses couldn't bear this burden alone, but the burden will be light because God's burdens are light. Matthew 11:30
- Now faith should tell Moses that God's provision would be adequate. Here, however, the heart of Moses failed him as he says, "I am not able to bear all this people *alone*, because it is too heavy for *me*."

**Moses should not have been lonely – he was talking to God right there with him! The burdens were not heavy, God was bearing them! This was not humility, but vanity or the flesh. Mortify it Moses!**

- **God's Servant is not alone.** Moses was only the instrument God was using. But not mortifying the flesh brings about warped thinking just like it did with the Israelites. You see, Moses was to God as Moses' rod had been to Moses as the Nile river was turned to blood, Moses was just an instrument in God's hand.
- **Moses' action is not a demonstration of humility.** I believe that this very seduction by Satan is where God's servants often fall down, especially when given to him by a family member. It is dangerous because it leads into believing he is being "humble" because he is admitting that he is not able to do the task. Being unable to perform the task alone is no reason to walk out on God. All one needs to do is ask: "Has God given me that task to do?" If so, He will be with me.
- **This leads us to the conclusion** that having Him with me, I can go through all things.
- **With God, the weight of a mountain is nothing, but without Him, the weight of a feather will overwhelm this person.**
- **It is completely different however, a man, through vanity goes head on and takes a burden on himself that God never intended him to bear. In this case, God may not provide, but if God gives the responsibility, He will teach and strengthen him to carry the load. I Corinthians 10:13**
- **It is not humility that makes someone turn his back on a task** that God appoints; In fact, humility will be revealed by staying there and believing God.
- **A person demonstrates evidence of being occupied with *self*** by shying away from God's work with the excuse that he can not do it! Of course you can't, God has to do it.

**Philippians 4:11** Not that I speak in respect of want: for I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content.

**Philippians 4:12** I know both how to be abased, and I know how to abound: every where and in all things I am instructed both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need.

**Philippians 4:13** I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me.

**All power ultimately comes from God, so it is no different whether acting through one man or 70.**

**So, we see in this situation, Moses complained of his burden, and the burden was speedily taken away by God. Now with this removal of Moses' duty came wrongheaded carnal thinking. Yes, this was a mistake on Moses' part, and I'm sure it had something to do with Moses' action that led him to not enter the Land. #Numbers 20:1-12 #Numbers 17:10**

**Numbers 20:1** Then came the children of Israel, even the whole congregation, into the desert of Zin in the first month: and the people abode in Kadesh; and Miriam died there, and was buried there.

**Numbers 20:2** And there was no water for the congregation: and they gathered themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

## **Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God**

**Numbers 20:3** And the people chode with Moses, and spake, saying, Would God that we had died when our brethren died before the LORD!

**Numbers 20:4** And why have ye brought up the congregation of the LORD into this wilderness, that we and our cattle should die there?

**Numbers 20:5** And wherefore have ye made us to come up out of Egypt, to bring us in unto this evil place? it is no place of seed, or of figs, or of vines, or of pomegranates; neither is there any water to drink.

**Numbers 20:6** And Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly unto the door of the tabernacle of the congregation, and they fell upon their faces: and the glory of the LORD appeared unto them.

**Numbers 20:7** And the LORD spake unto Moses, saying,

**Numbers 20:8** Take the rod, and gather thou the assembly together, thou, and Aaron thy brother, and speak ye unto the rock before their eyes; and it shall give forth his water, and thou shalt bring forth to them water out of the rock: so thou shalt give the congregation and their beasts drink.

**Numbers 20:9** And Moses took the rod from before the LORD, as he commanded him.

**Numbers 20:10** And Moses and Aaron gathered the congregation together before the rock, and he said unto them, Hear now, ye rebels; must we fetch you water out of this rock?

**Numbers 20:11** And Moses lifted up his hand, and with his rod he smote the rock twice: and the water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their beasts also.

**Numbers 20:12** And the LORD spake unto Moses and Aaron, Because ye believed me not, to sanctify me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore ye shall not bring this congregation into the land which I have given them.

**Numbers 17:10** And the LORD said unto Moses, Bring Aaron's rod again before the testimony, to be kept for a token against the rebels; and thou shalt quite take away their murmurings from me, that they die not.

**"And the Lord said unto Moses, Gather unto me seventy men of the elders of Israel whom thou knowest to be the elders of the people, and officers over them; and bring them unto the tabernacle of the congregation, that they may stand there with thee. And I will come down and talk with thee there; and I will take of the spirit which is upon thee, and will put it upon them; and they shall bear the burden of the people with thee, that thou bear it not thyself alone." #Numbers 11:16-17** There was no new power brought to the scene by God. The same precious Holy Spirit was there whether in one or in seventy. There was no more value or virtue in the flesh of seventy men than in the flesh of one man. "It is the Spirit that quickeneth; the flesh profiteth nothing." #John 6:63 There was nothing gained in this but a great deal lost by this movement on the part of Moses.

**Romans 8:31** What shall we then say to these things? If God be for us, who can be against us?

**Without the Holy Ghost, seventy men can do nothing. The lonely servant must remember, that God provides. This servant has the presence and power of the Holy Ghost with him, and he does not have to complain of his work load or murmur to God. If God honors a man by giving him a tremendous amount of work to do, let him rejoice in the work and not murmur. If he does murmur, he can very quickly lose his honour. God is at no loss for instruments. He could, from the stones, raise up children unto Abraham; and He can raise up, whomever He needs to carry on His great work. #Matthew 3:9**

**Matthew 3:9** And think not to say within yourselves, We have Abraham to our father: for I say unto you, that God is able of these stones to raise up children unto Abraham.

## Bible Study - Exodus 28 – Moses, the Instrument of God

**We have to have a servant's heart to be God's servant. A heart ready to serve with help, and ready to serve alone. This is a heart of humility, and Jesus is our prime example:**

**Philippians 2:1** If there be therefore any consolation in Christ, if any comfort of love, if any fellowship of the Spirit, if any bowels and mercies,

**Philippians 2:2** Fulfil ye my joy, that ye be likeminded, having the same love, being of one accord, of one mind.

**Philippians 2:3** Let nothing be done through strife or vainglory; but in lowliness of mind let each esteem other better than themselves.

**Philippians 2:4** Look not every man on his own things, but every man also on the things of others.

**Philippians 2:5** Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

**Philippians 2:6** Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

**Philippians 2:7** But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

**Philippians 2:8** And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

**Philippians 2:9** Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and given him a name which is above every name:

**Philippians 2:10** That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

**Philippians 2:11** And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

**Philippians 2:12** Wherefore, my beloved, as ye have always obeyed, not as in my presence only, but now much more in my absence, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling.

**John 4:31** In the mean while his disciples prayed him, saying, Master, eat.

**John 4:32** But he said unto them, I have meat to eat that ye know not of.

**John 4:33** Therefore said the disciples one to another, Hath any man brought him ought to eat?

**John 4:34** Jesus saith unto them, My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work.

**John 4:35** Say not ye, There are yet four months, and then cometh harvest? behold, I say unto you, Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest.

**John 4:36** And he that reapeth receiveth wages, and gathereth fruit unto life eternal: that both he that soweth and he that reapeth may rejoice together.

**Philippians 3:11** If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

**Philippians 3:12** Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 3:13** Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but this one thing I do, forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,

**Philippians 3:14** I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

**Philippians 3:15** Let us therefore, as many as be perfect, be thus minded: and if in any thing ye be otherwise minded, God shall reveal even this unto you.

**I Corinthians 9:23** And this I do for the gospel's sake, that I might be partaker thereof with you.

**I Corinthians 9:24** Know ye not that they which run in a race run all, but one receiveth the prize? So run, that ye may obtain.

**I Corinthians 9:25** And every man that striveth for the mastery is temperate in all things. Now they do it to obtain a corruptible crown; but we an incorruptible.

**I Corinthians 9:26** I therefore so run, not as uncertainly; so fight I, not as one that beateth the air:

**I Corinthians 9:27** But I keep under my body, and bring it into subjection: lest that by any means, when I have preached to others, I myself should be a castaway.