



MATTHEW 6

The Lilies of The Valley

THE EXODUS JOURNEY TO A BLESSING

We have started the Exodus Journey ending up with slavery and due to the blessing upon the nation of Israel; YHVH increased the population according to His promise. As a nation, they were destined to bless the world. Under a previous administration, the Israelites had royal permission to live in the land and to work it. But here the new king of Egypt sensed in their numbers a threat to his national security and thus decided to deal "shrewdly" with them (Exodus. 1:10).

During their enslavement, Pharaoh made the Israelites building grand mining for Gold and build up treasure cities, while he lived in luxurious wealth. However Pharaoh's destructive fear led him first to degrade the working environment of the Israelites and then to use infanticide to reduce the growth of their population.

Many Israelites been killed during their slavery and horrific circumstances, but this did not stop the population to decrease as YHVH blessed the wombs of the women with children. The next attempt was to kill the new-born sons of Israelites. Pharaoh gave orders to the midwives that 'Every son that is born you, shall cast into the river'. While keeping in mind that Moshe was drawn from that very river. Pharaoh's daughter "called him "Moshe", for 'I drew him *from* the water.'

The Egyptians regarded the Nile as a god, Yocheved was unable to save Moshe by placing him in the river, for one is forbidden to use an object of idolatry even to save a life. Yocheved therefore placed her son in a sealed basked of tar, leading him to the shore. Pharaoh's decree that "every male that is born is to be cast into the Nile," the deity of Egypt, was intended to "drown" the Israel people in the idolatry of Egypt.

The opening scene presents the land as filled with Israelites who had been fruitful and multiplied. This echoes YHVH's creational intent (Genesis. 1:28; 9:1) as well as his promise to Abraham and his chosen descendants (Genesis 17:6; 35:11; 47:27).

YHVH heard the cry of His people, seen the oppression and mistreatment as slaves in the Egyptian system. Their cries and request reached the very heart of YHVH attention. YHVH planned the Exodus Journey not only to bless the Israelites but that they would have a true Sanctuary and home to come to where they will be free to serve YHVH in His Holy presence.

Setting the Israelites free went hand in hand with a blessing for their hardship, endurance and hard work during slavery. Although Pharaoh would not have set them free with a blessing, YHVH Himself ensured by the plagues that His people did not leave empty handed.

Pharaoh did not allow the Israelites to follow Moshe into the wilderness to worship YHVH and thus denied a measure of their freedom of their religion. While Pharaoh withheld the Israelites, preventing them to serve YHVH the true God, kept them in bondage and slavery, reminds us today of spiritual slavery while under the influences of paganism. After all the plagues Pharaoh only set the Israelites free on the act of the Tenth Plague. Just as the "Ten Commandments" become symbolic of the fullness of the moral law of YHVH, the ten ancient plagues of Egypt represent the fullness of YHVH's expression of justice and judgments, upon those who refuse to repent.

Ten times YHVH, through Moshe, allows Pharaoh to change his mind, repent, and turn to the one true God, each time increasing the severity of the consequence of the plagues suffered for disobedience to His request. Ten times Pharaoh, because of pride, refuses to be taught by the Lord, and receives "judgments" through the plagues, pronounced upon his head from Moshe, the deliverer.

Hebrews 8:10

"But this is the new covenant I will make with the people of Israel on that day, says YHVH: I will put my laws in their minds, and I will write them on their hearts. I will be their God, and they will be my people"

The tenth commandment states "You shall not covet anything that is your neighbour's". The Hebrew word translated "covet" is *chamad* (חמד) which is translated into English as "lust", and "strong desire."

The Israelites slaved and worked with their hands. We are blessed by the fruitfulness produced by our hard work.

Deuteronomy 28:12

YHVH will open the heavens, the storehouse of His bounty, to send rain on your land in season and to bless all the work of your hands. You will lend to many nations but will borrow from none.

The number ten is a significant number in biblical numerology. It represents a fullness of quantity. The Scriputers teaches us that we can request anything from YHVH in prayer. YHVH will fulfil what we need.

We find the blessing in the root of the word "Sha'al" which is to "request" The Israelites acted on Moshe's word and "requested" the Egyptians for silver and gold jewelry and for clothing. And YHVH gave the people such favor in the Egyptians' sight that they gave them what they requested.

Ephesians 6:7-9

Serve with good will, as to YHVH and not to men, because you know that YHVH will reward each one for whatever good he does, whether he is slave or free. And masters, do the same for your slaves. Give up your use of threats, because you know that He who is both their Master and yours is in heaven, and there is no favoritism with Him.

The Israelites "Sha'al" or "request" what they infact work and labour hard for. YHVH made it possible that they left with a blessing. Today Egypt only have one gold mine left in the entire country.

Books of Leviticus Chapter 19:13, Malachi 3:5, Deuteronomy 24: 14 and 15 and James 5:4.

"In particular, Deuteronomy 24:15 says, 'You shall give him his hire, neither shall the sun go down upon it; for he is poor, and set his heart upon it: lest he cry against you unto the YHVH, and it be sin unto you'".

We know that the Israelites been blessed and left with various things including gold and stones. The most significant was mentioned Exodus 12:39, the Israelites left Egypt with "unleavened bread," the Israelites left Egypt after baking the raw dough.

YHVH provide some minimal form of compensation to the Israelites after so many years of enslavement. Where did the idea come from to request these things while in Egypt?

As Moshe stands before the burning bush, YHVH, surprisingly, relates that the Children of Israel will be enslaved and then later will find "favor in the eyes of Egypt" when they leave "and every women shall ask of her neighbor and of her that sojourns in her home, jewels of silver and jewels of gold and garments " (Exodus 3:21-22).

It was done to full fill the promise to Abraham in Genesis 15:13-14; And He said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance.

The Exodus spoiling is the full filling of that promise and beginning of the earnest or down payment to receiving their inheritance.

Our Journey continue to the Sanctuary

Be Blessed and stay Blessed!