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# SG020201

## The Whole Counsel of God – Exodus 1-4

Got questions? Email Pastor Jason at [jasonduff7@gmail.com](mailto:jasonduff7@gmail.com)

(You can download this message as a podcast by searching Jason Duff on i-Tunes)

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### Book Introduction

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We are going to begin a study in the book of Exodus. Exodus continues the story of the development of God's people, which began in the book of Genesis. When Genesis leaves off there are 70 people being treated wonderfully in the best of the land of Egypt. By the time the book of Exodus opens up this group of 70 has become a nation of nearly 3 million. And they are no longer treated wonderfully but horribly. But God is going to raise up a deliverer, free His people from their bondage and set them apart by giving them the law and a place to meet with Him. This is the story of Exodus.

**Author:** Moses – (The Bible and even more importantly, Jesus refers to Moses as the author of Exodus. If we don't believe Jesus knows what He is talking about when it comes to Bible authors, we have a bigger problem than who wrote the book of Exodus - Ex 24:4, Josh 1:7, I Kings 2:3, Dan 9:11, Malachi 4:4, Mark 7:10, Rom 10:51)

**Date of Writing:** Somewhere between 1440 and 1410.

**Location of Writing:** During Israel's wilderness wanderings (a 40 year period of time)

**Reason for Writing:** To record the history of God bringing His people out of Egypt.

### Overview of the Book

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#### Exodus

- God Develops His Man – Exodus 1-4
- God Delivers His People – Exodus 5-24
- God Dwells with His Saints – Exodus 25-40

### Overview of the Section

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#### The Need for the Deliverer (Exodus 1:1-22)

Israel finds themselves a nation of almost 3 million, and a nation under extreme persecution at the hands of the Egyptians. The time has come for God to raise up a deliverer.

#### The Birth of the Deliverer (Exodus 2:1-10)

Pharaoh orders that all Hebrew males baby be destroyed. But this does not stop the plan of God as he puts Moses in the house of Pharaoh to be raised with the best education Egypt could provide.

#### The Preparation of the Deliverer (Exodus 2:11-25)

God wants to use Moses to lead His people to the promise land, but before Moses can do the job there he needs to do some preparation. There are many lesson learned in this 40 year period of time

#### The Call of the Deliverer (Exodus 3:10-4:17)

When the time was right God spoke to Moses through a burning bush, calling him into ministry. Moses hears the calls but has five questions he needs answered before he is willing to obey.

#### The Obedience of the Deliverer (Exodus 4:18-31)

Moses obeys what God is calling Him to do. And God follows that obedience with blessing after blessing.

### Homework 4 Next Week – Read Exodus 5-9

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## Key Issues or Words

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### What was the name of Moses' Father in Law?

Exodus 2:18 seems to indicate his name was Reuel, "when they came to Reuel their father...", Exodus 3:1 says his name was Jethro, "Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law the priest of Midian..." and yet Judges 4:11 says his name was Hobab, "Hobab, the father in law of Moses..." So which is it? Is this an example of multiple contradictions in the Bible? No, of course not! **Numbers 10:29** gives us great insight when it says, "**Hobab was the son of Reuel.**" Reuel was Zipporah's (Moses' wife) grandfather. There is no distinction in Hebrew between the words Father and Grandfather which is why in English the text says what it does in Exodus 2:18. The chief patriarch of a family, which Reuel would have been, would have made all the arrangements for the marriages in his family as is the indication of Exodus chapter 2. "Hobab the son of Reuel" was Moses' Father-in-law as we understand 'a father-in-law' today. Hobab was his proper name. But that leaves Jethro? "Jethro" as hard as it is to believe if you have seen "The Beverly Hillbillies", actually means "His excellence." It is not a proper name in the Bible as we use it today, but instead it is a title. So in summary, Reuel was the lead patriarch of the family, his son Hobab was the proper name of Moses' father-in-law and Hobab had the title of "His excellence", or "Jethro" as the priest of Midian. (Exodus 3:1)

### By the way...

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#### The 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty of Egypt

**Ahmose I – 1570-1546**

**Thutmose I – 1546 – 1518**

**Thutmose II – 1518-1504**

- notice the Pharaoh's name contains the name, "Mose" which is a title of King for the 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty of Egyptians

#### **Then you have Hatshepsut Daughter of Thutmose II who rules in Egypt but**

**does not have an heir** - It could if she was the one who drew Moses from the water that she named the boy Moses as a play on words. "Moses" which in Hebrew means "to be drawn from the water", but in Egyptian at the time was the title of King. Could that have been her hope?

**Thutmose III – Pharaoh who exiled Moses??? – 1504-1450**

**Amenhotep II – Pharaoh of the Exodus??? – 1452-1415**

History tell us he had a son who died in early childhood which matches what we know happened in Exodus 12:29 - He goes on to have a very weak rule making Amenhotep II a very possible candidate for the Pharaoh under whose watch the Hebrews left. In addition to these clues, if you go back 430 years from Amenhotep's days (Exodus 12:41 and Galatians 3:16-17) you have Pharaoh Amenemhat II- who was known for saving Egypt from great famine – of course the kings of Egypt would often take credit for anything done by someone under their reign, making Amenemhat II a very likely candidate to be the Pharaoh of Joseph's day. To me it is amazing to see the historical context line up with what we see in the Bible.

## **Exodus 1-4**

### **“God Develops His Man”**

#### **Introduction**

- tonight we are going to dive into the book of Exodus
  - some people have asked – if we are no longer under the law, why are we studying the law, why don't we just study the New Testament?

#### **There are many reasons for that**

- one, Paul in Romans 15 says the things that were written “before”, were written for our learning

**“For whatever things were written before were written for our learning, that we through the patience and comfort of the Scriptures might have hope.” – Romans 15:4**

- what “things written before” was Paul talking about – He was talking about the Old Testament
  - The Old Testament is there as an account of History, but more than that it is there to teach God's people a lesson

#### **Another reason is – Paul also states in Romans 7 there is nothing wrong with God's law**

- The problem is not in God's law, it is in our ability to keep it, to be made righteous by it
  - But just because we need a Savior doesn't mean it isn't good to see God's heart on how life should be
- And finally – there is a lot more in these books of the law than laws
  - There are great stories with tremendous lessons for us
  - In fact only one week in our study in Exodus are we actually going to look at laws – the rest is a great story

**Thirdly - It is the Whole Counsel of God we are declaring, and that applies to the first 39 books as well as the last 27, So...**

**The book of Exodus – really not a hard book to understand when you break it down into little portions**

#### **The Book of Exodus can be divided into 3 sections**

##### **#1 - Exodus 1-4 (tonight) – God Develops His Man**

- It is the story of the background and calling of Moses

##### **#2 - Exodus 5-24 – God Delivers His people**

- By bringing them out of Egypt
- By setting them apart in the wilderness
- By giving to them His law

##### **#3 - Exodus 25-40 – God Dwells with His Saints**

- The design of the tabernacle
  - The building of the tabernacle
- Just a guess but you might hear that again
  - Well, we begin tonight with God developing His Man

#### **Exodus Chapters 1-4**

#### **The Need for a Deliverer – Exodus Chapter One**

**The Birth of the Deliverer – Exodus 2:1-10**

**The Preparation of the Deliverer – Exodus 2:11-25**

**The Calling of the Deliverer – Exodus 3:1-4:17**

**The Obedience of the Deliverer – Exodus 4:18-31**

## **Exodus Chapters 1-4**

### **The Need for a Deliverer – Exodus 1:1-7**

- The book of Exodus opens up with the word – not in my Bible, but “And” in the original language
  - The reason it begins with the word “And” is it is continuing the story which began in Genesis

### **Genesis is the book of beginnings**

- It is the beginning of man, marriage and family
  - It is the beginning of government and nations
  - And specifically it tells the story of one nation, the nation of Israel
  - You see the OT is getting us to Jesus, He was a Jew, of the tribe of Judah
- So after beginning with the story of the whole world, Genesis in chapter 12 begins to focus in on this special people group who would become the Jews
  - And when we get to chapter 50 – 70 people enter Egypt because of Joseph

### **But as the book of Exodus opens, keep in mind that about 300 years have past**

- Israel is no longer a single family of 70, but 12 tribes of almost 3 million when you put them all together
  - And the story continues – what was promised in Genesis – God making this people a great nation, has come to pass – God has been faithful

### **However this wasn't a blessing to the current Pharaoh – Exodus 1:8-16**

- It is believed by Historians that when Israel entered Egypt – they were in their 17<sup>th</sup> dynasty of Pharaohs
  - Now what is interesting about that is the 17<sup>th</sup> Dynasty were foreigner (Hyksos), they were not true Egyptians – and so they would have been sympathetic to the Jews (another foreign people)

### **However during the 300 years from Genesis 50 and Exodus chapter 1 – there was a change in Dynasties**

- The 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty of Pharaohs were Egyptians, they exiled these foreign kings and rule their nation again
  - They had no love for foreigners, they had no ties to Joseph in saving them or making them rich as the previous dynasty had had
  - And so the Bible says in verse 8, a Pharaoh arose that did not know Joseph

### **By the way it is interesting to note the names of the Kings from The 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty of Egypt**

- Ahmose I – 1570-1546
- Thutmose I – 1546 – 1518
- Thutmose II – 1518-1504

### **Then you have Hatshepsut Daughter of Thutmose II**

- who rules Egypt but does not have an heir
  - It could be she named him the boy she drew out of the water with a play on words – “Moses” which in Hebrew means drawn from the water, but in Egyptian was “son” and the title of King at that time because she hoped he would become Pharaoh

Thutmose III – Pharaoh who exiled Moses ??? – 1504-1450

Amenhotep II – Pharaoh of the Exodus??? – 1452-1415

- has a son die in early childhood
  - has a weak rule – very possible he is the one
  - plus if you go back 430 years before you have Pharaoh Amenemhat II (Exodus 12:41 and Galatians 3:16-17) – who was known for saving Egypt from great famine – of course the kings would often take credit for anything done by someone under their reign
- his sons and grandson developed Egypt into a great bread basket for the region – most likely learning the principals set up by Joseph and their dad
  - we don’t know for sure, but all indications are the 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty of Egypt is when this all happened

**The Pharaohs of the 18<sup>th</sup> Dynasty are not blessed with the Jews, in fact as we said before the fact that the Jews had grown from 70 to 3 million did not bless them, in fact it scared them – what if they join our enemies in a time of war**

- so the Pharaoh decides to oppress the nation of Israel - and He does it in two ways

**#1 – They oppress the adults**

- this nation that once simply enjoyed the best of the land was now forced into slavery, they were the workers in Egypt’s vast building projects
  - Moses makes sure the reader can not miss the need for a deliverer –the language is strong!

**But something interesting happens – instead of crushing them, [verse 12](#) says, they multiplied**

- And this is always the way it seems to be
  - God’s people work best under adverse conditions
- It is true of the church today
  - When everything goes good we all have own little Kingdoms, very little co-operation
  - But once tragedy strikes all of a sudden we remember how to work together and love one another
- God’s people operate best under adverse conditions
  - And I mention it just to give you insight into your life – we wonder why do I face this trial, why do I have to experience this thing
  - God knows the depth and purity that is developed in the fire

**Pharaoh goes after the adults, when that doesn’t work, He goes after the kids...**

- Pharaoh develops a plan to have all the male babies destroyed at birth
  - Sad what was happening – but I want you to see it because you understand that behind Pharaoh is a greater evil at work – Satan Himself
  - I bring this up – because we need to be aware of his devices (Paul says)

## **And first the enemy of our soul goes after you and me**

- and as we learn to walk closely to the Lord
  - as we learn to have victory – you need to know that the battle is not done in your family

## **Because if the enemy can not get you – friends, he wants your children**

- We see it today – the battle is on for the minds and hearts of our kids
  - Schools pumping evolution to Kindergarteners

I found this article in USA Today – “Humans and chimps the same genetically” – only 40 million differences – that is good to know – but they put that out there as good, and no doubt it goes into the text books of tomorrow – why??

- Because the enemy wants your kids – he lost you, but if he can win the next generation, then the eventual victory is his, at least with your family

## **Why are you saying this????**

- because we need to know, that we might take action
  - parents, those kids have been placed in your lives because God wants to do a work in them
- We can pretend like there is no battle, there is no devil, he does not have a plan for your kids or we can wake up and get on our knees
  - Do no be ignorant of His devices
  - This is the way Satan works, it has always been this way – it is the way it was with Pharaoh

## **He went after the kids, and the plan would have worked except for the first example of civil disobedience in the Bible – Exodus 1:17-22**

- Pharaoh tells the midwives, and these are probably two representatives, to kill the baby boys, they tell Pharaoh that the Hebrew women give birth too fast for them to get there
  - Now in their defense – it may have been true, maybe they told the women we are going to be late so we can tell Pharaoh this
- But most likely they are lying

## **Now this causes problems for some people**

- was it right when Rehab lied about the spies being in her house

## **Was it right when the family hiding Corrie Ten Boom lied to the German officers about Jews living in their attic**

When I was in Bible college this would come up a time or two – and there would be those students who would take the approach – if they just would have told the truth – God would have intervened – they didn’t need to lie or sin – you know like some Star Wars Jedi trick – go home and rethink your life – they are up stairs but you don’t have to do anything about it

- And of course God could have done that

## **However I believe the Bible teaches that it is okay to disobey an evil law when you have a higher law to stand on**

- Romans 13 teaches – that we are to be in subject to the authorities God placed us under
  - However we also see in Acts 5:9 – that the disciples are told they need to obey God rather than man
- Obviously whatever these women did, verse 20, God blessed them for it – not for lying, but for fearing the Lord

## **Anyway – we see the need for a deliverer**

- Israel was once blessed in the land of Egypt

## **They were given the best of the land to enjoy**

- But now they are being used as slaves, their children are under attack
  - And in these times as the need has now arisen, God raises up a deliverer

## **Exodus Chapters 1-4**

### **The Need for a Deliverer**

### **The Birth of the Deliverer – Exodus 2:1-10**

- This reminds of the greatness of God and His ability to handle anything we have to face

## **Think through what happens – Pharaoh wants to kill the male children by water (remember the Red Sea later)**

- So God brings Moses into the world

## **He is found by Pharaoh's daughter, the daughter of the one who wants to kill these babies, finds little Moses who will eventually devastate the nation of Egypt and he is brought up in his own house**

- More than that – when this child needs someone to nurse him, it is his own mother who is chosen and she gets paid by Pharaoh to nurse this baby who will grow up in his house and eventually be the very one Pharaoh fears
  - God is awesome – and we could spend all night telling stories of how God works everything out, how God uses the world to fund His Work, and accomplish His plan

## **His way are beyond our way, His ways are past our finding out**

- If we were going to raise up a deliverer, who was going to lead the people of Israel out of Egypt and then write the first five books of the Bible, we would have him training in some foreign land – Babylon – and as the conquering army comes, he declares himself to the Jews...
  - But God has him trained in Egypt, in the Pharaoh's house at Egypt's expense – that's God

## **Moses' Mom got to nurse him, with a paycheck from Pharaoh, and don't you know she did far more than just feed him**

- I bet she was rehearsing every Bible story she knew, every truth about God, whispering in his little ears
  - No doubt this lady was praying over him, interceding for him
  - And it worked gang, for as we are about to read, 40 years later, after all the brainwashing of the Egyptian world, when the chips are down, Moses sides with the people of God
- And I just remind you of that

## **You who are Moms and Dads or grandparents**

- you have the ability to hide things in your kids' hearts that 40 years of the world system will not be able to stand against
  - but you have to do it
- you nursery workers, children's ministry volunteers, don't think your ministry doesn't matter
  - it is easy for people to listen to me and have what I say go in one ear and out the other



- but there is something about the heart of a child – you teach those kids the Word, you pray over those kids
- and if they can't understand yet, as Moses would have been age wise, you whisper in their ear and pray it in their hearts – you have no idea how God may use that

## **Exodus Chapters 1-4**

### **The Need for a Deliverer**

### **The Birth of the Deliverer**

### **The Preparation of the Deliverer – Exodus 2:11-25**

- Between verse 10-11 of chapter 2 is 40 years and Exodus does not tell us what happens but in Acts we learn that Moses was learned in all the wisdom of Egypt

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

- it could have been when he wrote Genesis having access to records – and when you think about that, it's amazing what he didn't put in learning all of that worldly stuff

### **Acts says Moses was mighty in Word and Deed**

- Josephus records an Ethiopian invasion in the days of Moses the general that he put down - but by the time of the burning bush - that is all gone

### **God was wanting to deliver his people**

- And God was wanting to use Moses to accomplish this task
  - But before God could use Moses there had to be preparation

### **Moses' life can be divided into 3 distinct categories**

- The first 40 years – becoming a somebody
  - And we see that at the end of that time he thinks he is the deliverer
- The next 40 years – becoming a nobody
  - Learning that God didn't need him, that he wasn't all he thought he was
  - And this part is essential
- Last 40 years becoming somebody that God used mightily

## **Exodus Chapters 1-4**

### **The Need for a Deliverer**

### **The Birth of the Deliverer**

### **The Preparation of the Deliverer**

### **The Call of the Deliverer – Exodus 3:1-4:17**

- For explanation of different names for Moses' father in law, see the study guide

### **Moses sees a bush burning, but this bush is strange, because it is not being consumed, it speaks, and it is intelligent, it knows Moses' name**

- God begins to speak to Him, and tell him that He is going to use Him to deliver God's people
  - And Moses does not respond the way Isaiah did

### **But Moses asks of God five questions**

- And as we examine some of those this morning we get great insight into who God is and how He desires to work in all our lives

### **Moses Asks 5 Questions of God**

#### **#1 – Who am I??? – Exodus 3:11**

- God lays out this plan of what He is going to do



**And remember although Moses may have had some sense earlier in his life that he was the man - That was now gone**

- The Lord had brought Moses to a place in his life where he realized that delivering God's people was not going to be some walk in the park
  - He was now 80, what in the world was God thinking – you are 40 years late God!!!
  - Who am I????

**But this is the place we must come to - God wants to do a work in our lives, but He wants to be the one that gets the glory**

- and so often I see in Scripture that God will allow us to see how desperate our situation is before He steps in
  - so that we know – this is the Lord, there is no way it would work without Him

I think of Joshua and the great wall. – Israel coming into the promise land – they are going to take down these nations. But before they come against Jericho God gives them a battle plan. Walk around the city in complete silence, then on the seventh day, walk around the city 7 times, quiet. – Then give a shout. Good plan. – Why did God do it that way. I believe so that when they walked around the city they realize how impossible this was going to be. Maybe they thought in the wilderness, we are pretty good fighters, we can take them. That was all done after they walked around those walls

- God did that with Joshua
  - He did that with Moses

**And He does that with you and me**

- He often gets us to see the impossibility of the situation, so that we are clear
  - If this is resolved, if this is taken care of, if that guy gets saved, if this bill gets paid
  - It has to be the Lord

**God tells Moses His plan**

- and Moses responds by saying – Who am I
  - but then notice God's response...

**“I will be with you”**

- it is interesting to me this was the same thing God told Joshua right after the Battle plan
  - you want me to do what???
  - Do not be afraid – why – I will be with you
- Could it be that God is trying to teach something important

**God is trying to teach Moses whom He loves and Joshua whom is going to use greatly, and me and you whom He loves and desires to use**

- “It is not going to be about you!!!”
  - It is not about who you are, but about who I am

When I was little – you say, you still are, but when I was 3 or 4 I remember going to Yosemite with my Dad. And we are going on a hike up Yosemite falls, I looked up and up and up, and I turned around. I was having fun up to the point in the day – Dad look at the squirrels, Dad it's a deer, do you see the river. But when the hike was there, I want to go home But my Dad then put me on His shoulders and let me know. You are not going to walk up that mountain, I am, and you are going to sit on my shoulders and ride along.

- Moses says, “Who am I???”
  - And God’s response that is not the point – it’s not about who you are Moses, it’s about who Am I – I will deliver the children of Israel

**And that should hit home to us, as we face critical times in our families and in our nation**

- before trials hit we are like a little kid in God’s creation
  - look, a squirrel, a deer
  - but then a trial comes – what is that – I will never be able to face that
- And maybe you are saying to the Lord tonight
  - Who am I – I can’t do it
  - Well then Hear the Lord saying to you “It’s not about you – I will be with you”

**This is what God says to Moses and Moses then turns around and asks the next most logical question**

- It’s not about who am I, but about who You are, I’m, I understand, You – yes
  - well then

**#2 – Who are You??? – Exodus 3:13**

- you see Moses asks who are You – what is Your name?

**Now Moses knows it is God he is speaking to**

- but understand this you Bible students
  - God is a title, not a name
  - It is like King or Pharaoh, or prince – well, prince was named prince, formally anyway
  - God is a title
- And there are many things called God in Scripture
  - Satan is called the ‘god of this world’
  - God is a title, not a name

**And so Moses wants to know what God’s name is**

- and understand why this is so important
  - Moses is not getting information for conversation – “I don’t want to call you bro, what is Your name???”
  - It is not for conversation, but for revelation
- You see – in Moses’ day a child was not named whatever the parents thought best
  - When Jonathan my son was born, there were certain names Christy would not allow, the reason, they did not sound good with Haley his sister
  - That is how we name children today
    - But not so in Bible times

**A Name was tied into the personality of the person**

- You see with Jacob, heel catcher, deceiver, - and so he was
  - The name was tied into a personality, a nature

**And this is what Moses is getting at**

- You have told me it is not about me, its about You
  - so who are You, what am I dealing with, what is Your name
  - what is Your nature

**And notice what God’s answer was to Moses’ second question**

- God says tell them “I Am” sent you
  - What is Your name God ???
  - I Am...
- At this point I see Moses saying...
  - I Am what?????

**I see Moses doing this because I am looking at this phrase in the English language**

- And if God came to me and said, my name is I Am, - I would be confused
  - But I don't think Moses was – being spoken to in his own tongue, I think Moses must have been taken back by the revelation God was giving him

**You see the name “I Am” is very revealing – for it is in a continual tense**

- and what that means to you and me is the phrase would be better understood, “I am continually becoming”
  - but even that doesn't do it justice – because a full understanding of what God is telling Moses is: My name is “I Am everything you will ever need”

**Moses wants to know who it is he is dealing with, what His nature is all about**

- and the answer from God is “I Am everything you will ever need”
  - Jesus fills in the definitions in His life and Ministry – I am the light, the door, the good shepherd, bread of life, resurrection, and the life

**#3 – They won't believe me – Exodus 4:1**

- Oh Lord, You are sending me back to these people and they will not believe that You spoke to me through a bush, that sounds so weird – Lord this won't work

**But notice something with me**

- what Moses is worried about never even happened?? – notice the end of chapter 4 – the elders of Israel were blessed, they worshipped, they had faith, no doubting
  - It is so crazy what we worry about – most of it never come to be
- I was so worried about getting a job in Paris – I was worried about insurance – what are you going to do – and I remember praying when it was pretty sparse, God, send people, why??? – people equals support – no, I equal support – and I was so worried,
  - Nothing ever happened
  - I never needed a job, I never needed insurance
  - Everything I was so worried about – never happened
- We are not to worry
  - It is a sin
  - So repent and realize you have a God in heaven, you don't have to be afraid

**#4 – I am not a fluent speaker – Exodus 4:11**

- now this is just not true
  - Moses could teach wonderfully
  - So often we come to God with something that is just not true
- It could be the Moses was talking about speaking Egyptian, that in 40 years he was a little rusty and remember what that crew is like in the palace, he may have thought, I will never be able to convince them

### **But even if that is so, why did it matter???**

- You can't speak, Moses, I am currently talking through a bush – do you really think your ability to communicate is what I need to free 3 million people from bondage?
  - But Moses is working through all of the excuses and then he just comes clean

### **#5 – Someone else can do better – Exodus 4:13**

- Now he gets to the heart of the matter – I just don't want to do it
  - There was a time when that seemed like something I wanted to do, but now I just want a good meal, time with my family and eventually to go to heaven
  - I don't want this burden
- And up to this point – God has answered all of Moses' concerns
  - But now we are getting to the point of disobedience and God won't take it

### **You see it is okay to have our doubts**

- God, I don't know how this is going to work
  - God I don't think you have found that right guy
  - God I don't have the skills needed
- Those are all normal human reasons
  - But just because they are normal, does not mean that then they give you an excuse to disobey
  - They don't – Moses still needs to obey

### **And God seems to compromise in giving Moses Aaron, his brother, but as we go through the story, Aaron will be kind of a burden not a blessing**

- and that is always the case
  - God will meet you where you are at
  - But it is far better just to trust the Lord and let Him bring about His perfect will in your life

### **Exodus Chapters 1-4**

#### **The Need for a Deliverer**

#### **The Birth of the Deliverer**

#### **The Preparation of the Deliverer**

#### **The Call of the Deliverer**

#### **The Obedience of the Deliverer – Chapter 4:18-31**

- Moses obeys and God blesses him
  - With favor with his father in law

### **With Promises from God**

- God is completely honest with Moses – not everything is going to go great
  - I am going to harden Pharaoh's heart
  - Now this has caused some confusion

### **Why would God hold Pharaoh responsible when God is really doing the hardening?**

- But understand the word, there is really better understood to “strengthen”
  - Pharaoh hardened his heart, of his own free will

- But then God strengthened the decision – different Hebrew Word – we will get into this more
  - God knew what Pharaoh would do, it was certainly part of the plan, but Pharaoh is, as we are, responsible for the choices he made

**That brings us to God wanting to kill Moses?**

- What is going on???
  - Apparently Moses had not circumcised his kids – so Moses who was supposed to lead God's people was not following the most basic of covenant laws himself
- And listen – God was not going to let someone lead His people who thought obeying Him was optional

**Now I'm sure Moses had justifications – apparently his wife Zipporah from her reaction, was not into circumcision – husband of blood**

- But that didn't fly with the Lord – We can't take people who are not willing to go – we must obey!!!