



EXODUS SERIES - FREEDOM TO LIVE

#2: DELIVERING THE DELIVERER

July 15, 2018
Pastor Keith Jenkins

INTRO:

When the Exodus story starts, we are told Israel had been enslaved by the Egyptian Empire for over 400 years. Within captivity, God blessed Israel and made them "fruitful and increased in number". God's hand of blessing and provision was on Israel in the midst of their captivity. What the Pharaoh (king of Egypt) intended to use against Israel, God would turn to their advantage.

As Israel continued to prosper in the midst of their circumstances, Pharaoh would turn up the heat with his persecution against them by forming a plan to commit Infanticide aimed at every male baby born of the Hebrews. He told the Hebrew midwives to murder every male baby born. The midwives "feared God" and because of this they disobeyed Pharaoh's decree. God honored the midwives and gave them their own families. Pharaoh turns up the heat again, and now instead of trying to exterminate the babies quietly and pin it on the midwives he makes a decree that all baby boys born should be thrown into the Nile and drowned.

MAIN TEXT:

"But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites and worked them ruthlessly. They made their lives bitter with harsh labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labor the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly. The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, "When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live." The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, "Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?" The midwives answered Pharaoh, "Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive." So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own. Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live." (Exodus 1:1:12-22)

FROM THIS DARK DECREE, A FUTURE DELIVERER (MOSES) WOULD BE DELIVERED.

- Every time Pharaoh turns up the pressure to destroy Israel's future, God prospers His people.
- Moses' family, and the midwives, hide him for 3 months, but once they realize they can hide him no more they built a basket, placed Moses into the basket, and floated him down the Nile.
- The Hebrew word for "basket" is actually the same word translated "Ark" hearkening back to the Genesis flood story. God provided an Ark for Moses in the same way that He provided an Ark for Noah, and in the same way He delivers us from the storms on the horizon.
- Moses' basket would meet an unlikely deliverer- Pharaoh's daughter. For some reason she has compassion on this Hebrew baby, and takes him into her house to raise him as their own.
- The very power (Pharaoh) that seeks to destroy Moses and any hope for their future deliverance takes Moses in and raises him as their own.
- As Israel was incubated in Egypt, Moses (their deliverer) would be incubated in Pharaoh's very house. Pharaoh didn't know that Israel's deliverer would grow up as a Prince or Egypt.

IN THE MIDST OF TRIAL, THERE IS A PLACE OF PROVISION FOR YOU.

- God uses the most humble of people and circumstances to provide for us.
- Moses was born of two slave parents, the midwives were barren and without future, and yet God provides.
- This all points to a humble carpenter and his betrothed (Joseph and Mary), in humble circumstances (a manger) to give birth to our humble Savior—Jesus.
- We are all delivered deliverers being delivered and will one day be wholly and totally delivered.

WE HAVE BEEN DELIVERED. WE ARE BEING DELIVERED. WE WILL FINALLY BE FULLY DELIVERED.

- Moses is a type of Jesus. A precursor to the Great Deliverer to come.
- Israel is a picture of us. A people delivered from the bondage of sin.
- We want to thank God for what we have been delivered from.
- We want to trust God for what we have been delivered through.
- We want to have hope in the God who will deliver us from all our brokenness.
- God wants to use you to be a “delivered deliverer”, i.e., someone who has been delivered from something who can then help others be delivered from something as well. This is the picture we see in Moses.

DISCUSSION QUESTIONS:

1. Do you see God as a deliverer, and why or why not?
2. What do you think of the idea that there is deliverance from something and deliverance through something?
3. What has God delivered you from?
4. What is God delivering you through?
5. How have you ever seen God use your story to help encourage someone through a difficult time?
6. How have you ever seen God’s provision in the midst of difficult circumstances?
7. How has God ever used seemingly peculiar circumstances (ex. Moses being rescued by Pharaoh’s daughter) to show you His provision?

