

(Exodus 7)
“A Break Through In Faith”

NOTE TAKERS...

- I've titled this message: **“Move Forward”**
 - (Exodus 7) NLT

~ INTRO ~

WELL...

- As we closed out chapter #5... (Ex. 5:22-23) NLT
 - We saw that Moses was discouraged...
 - And pulling back from where God placed him.

AND... AGAIN...

- At the end of chapter #6... (Ex. 6:30) NLT
 - Moses was still focusing on his lack of ability...
 - Instead of the authority God had given him.

GOD TAUGHT MOSES...

- That **His Name** was sufficient no matter what he faced!
 - And we learned this is a spiritual lesson...
 - All followers of God go thru.
 - Because God wants us to trust Him.

HOWEVER... WITH THE NATURAL EYE...

- Moses was 80-years old.
 - And he had spent the last 40-years of his life as a shepherd.
- And now God was calling him to go before the head of state – Pharaoh...
 - And demand the immediate release of the country's work force.

NO DOUBT...

- This was a daunting task from the natural perspective.

THINK ABOUT IT...

- What prohibits Pharaoh from killing Moses over this?
 - Moses was experiencing the same thing we do...
 - He was learning to walk by faith in a hostile world.
 - He was learning that God would take care of him.
 - He was learning there is power in God's name.

(Exodus 7)
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HERE’S A FEW THINGS WE CAN LEARN:

IDEA #1 – WHICH EYE ARE YOU USING? (vv.1-7)

AT THE END OF MOSES’ LIFE...

- He looks back thru the eyes of faith...
 - Expressing to the people the awesomeness of God.

AND IN ONE SCENE...

- (Deut. 23:5-b) NLT
“He (God) turned the intended curse into a blessing...
because the Lord your God loves you.”

SO...

- We’re to learn to trust God...
 - By learning from the written testimony of the Bible.
 - **Our faith** is strengthened in a loving Father.
 - (Rom. 10:17)

GOD DOES NOT WANT HIS CHURCH...

- To align our minds with the ways of the world.

MOSES WAS LEARNING TO WALK BY FAITH...

- And in (v.1) God says, “pay close attention” (NLT)
 - “See I have made you as God” (NKJV)

IN OTHER WORDS...

- God was going to do something amazing thru Moses...
 - And he was to view God’s promise with the eyes of faith.

NOW...

- Before we move on let’s make sure we understand (v.3).
 - God gave mankind *freewill*.
- In the next several chapters we see Pharoah...
 - Choose a path with his decisions...
 - And God just confirms the choice he makes.

CHURCH...

- This is why we want to learn to choose life: (Deut. 30:19-20a) NLT

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IDEA #2 – SHOW ME A SIGN: (vv.8-13)

(Matt. 16:1) NLT

- (Matt. 16:4) NLT

THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN MAGIC & MIRACLES...

- Comes down to where the power is sourced from.
 - Magic is derived from a demonic source...
 - Miracles are a supernatural work of God.

THE AGENTS OF SATAN USE MAGIC **TO DECEIVE**...

For example:

- The anti-Christ (2 Thess. 2:9-12) NLT
 - His power is derived from Satan (Rev. 13:2) NLT

ON THE OTHER HAND...

- Miracles glorify God among men (Mark 2:12) NLT

Jesus spoke about the increase of demonic activity at the end of the age...

- (Matt 24:24-25) NLT

HERE’S THE POINT...

- Satan loves to deceive people...
 - And he uses ignorance / deception / & even counterfeit miracles...
 - To keep people enslaved!

WHY DOES THIS MATTER TO YOU?

- Because the same deceptions occur today.

THINK ABOUT IT...

- Halloween happens at the end of this month...
 - And how many Christians will engage...
 - In the wrong source of power by dabbling in darkness.

THE SCRIPTURE SAYS...

- (Hosea 4:6) “My people are destroyed for lack of knowledge...”

< **Knowledge** = Hebrew word meaning ignorance or being unaware >

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In the O.T. (Deut. 18:9-14) NLT

- Spiritism was forbidden – *you shall not learn it or have it among you.*

God gives nine specific points:

- 1) Makes son or daughter pass thru fire (sacrifice to Molech)
- 2) Witchcraft – making contact with dark spirits
- 3) Soothsayer – seeking guidance astrology, horoscopes, birth signs, crystals
- 4) Interprets omens – psychics, palm readers, tealeafs, tarot cards`
- 5) Sorcerer – drug use, magical healing
- 6) Conjures up spells –
- 7) Medium – channeling knowledge from dark spirits
- 8) Spiritist –
- 9) One who calls up the dead – trying to contact people who have died

Point being...

- Christians can learn from the past...
 - And apply the protection in the present...
 - So we're NOT deceived by a false source!

Paul spoke to those in Corinth about being separate (2 Cor. 6:11-18).

IDEA #3 – DIRECT CONFLICT: (vv.14-25)

THIS IS STARTS...

- The series of 10-Plagues on the Egyptians.
 - God directly defeats 10 of Egypt's prominent god's...
 - Proving His superiority.

THE EGYPTIAN GOD OF THE NILE...

- Sometimes referred to as the *father of gods* – **Hapi**.

THIS GOD WAS AN ANDROGYNOUS FIGURE...

- It had both male and female sex-characteristics...
 - Breast & loin cloth... along with a false beard.

IN FACT...

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- In modern times the LGBTQ community references ¹
 - This Egyptian period...
 - To support the approval of queer lifestyles.

BUT... PERHAPHS...

- The point is missed since God was using Moses & Aaron...
 - To reveal His power over the mythological gods...
 - And the false ideas and power of that day.

~ IN CLOSING ~

THERE'S A LOT MORE TO LEARN...

- As we study this section of scripture with the 10-plagues.

SO...

- I'll invite you to read ahead and join me again next week...
 - As we continue our study thru Exodus.

IF YOU NEED PRAYER TONIGHT...

- Please take a step of faith and visit with one of the pastors down front.
- Ladies we also have a women's ministry leader down front too.

¹ Advocate.com article sourced on 10/02/2024 from <https://www.advocate.com/arts-entertainment/2016/9/20/15-lgbt-egyptian-gods>