

KNOWING GOD

Exodus 5:1-7:7

Exodus 1

⁸ Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.⁹ And he said to his people, “Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us”... ¹¹ Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with heavy burdens...¹³ So they ruthlessly made the people of Israel work as slaves ¹⁴ and made their lives bitter with hard service, in mortar and brick, and in all kinds of work in the field. In all their work they ruthlessly made them work as slaves.

Exodus 5

Afterwards Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, “Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, ‘Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.’” ² But Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, and moreover, I will not let Israel go.” ⁴ ...Moses and Aaron, why do you take the people away from their work? Get back to your burdens”...

⁶ The same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their foremen... ⁹ “Let heavier work be laid on the men that they may labour at it and pay no regard to lying words.”...¹⁴ And the foremen of the people of Israel, whom Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were beaten and were asked, “Why have you not done all your task of making bricks today and yesterday, as in the past?”

Exodus 6

² God spoke to Moses and said to him, “I am the LORD. ³ I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them... ⁵ I have heard the groaning of the people of Israel whom the Egyptians hold as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant. ⁶ Say therefore to the people of Israel, ‘I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the

burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgement. ⁷ I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians.

GOD’S PEOPLE - our need for rescue (1:8-14; 5:1-19)

- an example of persecution
 - a picture of the human condition ¹
- denying need for rescue?
 - aware of need for rescue?
 - thankful for rescue?

GOD’S NAME – God’s ability to rescue (6:1-10)

- his name identifies him
 - his name establishes relationship
 - his name reveals his character
- trust his promises
 - get to know him better

GOD’S RESCUER – God’s means of rescue (5:20-23; 6:12-7:7)

- a rescuer like Moses ²
 - a rescuer unlike Moses ³
- don’t miss the point
 - beware hero-worship
 - power in weakness

¹ Hebrews 8:5; 10:1; Romans 5:14; John 8:34; Romans 6:17; Ephesians 2:2-3; Matthew 23:4; Galatians 5:1; Acts 15:10; John 8:36; Matthew 11:28; James 2:6

² John 5:39; Acts 2:22

³ John 9:28; 2 Corinthians 12:9