

# Exodus 5:10 – 7:7

## Day 1

Taskmasters Increase the Burden: Read Exodus 5:10-23

1. How were conditions made worse:
  - for the people? 5:10-13
  
  - for the foremen? 5:14
  
2. To whom did the foremen of the sons of Israel go to for help? 5:15,16 Whom did they blame?
  - Whom did Pharaoh blame? 5:17
  
3. Why did the foremen “see” that they were in trouble? 5:18,19 What does this say about what they were being asked to do?
  
4. After talking to Pharaoh, whom did the foremen blame? 5:20,21 (Contrast 4:31) Of what did they accuse Moses and Aaron?

IT'S HEBREW TO ME: “trouble OT:7451 ra` ; bad or evil (natural or moral)” - Strong's Concordance

### **Moses' prayer**

5. Where did Moses turn? 5:22,23 Whom did he blame? (Note: What same old fears surfaced?)
  - What would you say about Moses' boldness and openness with the LORD? (Should Moses have been surprised at Pharaoh's reaction? See 3:19; 4:21)

**Food for Thought:** "The agony of soul through which Moses passed must have been as death to him. He died to his self-esteem, to his castle-building, to pride in his miracles, to the enthusiasm of his people, to everything that a popular leader loves. As he lay there on the ground alone before God...and thinking himself hardly used, he was falling as a grain of wheat into the ground to die, no longer to abide alone, but to bear much fruit. [John 12:24]' (Meyer)" - David Guzik

6. How did Moses' appeal to the LORD (5:22,23) compare to the people's (5:21)?
7. Why do you think the LORD allowed this oppressive situation to go so far? (i.e. What did the people need to learn before the exodus from Egypt that required "some testing and stretching?" See Romans 9:22,23)

**Applying the Word:** *When you have obeyed God but things have gotten worse, or people have criticized and opposed you. What was your reaction? Why do you think God doesn't always seem to smooth our way when we follow Him?*

## Day 2

God's comfort and promises to Moses: Read Exodus 6:1-9

8. What assurance did God give Moses in response to his complaints and questions? 6:1 Do you see any rebuke? (What words describe how willingly Pharaoh would let them go?)
9. List the "I" statements that God gave to Moses in 6:2-5

6:2	
6:3	
6:4	
6:5 Cf. 2:24	

- Why do you think God began by reminding Moses' of His past acts?

10. List (and mark in your scripture) the seven blessings (“*I will*”s) that God promised to His people in 6:6-8. (Note: What conditions are attached?)

***Digging Deeper***

What relationship with God and identity do believers have today?  
Eph. 1:3-5; 2:14-22

**FYI:** " 'Each of these verbs are in the Hebrew past (i.e., perfect) tense instead of the future tense, for so certain was God of their accomplishment that they were viewed as having been completed.' (Kaiser)" - David Guzik

"It is one thing to make a covenant, and another thing to fulfill that covenant... study the context of this paragraph by interpreting the name JEHOVAH to signify 'fulfiller of the covenant.' " - Irving Jensen (30)

11. Why do you think that God repeated the phrase “*I am the LORD*” four times in His response to Moses?

- Summarize God’s answer to Moses’ questions in 5:22,23.

“I AM  
THE LORD”

**FYI:** “**I am the LORD:** In reminding Moses of the great name of God (Yahweh), He confirmed that he remained the covenant-making and covenant-keeping God, who would absolutely fulfill His promise to Moses. *“When all human help has failed, and the soul, exhausted and despairing, has given up hope from man, God draws near, and says, I AM.”* (Meyer) “The patriarchs were privileged to **know** the God who made the covenant, but for them the covenant was barely fulfilled... Moses and the generation of the Exodus would **know** God as the One who *fulfilled* the covenant.” - David Guzik

12. How was God going to deal differently with His people than before? Compare 6:3,4 with 6:7,8. [Note the use of the word (not) “*known*” (6:3) with “*know*” (6:7)]

**FYI:** “The word translated ‘know’ carried here the idea of ‘know by experience and personal involvement...’By contrast Moses referred to other gods as gods that the Israelites had not known [Deuteronomy 13:2,6, 13]. - The Woman’s Study Bible (105)

13. How did Moses respond to God’s answer? 6:9a

- How did the people respond? 6:9b (Cf. 4:31,5:21)

**FYI:** “Moses wanted to quit after the first setback. God had much to do in his heart before Moses would be ready to deal with all the discouragement ahead as he led Israel to the Promised Land. God was building endurance in Moses, the ability to stick with God’s plan and will even when it didn’t seem to work. This is faith; this is patient endurance in the LORD.” - David Guzik

**Applying the Word:** “We can summarize God’s message to Moses in these words: ‘Because I am who I am, I will always do what is best for you.’” (Charles Swindoll)

What is one of your favorite promises from scripture to remember when you’re discouraged (Or) What significant events from your past remind you of God’s faithfulness in your life?

## Day 3

Read Exodus 6:10-27

### **God commands Moses again**

14. After the people failed to respond to the message, how reasonable do you think God’s command in 6:11 sounded to Moses? What concern did Moses have? 6:12

- What excuse did Moses fall back on in 6:12b? (Where was Moses’ focus?)

**FYI: Unskilled in speech/uncircumcised lips** “This may refer to Moses’ idea that he had a speech problem, or it may be his understanding that he was a sinful man, and therefore unworthy to be used.” [See Isaiah 6:1-5]  
- David Guzik

15. How did the LORD respond to Moses’ concern? 6:13 (What does the word “charge” indicate about God’s intentions to use Moses and Aaron?) Why do you think there was no rebuke?

- Note: Who was giving the commands in 5:4-18. Who was giving the commands now (6:13)?

**IT’S HEBREW TO ME:** *Charge/command* tsawah OT:6680, “to command.” Essentially, this verb refers to verbal communication by which a superior ‘orders’ or ‘commands’ a subordinate.” - Vine’s Expository Dictionary

16. What picture of prayer do you get from the interaction of Moses and the LORD in 5:22-6:13 and also the burning bush exchange in 3:1-4:17? Try writing one sentence to describe how Moses was sharing with the LORD, and how the LORD was responding to Moses.

**Genealogy of Jacob's sons**

17. Which sons of Jacob are named in 6:14-16? - See Genesis 35:23

18. Trace Moses and Aaron's lineage:

- Father and mother (6:20)
- Grandfather (6:18)
- Great Grandfather (6:16)

19. What distinction did the tribe of Levi eventually have? Numbers 3:5-8

- What honor was later given to Aaron and his sons? Exodus 28:1
- What special position did Aaron hold? Exodus 28:29,30
- How long did Aaron's family hold this position? Exodus 28:43

20. According to 6:26-27, what seems to be the main point of giving this genealogy?

**FYI:** "Everything in the list suggests that God's choosing Moses had nothing to do with natural advantage or ability. The list stops after naming only three of Jacob's sons--Reuben, Simeon, and Levi--for its object had been reached. Moses and Aaron sprang, not from the "firstborn" Reuben, but from Levi, Jacob's third son, and not even then from Levi's oldest son; but Kohath, his second son (vv. 16-19); and Moses was not even the oldest son of his father, for Aaron was older. Moses' calling and election of God were a gift of grace and not based on rights and privileges of birth. Nor was his pedigree that noble from a moral standpoint, for the mere mention of each of these names was enough to remind contemporaries of... skeletons in his past--Reuben committed incest with his father's concubine (Gen 35:22), while Simeon and Levi were guilty of unwarranted outrage against Shechem (Gen 34:25-31)..."

So the *making* of 'this same Moses and Aaron,' as well as the *uses* they were put to after they were made, was totally the work of God."  
- The Expositor's Bible Commentary (344,345)

**Applying the Word:** Can you think of situations when God's ways and waiting seemed confusing, but over time and with hindsight His plans and ways made sense?

## Day 4

God Explains His Plan Again: Read Exodus 6:28 - 7:7

21. What amazing response did the LORD have to Moses' doubts (6:30)? 7:1,2

**FYI: I will make you as God** "God is not saying that Moses has been deified, nor that he is divine. Rather, God is reassuring Moses that he has been given a position that is superior to that of Pharaoh. In this role, Moses will be able to perform unprecedented miracles and overwhelm the power of the Egyptian magicians who represent the gods of Egypt. Yet he will remain only God's instrument...filled with God's power."

- The Africa Bible Commentary (95)

22. Why was God going to harden Pharaoh's heart? (This occurred in 9:12.)

- 7:3
- 7:4 (*Mark references to Pharaoh's not listening*)
- 7:5

**FYI:** "This explains why the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart - essentially, to bring righteous judgment upon Egypt...God would reveal Himself even to those who rejected Him...These miracles would also be an invitation for the Egyptians to personally believe in the Lord. Thus the invitation was pressed repeatedly and some apparently did believe, for there was a "mixed multitude" (Exodus 12:38) that left Egypt with Israel." (Kaiser)"

- David Guzik

23. What else would people know about the LORD and his power from these signs? (*Mark the words "know that" throughout Exodus.*)

- Exodus 6:7
- 7:5,17
- 8:10
- 8:22
- 9:14
- 9:29
- 10:2; 14:4,8
- 16:6
- 16:12
- 29:46

**"KNOW  
THAT..."**

24. What does God's desire for Egyptians (7:5) and the Israelites (6:7) to know Him say about God's heart? Underline what the following verses say about that.

- 1 Timothy 2:3-4 This is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, 4 who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. NASU
- 2 Peter 3:9 The LORD is not slow in keeping his promise, as some understand slowness. He is patient with you, not wanting anyone to perish, but everyone to come to repentance. NIV
- John 3:16 "For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. NASU

25. How did Moses and Aaron respond? 7:6 (Note the repeated words that emphasize their obedience.)

- In spite of all the additional assurances and promises Moses had been given, what would have made going to Pharaoh a second time harder or riskier?

26. Imagine yourself in Moses and Aaron's shoes (7:7). How well would these brothers have known each other before this? What do you think was happening with their relationship?

**Applying the Word:** *When following the Lord has led to circumstances that discouraged or frightened you, what helped you to stay the course? How important was prayer, Bible study...?*

*Questions and Discoveries:*