

# THE GREAT ENCOURAGEMENT AND MESSAGE GIVEN TO MOSES: DELIVERANCE AND FREEDOM EXODUS 06:01–09

## *Introduction*

Moses was desperate. The people had just repudiated him, for Pharaoh had begun to persecute the enslaved Israelites more severely than ever before. The increased oppression was due to Pharaoh's reaction against Moses, against his demand that Pharaoh free the people to serve and worship God. Before Moses' demand, their task had been to make the brick for Egyptian construction projects, and the Egyptians had always furnished the straw necessary to make the brick. But now, since Moses' demand, Pharaoh was forcing the Israelites to gather their own straw. Moreover, he was insisting that they produce the same daily quota of brick. This was utterly impossible. The result was tragic: the Egyptian slave-drivers were working the people beyond exhaustion, threatening, cursing, beating, abusing, and no doubt killing some.

Consequently, the people blamed Moses and wanted him out of their lives. They rejected and repudiated him; they wanted nothing to do with him, not anymore. In their minds, Moses had brought nothing but trouble to them, severe trouble that could even cause a holocaust: the king was so angry that he could take up the sword and slaughter them (see Exo 5:21).

Moses was crushed, broken, desperate. What could he do? There was only one thing, the very same thing that we have to do when we face crushing problems. Moses got alone with God and poured out his soul. This we saw in the last passage (Exo 5:22-23). Now, we come to God's answer to Moses. This great passage shows how God helped Moses and met his need. It shows how God will help us and meet our need. This is: *The Great Encouragement and Message Given to Moses: Deliverance and Freedom*, Exodus 6:1-7:7.

- I. God's personal encouragement to His messenger (vv. 1-5).
- II. God's personal encouragement to His people (vv. 6-9).
- III. God's great message to the king (vv. 10-12).
- IV. God's great messengers and their family tree: chosen by God's grace alone (vv. 13-27).
- V. God's great message is to be proclaimed only by God-called men: God recalled Moses (vv. 28-7:5).
- VI. Moses and Aaron obeyed God (vv. 6-7).

## **I. *Exodus 06:01–05 God's Personal Encouragement to Moses***

There was God's personal encouragement to His messenger, Moses. God encouraged Moses by doing four things.

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1. God promised to raise His mighty hand against Pharaoh and force Pharaoh to free the people (v. 1). God had already made this promise to His messenger at the burning bush (Exo 3:10). But as with all of us, Moses needed to be reassured of God's promise time and again. He needed to be reminded of God's great promise, that He would force the terrible enslaver to free the people of God.

**Thought 1.** The LORD will deliver us by His mighty hand. He will deliver us from all our enemies, whether seen or unseen, visible or invisible, physical or spiritual.

**2 Tim 4:18** *The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

**2 Pet 2:9** *If this is so, then the Lord knows how to rescue godly men from trials and to hold the unrighteous for the day of judgment, while continuing their punishment.*

**Jer 1:8** *“Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD.*

**2 Sam 22:2-3** *He said: “The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer.”*

2. God assured Moses: I am the LORD (Jehovah, Yahweh). The basic meaning of LORD is Saviour, Redeemer and Deliverer. The LORD was able to redeem and deliver the people of God (vv. 2-3). This was a very special revelation being made to Moses, a very special experience that God was giving to His dear messenger who was so crushed, broken, and desperate.

⇒ The great patriarchs — Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob — had *experienced* God as God Almighty (El Shaddai) not as Jehovah. (See note, Gen 17:1.) They had known God as Jehovah, known that He was the great Redeemer and Deliverer, but they had never witnessed the deliverance of God's people. They had the great promises of God, but they had never experienced the fulfilment of those promises. (See note, *Jehovah*, Gen 2:4.)

But now, Moses and Israel were to see the very meaning of God's name fulfilled. They were to be the eye-witnesses of God's name exploding across the pages of human history: they were to see the LORD (Jehovah, Yahweh) redeem and deliver His people in the *great Exodus* from Egypt. God's name as LORD (Jehovah, Yahweh), as the great Redeemer and Deliverer, was to be fulfilled in the redemption and deliverance of Israel from slavery to freedom.

Note: the name Jehovah or Yahweh is used some 162 times in Genesis. People address God as Jehovah or Yahweh in at least 34 of these times. Even Abraham addressed God as Yahweh Yireh in the experience of offering up Isaac as a sacrifice to God (Gen 22:24). In fact, from the very beginning of human history, people called upon the name of Jehovah or Yahweh (Gen 4:26). (Frank E. Gaebelin, Editor. *Expositor's Bible Commentary*, Vol. 2, p. 340-341).

Note also that God declared His name four times in giving this great encouragement to Moses: “I am the LORD” (vv. 2, 6, 7, 8). He is able to do anything and all things, even redeem and deliver His people from slavery and set them free.

3. God reviewed His covenant with Moses, reviewed His great promise to give the promised land to His people (v. 4. See note, pt. 3, Exo 2:23-25; see *The Promised Land*, Exo 2:24; see note, Gen 12:1c.)
4. God shared His compassion and concern for the sufferings of His people: He heard their cries and remembered His covenant with them (v. 5).

**Thought 1.** God cares for His people, for all of us, just as He cared for Moses and Israel. No matter how crushed, broken, and desperate we may become, God is concerned. He has great compassion for us, and He will help meet our need. No matter what our problem, sin, or shame is, God longs to help us. God is the LORD, our great Redeemer and Deliverer. He will redeem and deliver us from all our troubles and enslavements to this world.

*Psa 28:7 The LORD is my strength and my shield; my heart trusts in him, and I am helped. My heart leaps for joy and I will give thanks to him in song.*

*Psa 40:17 Yet I am poor and needy; may the LORD think of me. You are my help and my deliverer: O my God, do not delay.*

*Isa 41:10 So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.*

*1 Cor 10:13 No temptation has seized you except what is common to man. And God is faithful; he will not let you be tempted beyond what you can bear. But when you are tempted, he will also provide a way out so that you can stand up under it.*

*2 Tim 4:18 The Lord will rescue me from every evil attack and will bring me safely to his heavenly kingdom. To him be glory for ever and ever. Amen.*

*Psa 130:7-8 O Israel, put your hope in the LORD, for with the LORD is unfailing love and with him is full redemption. He himself will redeem Israel from all their sins.*

*Isa 41:14 Do not be afraid, you worm Jacob, little Israel, do not fear, for I myself will help you," declares the LORD, your Redeemer, the Holy One of Israel.*

*Isa 46:4 Even to your old age and gray hairs I am he, I am he who will sustain you. I have made you and I will carry you; I will sustain you and I will rescue you.*

## **II. Exodus 06:06–09 God's Personal Encouragement to His People**

There was God's personal encouragement to His people. God gave Moses the very message of encouragement He wanted proclaimed to the people. Note how glorious and personal, how joyful and hopeful God's message was. God declared five wonderful facts, facts that are true for us even as for believers of all generations.

1. God is the LORD (Jehovah, Yahweh), the great Redeemer and Deliverer of His people, the God who fulfils the covenant of His great promises (v. 6). The very meaning of God's name, the LORD (Jehovah, Yahweh), was now ready to be fulfilled. God was now going to redeem and deliver His dear people.

Now note how God proclaims seven “I wills” in the next three proclamations (pts. 2-4).

2. God will deliver His people (v. 6).

=> I will bring you out: from your burdens.

=> I will free you: from slavery.

=> I will redeem you: with power and with mighty acts of judgment.

**2 Sam 22:2-3** *He said: “The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer.”*

**Jer 1:8** *Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you,” declares the LORD.*

**Dan 6:27** *He rescues and he saves; he performs signs and wonders in the heavens and on the earth. He has rescued Daniel from the power of the lions.*

**2 Cor 1:10** *He has delivered us from such a deadly peril, and he will deliver us. On him we have set our hope that he will continue to deliver us.*

3. God will adopt His people (v. 7).

=> I will take you to be my own people.

=> I will be your God.

=> God’s purpose: that His people might know that He is the *LORD*, their great Deliverer from all burdens.

**Deut 14:2** *For you are a people holy to the LORD your God. Out of all the peoples on the face of the earth, the LORD has chosen you to be his treasured possession.*

**Isa 63:16** *But you are our Father, though Abraham does not know us or Israel acknowledge us; you, O LORD, are our Father, our Redeemer from of old is your name..*

**John 1:12** *“Yet to all who received him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God.”*

**Rom 8:16-17** *The Spirit himself testifies with our spirit, that we are God’s children.*

**2 Cor 6:17-18** *“Therefore come out from them and be separate, says the Lord. Touch no unclean thing, and I will receive you. I will be a Father to you, and you will be my sons and daughters,” says the Lord Almighty.*

4. God will lead His people to the promised land (v. 8).

=> I will bring you to the land, the promised land.

=> I will give the land to you.

**Thought 1.** Remember the promised land of Canaan is a symbol, a type, a picture of the promised land of heaven, of the new heavens and earth (see note, Gen 12:1c).

**Heb 11:8-10** *By faith Abraham, when called to go to a place he would later receive as his inheritance, obeyed and went, even though he did not know where he was going. By faith he made his home in the promised land like a stranger in a foreign country; he lived in tents, as did Isaac and Jacob, who were heirs with him of the same*

*promise. For he was looking forward to the city with foundations, whose architect and builder is God.*

**Heb 11:16** *Instead, they were longing for a better country - a heavenly one. Therefore God is not ashamed to be called their God, for he has prepared a city for them.*

**2 Pet 3:10-13** *But the day of the Lord will come like a thief. The heavens will disappear with a roar; the elements will be destroyed by fire, and the earth and everything done in it will be laid bare. Since everything will be destroyed in this way, what kind of people ought you to be? You ought to live holy and godly lives as you look forward to the day of God and speed its coming. That day will bring about the destruction of the heavens by fire, and the elements will melt in the heat. But in keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, where righteousness dwells.*

**Isa 65:17** *“See, I will create new heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.”*

Again, glance at the above three points and note the seven “I wills” promised by God. What a glorious promise and encouragement this should be to all believers.

5. God is the LORD (Jehovah, Yahweh) (v. 8c). Again, the point is restated because of its importance: God is the great Redeemer and Deliverer of His people, and the time has now come for the very meaning of His name to be fulfilled. The time has now come for Him to redeem and deliver His people from their sufferings.
6. Note that Moses took God’s message of encouragement to the people, but they did not listen to him. The idea of being freed was just too incredible, too far-fetched. Their oppression was so cruel and brutal, their suffering so painful, they were just consumed with discouragement. Their minds were so exhausted with the pain of suffering, they could no longer think long enough to hear any message, no matter how hopeful and encouraging it might be. If they were to be delivered, it would not be because of their attention upon God, but because of God’s mercy being poured out upon them.

**Thought 1.** God is able and ready to meet our desperate needs, no matter how crushed and down we may be. No matter how exhausted we may be from suffering and from failing, God will have mercy upon us. He will deliver us if we will only cry out to Him.

**Psa 34:19-20** *A righteous man may have many troubles, but the LORD delivers him from them all. He protects all his bones, not one of them will be broken.*

**Psa 50:15** *And call upon me in the day of trouble; I will deliver you, and you will honour me.*

**Psa 138:7** *Though I walk in the midst of trouble, you preserve my life; you stretch out your hand against the anger of my foes, with your right hand you save me.*

**Isa 43:2** *When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and when you pass through the rivers, they will not sweep over you. When you walk through the fire, you will not be burned; the flames will not set you ablaze.*

**2 Cor 12:9** *But he said to me, “My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness.” Therefore I will boast all the more gladly about my weaknesses, so that Christ’s power may rest on me.*

**Rev 21:4-5** *He will wipe every tear from their eyes. There will be no more death or mourning or crying or pain, for the old order of things has passed away. ■*