

A HARDENED HEART, OBEDIENCE & WORSHIP

EXODUS 4:18-31

Pharaoh's Hard Heart (v.21-22)

¹⁸ Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, "Please let me go back to my brothers in Egypt to see whether they are still alive." And Jethro said to Moses, "Go in peace." ¹⁹ And the Lord said to Moses in Midian, "Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead." ²⁰ So Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand.

²¹ And the Lord said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the miracles that I have put in your power. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go. ²² Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, Israel is my firstborn son, ²³ and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.'"

- **Did God harden Pharaoh's heart or did Pharaoh harden his own heart? _____.**

EXODUS 7:13; EXODUS 8:15 (See also 7:22; 8:32; 9:12,35; 10:1; 14:8)

- **Don't lose sight of the atrocity of this situation... God's son (Israel) is being _____ by a _____ (Pharaoh). God's desire and plan is for Israel to be freed from _____ so they can serve and worship Him!**
- **Pharaoh is an evil, _____ dictator and slave driver. God is a _____ that is liberating His people from _____!**

What The WHAT? One More Step Of Obedience (v.24-26)

²⁴ At a lodging place on the way the Lord met him and sought to put him to death. ²⁵ Then Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son's foreskin and touched Moses' feet with it and said, "Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me!" ²⁶ So he let him alone. It was then that she said, "A bridegroom of blood," because of the circumcision.

Circumcision was the sign of the covenant. It was a step of obedience in faith that the people trusted God. Moses had yet to circumcise his son, Gershom. Thank God for Zipporah, a godly wife who intervened for her husband and was obedient to God in faith!

²⁷ The Lord said to Aaron, "Go into the wilderness to meet Moses." So he went and met him at the mountain of God and kissed him. ²⁸ And Moses told Aaron all the words of the Lord with which he had sent him to speak, and all the signs that he had commanded him to do. ²⁹ Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the people of Israel. ³⁰ Aaron spoke all the words that the Lord had spoken to Moses and did the signs in the sight of the people. ³¹ And the people believed; and when they heard that the Lord had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshiped.

**The proper response to knowing God loves us, hears us and intervenes for us... _____
_____! (v.27-31)**

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- **Did God harden Pharaoh's heart or did Pharaoh harden his own heart? YES.**

EXODUS 7:13; EXODUS 8:15 (See also 7:22; 8:32; 9:12,35; 10:1; 14:8)

- **Don't lose sight of the atrocity of this situation... God's son (Israel) is being enslaved by a wicked man (Pharaoh). God's desire and plan is for Israel to be freed from slavery so they can serve and worship Him!**
- **Pharaoh is an evil, baby-killing dictator and slave driver. God is a good Father that is liberating His people from bondage!**

What The WHAT? One More Step Of Obedience (v.24-26)

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The proper response to knowing God loves us, hears us and intervenes for us... BELIEVING & WORSHIPPING! (v.27-31)