THE LIFE OF MOSES MOSES RETURNS TO EGYPT

PREPARATION FOR ENCOURAGEMENT - DISCOURAGEMENT

Exodus 5:1-23

INTRODUCTION Exodus chapter 5 will be a period of discouragement for both Moses and the Children of Israel. At end of chapter 4 we saw the Jews doing three things upon seeing the miracles of Moses and hearing the message the Lord gave them through Moses and Aaron – they believed – they bowed their heads – they worshiped. They have great faith at this point. Moses has been following God's instructions exactly as given. The time has come for Moses to encounter Pharaoh. The work of liberation rarely goes without much opposition. The battle is for God's people, the Israelites. The question is – "To whom do they belong?" The LORD says, "They're Mine!" Satan, through his pawn, Pharaoh, says, "They're mine!" Once the LORD announces, through Moses, His intention to emancipate the Jews, Satan increases his opposition. So great is the opposition that at the end of chapter 5 we will see Moses rejected, not only by Pharaoh, but also by his own people, the people of God. Satan has put a wedge between the people of God and the leaders God has sent to set them free. The situation is impossible and paraphrasing Moses' prayer in verses 22-23 – "Lord I didn't sign up for this!" What discouraging situation has God brought you into that you didn't sign up for?

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