

Moses Returns (4:18-26)

- Moses' first step is to ask his Jethro for permission to leave which is immediately granted.
- Moses takes all he has and returns to the land.
- God commands him to do miracles, but understand Pharaoh's heart will be hard.
- He reminds Pharaoh and Moses that Israel is his firstborn son.
- God seeks to kill Moses because he has not circumcised his son.
- Moses has failed to keep the covenant, which he knows better than to do.
- His wife knows what he should have done and does it herself.
- God seems to give Moses plenty of time to figure out why and stop his death.
- The first-born of Israel is only saved through blood.

Telling Israel and Pharaoh (4:27-5:5)

- God speaks to Aaron and commands him to meet Moses at Mt. Sinai.
- Together they go and Aaron shares with the people all Israel had done.
- The people believe Moses and worship God in gratitude.
- Pharaoh objects that he does not know God, why he should obey, and won't let Israel go.
- They say they must obey God to sacrifice or judgment will fall on them.
- Pharaoh objects that they are being lazy and need to work harder.

Bricks with Straw (5:6-23)

- Pharaoh responds by making their slavery even harsher.
- Instead of sending them to the wilderness, he scatters them in Egypt searching for straw.
- The punishment is directly because they wanted to sacrifice to God.
- The foremen of Israel complains and blames Moses and Aaron.
- Moses complains why this evil has happened with no deliverance.
- He accuses God of evil and of not keeping His promises.
- God's salvation never comes without suffering and death.

Promise of Deliverance (6:1-13)

- God responds by saying now His power will come.
- Seven times God promises "I will" and "I am the LORD" four times.
- He reminds Moses that He has now revealed His name.
- He promises to bring them back to the promised land.
- The people do not listen because they are broken.
- We don't listen to the promises of God when sin breaks us.
- Pharaoh was given the small chance to let Israel go, now it is a big one.
- Moses continues to complain that no one will listen.

Genealogy (6:14-30)

- Here we get the priestly line of Moses and Aaron.
- Their genealogy is different from Christ and the Kings.
- This would have been significant to audience so they can know who Moses and Aaron are.
- It does all the way to Aaron's grandson who is mentioned in Judges 20.
- A Canaanite woman is mentioned in verse 15.
- Several other women are mentioned in verses 20, 23, 25.

Before Pharaoh Again (7:1-13)

- God prepares them for how the meeting with Pharaoh again.
- He tells them that He is going to harden Pharaoh's heart and he will not listen.
- God's hand will be heavy on the Pharaoh's heart and on the land.
- But then the Egyptians will know who God is (6:2).
- They appeared to save God's people in their 80's.
- The main miracle they work before Pharaoh is the staff turning to a serpent.
- The wise men of Pharaoh imitate the miracle.
- But their serpents are swallowed up by Aarons.
- This foreshadows and shows the serpent will be swallowed up by God.
- But Pharaoh's heart is hardened and he does not listen.

Pharaoh's Hard Heart

- Is this something God did to Pharaoh or that Pharaoh did to himself?
- The answer is yes.
- God never forces people to do things against their will, but God does seem to influence what we will.
- Pharaoh has a hard heart and God hardens it instead of softens it.
- God waited for this particular Pharaoh. He didn't harden any random one's heart.
- We are free to do whatever we want, but we do not want righteous things without the aid of the Holy Spirit.

Application

- Sometimes God allows His people to face difficulties in order to show His power.
- Sin and suffering can blind us and make us forget God.
- God is always in control and has a plan for our deliverance.