



Part 8

**Called to be Tested and
Proved by Fire**

Exodus 1:6

In time, Joseph and all of his brothers died, ending that entire generation.

Exodus 1:7

But their descendants, the Israelites,
had many children and grandchildren.
In fact, they multiplied so greatly that
they became extremely powerful and
filled the land.

Exodus 1:8

Eventually, a new king came to power
in Egypt who knew nothing about
Joseph or what he had done.

Exodus 1:9

He said to his people, “Look, the people of Israel now outnumber us and are stronger than we are.

Exodus 1:10

We must make a plan to keep them from growing even more. If we don't, and if war breaks out, they will join our enemies and fight against us. Then they will escape from the country."

Exodus 1:11

So the Egyptians made the Israelites their slaves. They appointed brutal slave drivers over them, hoping to wear them down with crushing labor. They forced them to build the cities of Pithom and Rameses as supply centers for the king.

Exodus 1:12

But the more the Egyptians oppressed them, the more the Israelites multiplied and spread, and the more alarmed the Egyptians became.

Exodus 1:13

So the Egyptians worked the people of
Israel without mercy.

Exodus 1:14

They made their lives bitter, forcing them to mix mortar and make bricks and do all the work in the fields. They were ruthless in all their demands.

Exodus 1:15

Then Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, gave
this order to the Hebrew midwives,
Shiphrah and Puah:

Exodus 1:16

**“When you help the Hebrew women
as they give birth, watch as they
deliver. If the baby is a boy, kill him;
if it is a girl, let her live.”**

Exodus 1:17

But because the midwives feared God,
they refused to obey the king's orders.
They allowed the boys to live, too.

Exodus 1:18

So the king of Egypt called for the midwives. “Why have you done this?” he demanded. “Why have you allowed the boys to live?”

Exodus 1:19

“The Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women,” the midwives replied. “They are more vigorous and have their babies so quickly that we cannot get there in time.”

Exodus 1:20

So God was good to the midwives, and
the Israelites continued to multiply,
growing more and more powerful.

Exodus 1:21

And because the midwives
feared God, he gave them families
of their own.

Exodus 1:22

Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: “Throw every newborn Hebrew boy into the Nile River. But you may let the girls live.”

Exodus 2:23

Years passed, and the king of Egypt died. But the Israelites continued to groan under their burden of slavery. They cried out for help, and their cry rose up to God.

Exodus 2:24

God heard their groaning, and he remembered his covenant promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Exodus 2:25

He looked down upon the people of
Israel and knew it was time to act.

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Principle #1

When life becomes extremely hard, unfair, and is full of suffering (especially when the cause is entirely out of your control), it does NOT mean that you are out of God's will, out of His favor, or that He is punishing you.

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Principle #2

If you are a faithful believer and follower of Jesus Christ (who is not living in outright disobedience); you are exactly where you are, exactly when you are, going through exactly what you are because God's Good Plans must come to pass.

Genesis 15:13

Then the Lord said to Abram,
“You can be sure that your
descendants will be strangers in a
foreign land, where they will be
oppressed as slaves for 400 years.

Genesis 15:14

But I will punish the nation that enslaves them, and in the end they will come away with great wealth.

Genesis 46:3

**“I am God, the God of your father,”
the voice said to Jacob. “Do not be
afraid to go down to Egypt,
for there I will make your family
into a great nation.**

Genesis 46:4

I will go with you down to Egypt, and I will bring you back again. You will die in Egypt, but Joseph will be with you to close your eyes.”

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Principle #3

Because pain, suffering, and injustice are an unavoidable part of this fallen world, God lovingly chooses to use these curses as catalysts to grow us, mold us, transform us, and ultimately to bless His Kingdom and us.

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Principle #4

**You are exactly where you need to be,
at exactly the right time you need to
be there, going through exactly what
you are going through; because God
has you on a collision course to meet
Him and your destiny face to face.**

Principle #5

As a believing child of God, the Lord is always with you and is always interested in your life and its circumstances, ESPECIALLY IN TIMES OF PAIN, SUFFERING, AND INJUSTICE.

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Principle #6

**God has a purpose for your pain,
a reason for your sufferings, and
an eternal gift for your faithfulness.**

Principle #7

God sent His only begotten Son into the world to live and die without sin but not without pain, suffering, injustice, unfair circumstances, hardships, or difficulties.

Hebrews 5:7

While Jesus was here on earth,
he offered prayers and pleadings,
with a loud cry and tears, to the one
who could rescue him from death.
And God heard his prayers because of
his deep reverence for God.

Hebrews 5:8

Even though Jesus was God's Son,
he learned obedience from the things
he suffered.

Hebrews 5:9

In this way, God qualified him as a perfect High Priest, and he became the source of eternal salvation for all those who obey him.

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