**CHAPTER 1**

**TOPIC: UNPRECEDENTED GROWTH AND FRUITFULNESS**

**Text: Exodus 1:1-14**

Introduction: The Bible begins the story of Exodus with the genealogy of Jacob and his children, and gives correct account of the numbers of Jacob family members that were in Egypt at the beginning. God is interested in every detail of our lives and family that even the “hairs of our head are numbered”. This shows that there is nothing in us or around us that can escape His eyes of protection, ‘He that watches over us never sleeps nor slumbers’.

1. **God’s covenant of blessing, increase and multiplication V.7**

“The children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them”.

1. This is the covenant God gave to Abraham and his descendants after him. Gen.12:1-3; 15:5,6; 17:6,7; 22:15-18, 26:2-41,12-14; 30:41-43, 32:9-10.
2. Is this covenant of blessing and increase only for the Jewish people or does it extend to us the Gentiles? Gal. 3:13,14.
3. **Testimony of the new king of Egypt**

“And he said to his people, look the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we” vs 9. Here, the king of Egypt admitted the dominant power and greatness of God’s people. We must know that God has given dominion on earth to His covenant people. Dan. 7:27.

God’s original intention when He created the earth and every creature was to give dominion over the earth to man as long as He lived in obedience to Him. Gen.1:26-30. According to Gen.1:26, the reason God created man was to make him have dominion over all other creatures. He made man in His image and likeness so that man can rule as king on earth under God. Psalm 8:3-8.

Though man lost the kingship of the world to the devil due to sin of disobedience, our Lord Jesus who came in the likeness of the sinful man took away sin on the cross and restore dominion and kingship over the earth to man Cf Col. 2:14,15, Luke. 10:19, Rev.5:9-10. “But as many as received Him, to them He gave power (right) to become children of God, to those who believe in His name,” John 1:12.

1. **Envy breeds hatred vs 10-14**

The prosperity of the Jews in Egypt stirred up envy and hatred that led to a severe persecution of the children of Israel by the king of Egypt and his people.

In Gen.26:13,14, “the man began to prosper, and continued prospering until he became very prosperous, for he had possessions of flocks and possessions of herds and a great number of servants. So the Philistines envied him”. Here, the Bible said as a result of this envy by reason of his prosperity and greatness, they started persecuting him and eventually asked him to leave their city. God’s blessings on His children always provoke hatred and persecution from the devil and his children. Cf. Matt.5:11-12; 24:9, 10:22; John 15:18-20.

Exod.1:12- “the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew and they were in dread of the children of Israel”.

Afflictions or Persecution cannot stop God’s plans for His people. Covenant people grow stronger and mightier in times of trouble and persecution. Persecution becomes the fire of purification, so that like gold we shine better.

**CHAPTER 2**

**TOPIC. THE GATES OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL.**

**Text: EXODUS 1:15-22**

Introduction: When Pharaoh discovered that persecution, affliction and all kinds of suffering he brought upon the children of Israel, could not stop their fruitfulness and increase, he decided to use the Hebrew Midwives, so that all male children would be killed. Again, God intervened.

1. **God’s instrument of intervention;** “And he (pharaoh) said, “When you do the duties of the midwives for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birth stools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live.

But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children. vs 16,17.

Pharaoh ordered that only the male children should be killed, why? The Bible says “A man is the image and the glory of God, but the woman is the glory of man” – 1 Cor 11:7. The devil knows that once he captures man, the glory of God is taken. That is why in Genesis when the woman ate the forbidden fruit, nothing happened, but immediately she gave the husband (man) to eat, God came down. Once the head is cut off, the whole body will fall. That is why the bible says in Matt. 2:16 – ‘Then Herod, when he saw that he was deceived by the wise men, was exceedingly angry, and he sent forth and put to death all the male children who were in Bethlehem and in all its districts, from two years old and under, according to the time which he had determined from the wise men”. The “seed of the woman” Gen.3:15 will certainly be a man. The devil is at war with the male folk. The prophet who will bring Israel out of Egypt will certainly be a man, the devil knows that.

How did God intervene for His people? By putting His fear in the hearts of the midwives; “But the midwives feared God…..”. We should always pray that God will put His fear in the heart of all the people connected to us in one way or the other e.g our doctors, those working with us, like house helps, colleagues, bosses in the office etc. Sometimes He brings His fear, dread and terror upon the people to disarm them. “And they journeyed, and the terror of God was upon the cities that were all around them, and they did not pursue the sons of Jacob”. Gen 35:5

1. **God blessed the midwives;** “And so it was because the midwives feared God that He provided households for them” v 21

God rewards faithfulness, fear of God and obedience. And said, “By myself have I sworn, says the Lord, because you have done this thing and have not withheld your son, your only son – blessing I will bless you, and multiplying I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven and as the sand which is on the sea shores and your descendants shall possess the gate of their enemies. In your seed all the nations of the earth shall be blessed, because you have obeyed my voice”. Gen 22:16-18. “God dealt well with the midwives… and “He provided households for them” Ex 1:20,21.

1. **Pharaoh (the devil) never gives up –** “So Pharaoh commanded all his people; saying, “every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive” v. 22.

**CHAPTER 3**

**TOPIC: THE GODLY WOMAN IN PARTNERSHIP WITH GOD**

**TEXT: Exodus 2:1-10**

Introduction: It is interesting to know that whenever God draws programs of redemption and His eternal plan for man, He seeks for a godly woman to execute such plan. I believe that one of the reasons God partners a woman in His eternal program for humanity is because God created a woman to be a helper to man. In other word, it is a woman that helps a man to succeed or fail. Take for instance, after the fall of man in Genesis Chapter three, hear what God had to say to the devil in V 15 “And I will put enmity between you and the woman, and between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise your head, And you shall bruise His heel”. Every man has a woman that influences him positively or negatively – “But there was no one like Ahab who sold himself to do wickedness in the sight of the Lord because Jezabel his wife stirred him up”. 1Kings 21:25

1. **Sensitivity of the godly woman;** “So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months” v 2. There is no doubt that many times a woman is more sensitive in the spirit than man. May be because of her emotional attitude and tender heartedness; her spiritual antenna receives things in the spirit faster than that of man. Before now, Jochebed (mother of Moses) had had two children (Miriam and Aaron) before the king decreed that all male Jewish children born should be thrown into the river. Unfortunately, she had Moses after the decree was made. This is what the bible said about her, “When she saw that he was a beautiful child she hid him three months”. Here is what God said to Abraham about the children of Israel being in bondage in Egypt for four hundred years; Then He said to Abram; “Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterward they shall come out with great possessions”. Gen 15:13-14.

The time for fulfillment of the above prophecy was drawing near; the prophet must be raised for it. God in that generation found Jocheched qualified to partner with Him. Let us look at some qualities that are always seen in these women.

1. **They understand God’s program for their generation;** Jochebed saw a unique child that Moses was. She perceived God’s prophetic Spirit in him, even though he was still a baby. Rebecca understood God’s program by revelation that Jacob and not Esau would continue God’s prophetic Agenda for Abraham and his generation even though Esau was her first born (Gen. 25:22-23). Mary understood that the prophecy of Isaiah that a virgin will conceive shall surely come to pass, so that when Angel Gabriel brought the message of the messiah to be born by her, she received it. (Lk 1:26-38).
2. **Ability to hide / protect the truth God has given or revealed to them until the time of manifestation;** “She hid him three months”. They know that the fall of humanity came because Eve who was supposed to help the program God gave to Adam to succeed revealed the secret to the Serpent (the devil) Gen 3:1-3. Jochebed hid Moses for three months from being destroyed by Pharaoh and his agents. Mary had a place in her heart to keep everything that happened during the time of birth and childhood of Jesus Christ, Lk 2:19,51. The bible says “Esther had not revealed her people or family, for Modeccai had charged her not to reveal it”. Esth 2:10,20
3. **Full of Wisdom;** “But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid it in the reeds by the river’s bank” v 3. The godly woman who can partner with God to fulfill Divine prophecy is filled with the Spirit of Wisdom. The bible said when Jochebed could no longer hide Moses; she refused to give up, be confused or be discouraged. She knew God will always make a way for His people. She believed that when one door closes another one will open. She drew from the wisdom of the Holy Spirit inside her, understanding to make an ark of bulrushes for him, and laid it by the river bank. At that time, God directed Pharaoh’s daughter to go to bathe at the river. That was where the miracle started. Jochebed did not keep Moses and go to the house and sleep. She understood that for Moses to be a great deliverer and prophet God intended him to be, he must be given a good foundation. Here again, Jochebed knew the importance of foundation in human life – Ps 11;3. She kept her daughter Miriam to watch and inform her on what happen was going to the child. The whole thing worked out the way God wanted and Jochebed became Moses nurse.

Can you partner with God to bring Divine prophecies to pass in your generation?

**CHAPTER 4**

**TOPIC. THE DANGER OF NOT WAITING FOR GOD’S TIME**

**Text: Exodus 2:11-15**

Introduction: The word of God says “I returned and saw under the sun that – The race is not to the swift, Nor the battle for the strong, Nor the bread for the wise, Nor riches to men of understanding. Nor favour to men of skill; But time and chance (season) happen to them all”. Eccl. 9:11. Time and season are crucial in fulfilling Divine prophecy. Actually, times and season dictate what you become. So knowing God’s time for your life and ministry is key to fulfillment of His purpose.

1. **Knowing where you belong; “**Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to see his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren” v. 11. Moses knew that though he was brought up in the palace of the king of Egypt as the son of the daughter of Pharaoh, he did not belong there. Though he answered an Egyptian name, and had all the privileges of the prince in the palace that bible declares “By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward” Heb. 11:24-26

Moses went out to see his brethren, and to know how they were with their burden and suffering. Moses knew he was born and called to be a deliverer of his people, no amount of comfort and pleasure could kill God’s burden and desire to fulfill his ministry. The palace glory and favour did not affect God’s calling in his life. Moses knew that though he was in the world (Egypt), he was not of the world (Egyptians); “do not love the world or the things in the world; if anyone loves the world, the love of the father is not in him. For all that is in the world – the lust of the flesh, the lust of the eyes, and pride of life- is not of the father but is of the world” 1Jn. 2:15-16.

1. **Doing it at the wrong Time;** Moses couldn’t stand and watch an Egyptian beating a Hebrew. Perhaps the same way David couldn’t watch Goliath defied the army of the Living God – I Sam 17:22-26. The prophetic Spirit in these men won’t allow them watch men insult their God and His people. Moses knew that though the Israelites where in bondage in Egypt, and enslaved by Egyptians that they were special a covenant people of God above all people of the earth” Exod. 19:5-6. They should therefore, not be maltreated as common criminals. Since it was not the time and the way God wanted Moses to do it, he faced some problems.
2. **There was no hiding place for what he did** “So Moses feared and said, surely this thing is known; V 14. Normally when we are trying to do God’s work in our own way and time we will certainly misfire, and even sometimes break national law. Moses now had a murder case on his neck.
3. **The people will not receive his ministry v 13,14.** When you want to start a ministry at the wrong time, you will face resistance even from the people you are going to save and minister to. Moses thought the people will support what he did but alas they rejected and even questioned his authority.
4. **Open door for an attack;** “When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well” v 15

**CHAPTER 5**

**TOPIC: FROM PALACE PRINCE TO SHEPHERD MAN**

**Text: Exodus 2:16-25**

Introduction: It is easier in life experience to move from the bottom to the top, than from top to the bottom. This is regarded as retrogression. Having spent 40years of his life in the palace, as Pharaoh’s daughter’s son. “And was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds” Acts 7:22. It was not easy for him to condescend to a low life in the priest’s house whose means of livelihood was keeping the flocks. God had a purpose for Moses by passing him through this way of life for upwards of 40years, to prepare him for the type of ministry He had for him; taking care of God’s flock. It is said of our Lord Jesus – “though He was a son, yet He learned obedience by the things which He suffered Heb. 5:8. Moses said this to the children of Israel in Deut 8:2,3 “And you shall remember that the Lord your God led you all the way these forty years in the wilderness, to humble you and test you, to know what was in your heart, whether you would keep His commandments or not. So he humbled you, allowed you to hunger, and fed you with manner which you did not know nor did your fathers know, that He might make you know that man shall not live by bread alone; but man lives by every word that proceeds from the mouth of the Lord” Experiencing both sides of life (wilderness and milk/honey) gives one a balance life.

1. **Do not forget to do good vs 16,17** “Do not forget to entertain strangers, for by so doing some have unwittingly entertained Angels”. Heb 13:2. When Moses helped the daughters of the priest of Midian to water their father’s flock, little did he know he was helping his Angels of destiny.
2. **Good work (gift) of a man makes a way for him vs 18-22.** Moses help to Reuel’s daughter was reported to their father, who invited him home, and from there got him a place to stay in his house. Moses was given the priest’s daughter for marriage and he took up his father’s-in-law business of keeping flock.
3. **God never forgets vs 23-25** “Call to me, and I will answer you, and show you great and mighty things which you do not know” Jer 33:3. God heard the cry and groaning of His people in Egypt and remembered the covenant He made with their fathers. We must believe that God hears all our prayers, even when it takes long. “And shall God not avenge His own elect who cry out day and night to Him, though He bears long with them?” Luke 18:7.

CHAPTER 6.

TOPIC: THE CALL OF GOD

Text: Exodus. 3:1-6

Introduction:. Towards the closing of the previous chapter of Exodus, we were told that God heard the cry and groaning of His people in Egypt (Exod. 2:23-25). To answer their prayers, He needed a human instrument He will use to deliver, and bring them out of their bondage, and this is where Moses fits in, He was the right person, with the right mind and experience for the job. By this time he had spent another forty years, keeping his father’s-in-law flocks. So forty years with the highest form of education of his time, and a prince trained to be the next Pharaoh and forty years as a shepherd, with some knowledge of principles of priesthood, was enough for him (under the guidance of the Holy Spirit) to lead a complicated nation from Egypt on their way to the promised land for another forty years. His rich knowledge of the palace protocol, as one who was once a prince would definitely help him in his approach to Pharaoh on how to confront him on issues about the deliverance of Israelites from Egypt. How often does God seek for a man in our time whom He will pass through and bring deliverance to our generation (Ps 89:20, Ezek 22:30, Isa 59:16)

1. **Caught tending the flock v 1**. The Bible has shown us that most of the people God called to serve him were often called while doing something. God does not call lazy people. The work of God itself needs hardwork for one to succeed. Let us see some of those who were called as recorded in the Bible;
2. Elisha – was plowing with twelve yoke of Oxen – 1King 19:19
3. Amos – Sheep -breeder and a tender of sycamore fruit- Amos 7:14/15
4. Matthew – Sitting in the tax office – Matt. 9:9
5. Peter, James and John – were Fishermen – Lk 5:8-11
6. Paul – on the way to carry out his assignment as a Pharisee -Act 9:1-16
7. **Burning Bush experience vs 1-4.** One question that always comes to mind whenever I read this passage is; why did God show Moses the burning bush? I believe strongly that God needed Moses’ attention and concentration before He could speak to him. “So when the Lord saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, “Moses, Moses!” And he said “Here I am!!” v 4. Sometimes, one could be so occupied that God may not get his attention nor instruct him. God wanted to draw Moses’ attention from the flock which was his major focus point. In the case of Jacob, God wanted him to leave his flock and family and to be alone for God to meet with him. Gen 32:22-24. Elijah needed to travel forty days and nights to mount Horeb for God to meet with him. 1Kings 19:7-9. How often do you separate from every other thing and wait on the Lord?
8. **It is a Holy walk vs 5,6.** Before the Lord introduced Himself to Moses, He gave him a condition he must fulfill; “Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is a holy ground”. The Sandals is the symbol of what he was use to do, his former way of life, or his former profession. He was about to be given a new assignment from God- His new prophetic ministry. This is his destiny. Shoe speaks of Ministry- “Gospel of Peace”. To receive from God he had to put off the former. This ministry is to be carried out under the Holy walk with God. “When Abram was ninety-nine years old, the Lord appeared to Abram and said to him, “I am Almighty God; walk before Me and be blameless” Gen. 17:1. God introduced Himself as soon as Moses obeyed and removed his shoes.

**CHAPTER 7**

**TOPIC: THE PURPOSE OF THE CALL**

**Text: Exodus 3:7-17**

Introduction:. When God calls a man, He has a definite, well-detailed assignment for him to do. God does not call us to be busybodies, but to do His work. God took time to explain to Moses what He wanted him to do, and assured him of His presence. After all, “He is in us, to will and to do of His good pleasure” Phil. 2:13. For whatever God wants to do on earth, He has to partner with the man He gave the earth to. For God to bring salvation and redemption to mankind, He had to become man. It is through man God reach out to man.

1. **Explanation of the purpose; vs 7-9.** The Lord took time to explain to Moses the situation and condition of the children of Israel in Egypt and how they have cried out to Him for intervention. He did not only hear but saw the level of oppression they were going through, and in response to their cry, He has come down to bring them out of their bondage.
2. In explaining the purpose, God wanted Moses to have a clear picture of the sufferings of the Israelites, so that he can key into this purpose by bearing the same burden with God, and feeling the pains the people were going through. Then the Lord answered me and said; “Write the vision and make it plain on tablets, that he may run who reads it”. Hab 2:2. God’s vision should be clearly defined, before running with it.
3. By explaining the purpose, God wanted to remind Moses of what he could not fulfill as a young man in Exod 2:11-12; liberation of his people from Egypt’s cruel oppression, and that it was time because He, God was going with him to Egypt to make sure that this time, Moses got it right.
4. **God’s invitation to Moses, v 10.** God expected Moses by this time to get the full picture of what He wanted him to see. So this time, He gave him an invitation to come to Him so that He will send him to Egypt to bring out the children of Israel from the house of bondage. Note; the invitation is to Moses, and after that, the massage and the errand. “Then He appointed twelve, that they might be with Him and that He might send them out to preach”. Mk 3:14 God said to Moses. “Come now, …..”
5. **God called us first to be with Him;** It is in being with Him, that we’ll learn His ways, understand the mission, receive power and anointing to carry out the mission. “But if they had stood in my counsel, and had caused my people to hear My word, then they would have turned them from their evil way and from the evil of their doings.” Jer 23:22.
6. **Send us on errand or mission;** God’s mission for Moses was “I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel out of Egypt”. This is the usual pattern of Divine mission; meet first with pharaoh (Demonic power that holds the people in captivity) Matt. 12:29, before the people can be released.
7. **Moses objection; v 11** Moses remembered that the first attempt he made to release the people was greeted with serious problems both from the Israelite and Pharaoh which led to his flight. He did not see himself qualified for such assignment, from his point of view. He thought may be the murder case on his neck could be revived if he eventually meets with Pharaoh. He was battling with the issue of acceptability by the people of Israel. All these made him to turn down the call of God.
8. **God insisted and assured him of His presence; v 12.** God understood Moses’ fear, so He kept on assuring him of His presence throughout the time of his assignment.
9. **Moses seeks for deeper understanding of God; v 13**. This led to a new revelation of God’s name in Exod. 3:14: Moses wanted to have a full knowledge of the God he was going to present to both the Jews and Pharaoh. To be successful in ministry there must be a strong desire to know God more and more. Paul the Apostle said, “That I may know Him and the power of His resurrection….” Phil 3:10. The Lord Jesus said to the woman of Samaria, “You worship what you do not know; we know what we worship,…..” Jn 4:22. Do you really know what you worship?
10. **God told Moses His name; “I AM WHO I AM”** – The Lord God that was, is and is to come, the unchangeable God, because what I say I will do, I will certainly do it. So you can trust me, I am not just God of the past; I am present and will be forever. This name was to assure Moses of His unchanging promise.
11. **God’s emphasis on His name that the children of Israel were familiar with (covenant name) vs. 15-17.** The Lord in vs. 15 and 16 repeatedly referred Moses to His covenant name that the people of Israel will be familiar with. Remember, ‘I AM’ was a new name that even Moses himself was hearing for the first time. The people of Israel will hearken to him fast once he tells them that the ‘God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob’ sent him. They knew God had promised their fathers that He will give them a land of their own, the land of the Canaanites etc. Hearing that the God of their fathers had appeared to Moses and directed him to them will be received with excitement.

CHAPTER 8

TOPIC: INVOLVE THE VICTIMS

TEXT: Exodus. 3;18-22

Introduction: Every successful deliverance must involve the people that are being oppressed. The deliverance ministers alone without the cooperation of the person(s) may not be able to deliver them. Pertinent to point out that, in deliverance ministration, the victims or people who are being oppressed cannot deliver themselves. A deliverance minister (someone God has chosen or anointed for it), must lead in the deliverance exercise. God asking Moses to gather the elders of the people, talk to them and let them follow him to confront Pharaoh, shows that issues of deliverance need wholistic approach, ‘all hands must be on deck’.

1. **Convince the people who need deliverance; v 18.** “Then they will heed your voice”. In the previous verses, we saw how God repeatedly told Moses to relate to the people of Israel the promise He gave to their fathers; that He will give them and their descendants a land of their own. “On the same day the Lord made a covenant with Abram, saying; To your descendants I have given this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the River Euphrates – the Kenites, the Kenezzites, the Kadmonites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites, and the Jebusites” Gen 15:18-21. For God to fulfill this promise to them, Moses had to preach this massage to them with emphasis until they were convinced and believed God’s word to them. We saw a similar thing in 1Kings 18, when God asked Elijah to show himself to Ahab, so that He will send rain on the land. Elijah gathered the people and Ahab in mount camel, preached to them and even made altar call. When God sent fire to consume Elijah’s sacrifice, the people of Israel from that moment turned away from Baal to God. “Now when all the people saw it, they fell on their faces; and they said, “The Lord, He is God! The Lord He is God! I kings 18:39. In the destruction of the altar and the prophets of Baal, Elijah involved the people. “And Elijah said to them, “Seize the prophets of Baal! Do not let one of them escape!’ So they seized them; and Elijah brought them to the Brook Kishon and executed them there. 1kings 18:40.
2. **Go with the Elders to Pharaoh v 18.** The Elders are very crucial in any deliverance program. They are the representatives of the people, whatever they do; they do it on behalf of the people. They know the history of the family, land and nation; they know the names of the gods their fathers used to worship. They are custodians of the traditions of the people. In the case of Moses they will understand the promise God gave to their fathers; Going with Elders was like Moses going with the entire people of Israel. Again when Pharaoh will see Moses and the Elders of Israel, he will know that it is a serious matter. It is God sending His strong delegation to Pharaoh.
3. **The message to Pharaoh; v** 18. The message to Pharaoh was in three fol.
   1. “the Lord God of the Hebrew has met with us”
   2. “we are to go three days journey into the wilderness”
   3. “so that we can sacrifice to the Lord our God”
4. **“The Lord God of the Hebrews has met with us”;**

For the message to be given, God had to meet with the messenger. The massage to release people from bondage and help them fulfill prophetic destiny, must not come out from our minds, thought or anybody, but must come from God. That is why some deliverances are not successful and people are not free, because the message we give to Pharaoh (Satan) does not have its root in the word of God. Let’s remember the example of our Lord Jesus Christ in Matt 4, when the Devil was tempting Him, and how He defeated him with the word of God; “It is written”

The reason we may not received the right message from God for deliverance is because we have not met with Him. How do we meet with God? We meet with God in prayers and the study of His word. Spend time in His presence and let God’s words dwell richly in you.

1. **“We are to go three days Journey into the wilderness”;** God wants the children of Israel to go on three days journey. It is a deeper relationship with God. We have to go far with Him.
2. **“So that we can sacrifice to the Lord our God”;** The ultimate purpose of this message is to worship the Lord. Pharaoh will understand the importance of sacrifice to God, because he does sacrifice to his gods. He knows the reaction he gets from these gods, if he failed to sacrifice to them. God Almighty will always give His message in the language the person(s) that He is sending the massage to, will understand. Worship is the central theme of God’s relationship with His people. You will recall that in verse 12, God had told Moses, “…. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you; when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain”.
3. **“Pharaoh’s hardness of heart”;** v 19-20. In order to prepare Moses for the type of person He was sending him to; God told him that pharaoh will be hardened. Moses should not be in a hurry or be discouraged when he sees the stubborn attitude of Pharaoh. This is exactly what happens when we are dealing with ancients’ spirit or foundational issues. Do not forget that Pharaoh is a type of Satan. There will always be resistance; there is no automatic result in the deliverance ministration. We must be patient and consistent in prayer, following the direction and revelation of the Holy Spirit. God had assured Moses that Pharaoh will let the people go, after he had witnessed the demonstration of His power and destruction of the gods of Egypt. No matter the resistance from the enemy, victory is sure for His children
4. **They will not go out empty handed; v 21 &22** Demonic oppression goes with frustration and poverty. The Israelites were not paid for the hard labour they did in Egypt. God’s deliverance comes with restoration and blessings; “I will restore to you the years that the swarming locust has eaten, the crawling locust, the consuming locust, and the chewing locust, my great army which I sent among you” Joel 2:25.

**CHAPTER 9**

**TOPIC. PROOF OF THE CALL**

**Text. Exodus 4:1-9**

Introduction:. Since the Almighty God cannot be seen with physical human eyes; “But he said, You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live”. Exod. 33:20. Also, our finite mind cannot condone infinite God; so it becomes imperative that God reveals Himself to His people through the manifestation of His power. When the people witness the display of His power through signs and wonders, they will have strong conviction of the reality of His person. It will increase the faith of His people. Moses needed more concrete evidence to prove that it was God who sent him. Rom 15;18-19; 2Cor 12:11-12. Exo 8:19.

1. **Moses seeks for more proof;** V. 1. Moses’ major trouble was that of acceptability and trust of the people of Israel. Moses thought that the people may not believe him. He kept allowing the past to hunt him. We face this kind of situation often, when we receive Divine assignment or call. When we look at our background and past failures (especially if we have attempted to do something before in that direction and failed), our frailties and inadequacies may hinder us. This is usually what the enemy uses to make us disqualify ourselves even when God has qualified us. The feeling of rejection by the people made Moses to constantly try to refuse the call. The statement; “Who made you a prince and a judge over us?” )Exod.2:14) kept ringing in his heart each time God speaks to him to go and meet with them. Paul had this to say when he faced a similar situation as the former persecutor of the church; “For I am the least of the Apostles, who am not worthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God”. 1 Cor 15:9. Instead of allowing his past to weigh him down, rather, in trying to pay back for his past sin, he said “But by the grace of God I am what I am, and His grace toward me was not in vain; but *I laboured more abundantly than they all*, yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me” 1 Cor 15:10. Moses was saying, ‘Lord, this people never believed me, so even if I go to them now and relate what you have said to me, they will still not believe there must be something more practical that should be done to convince them”
2. **God gave him evidences; V 2-9** God gave Moses three witnesses of miracles to authenticate his call.
3. **Staff turned into snake**; Vs 2-5 God changed Moses’ shepherd staff to become instrument of miracles. Note that staff in the bible is a symbol of authority. When God asked him to cast the staff (rod) on the ground, its symbolized God’s demand for total submission. The staff was Moses’ identity, profession, means of livelihood and instrument of discipline. The ground where he was standing was a Holy ground. Holy because God was there. It is only in His presence that life can be transformed, common things can be changed to Divine instrument, power and authority can be given. When the boy of John 6, gave his five loaves of bread and two small fishes to the master, little did he know that after feeding five thousand, persons that he will go home with twelve baskets of pieces of bread and fish. Everything we surrender to Lord becomes instrument of miracle. God will supernaturally use these beyond our comprehension. Why snake? Snake symbolizes God’s Judgment. The massage to the Jews was that God had seen the killing of male children and the cruel oppression that the children of Israel were going through in Egypt. So God had come to judge Pharaoh, the Egyptians and the gods of Egypt.
4. **The hand turned leprous; vs 6-8.** The second sign the Lord gave was that Moses’ hand in his bosom turned leprous. The hand of Moses, being God’s representative symbolized the hand of God that was to come upon Egypt for judgment. Remember the first judgment was judgment of death (snake). Numb 21:5-9. But the second was judgment of affliction and plague. Leprosy is a plague that alienates the victim from his family, people, society etc. God’s message of leprosy is that He will so much plague Egypt that Egypt will be abhorred, and alienated from all her neighbors. It will be like Ebola. Anybody who heard what happened in Egypt will never want to go there
5. **Water turned to blood; v 9** The third sign symbolized God’s judgment on the economy of Egypt. The major source of Egyptian economy was agriculture; which comprised of farming and fishing. Water from the rivers of Egypt was used in irrigation. The turning of water from the river into blood symbolized God’s judgment on the entire economy of Egypt. In so doing, were unable to farm or fish.

Again, since the king of Egypt ordered that the Jewish male children be thrown into the rivers of Egypt, the blood of these children would surely cry unto God for judgment and the whole of Egypt will flow with blood like the river.

**CHAPTER 10**

**TOPIC:. STOP PROVOKING GOD WITH YOUR FLIMSY EXCUSES.**

**TEXT: Exodus. 4:10-19**

**Introduction**: God was getting tired of Moses’ excuses and complaints, despite all the assurances He gave him. The whole thing was turning to unbelief on the part of Moses. God wanted him to know that there was nothing he will say or do that will change God’s mind. “For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable” Rom 11:29. We just have to obey, for if we insist on not doing God’s word or work, we will attract God’s anger and judgment.

1. **Moses complaint of lack of eloquence v 10-12;** Moses considered that such assignment that God gave to him required an eloquent speaker or someone who had the gift of oratory. What Moses forgot here is that before God chooses a man for any assignment He must have prepared him for it. What we should know is that it is God’s Spirit that is doing the work through us. “But when they deliver you up, do not worry about how or what you should speak. For it will be given to you in that hour what you should speak. For it is not you who speak; but the Spirit of your Father who speaks in you”. Matt. 10:19-20.
2. God made the mouth and all the communication organs in the human body. So, He knows how to fine tune them, perform either at a low or high level. God went as far as telling Moses that He made even the dumb etc. “Now therefore, go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall say”. v 12.
3. **God refused to answer Moses’ prayer, v 13.** Moses pleaded with God to send another person. What Moses forgot here is that God’s word is not suggestive but a command, that is why He is a Sovereign God. If God had seen another person, He would not have called him. Another question Moses needed to have asked himself was; “why was he not thrown into the river like every other child that was born in his time?”. God preserved him because of this divine assignment. If he would not obey and go for the mission, then he had no reason to live. May be he should listen to what God told Jeremiah; “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, before you were born I sanctified you; I ordained you a prophet to the nations”. Jer 1:5.
4. **God gave Moses an assistant; v 14-17**. The Lord was not happy with Moses stubbornness and refusal to heed to the call. So He gave him an assistant, after all, “two heads are better than one”
5. **God chose his brother Aaron to be his assistant; vs 14-16**. On this mission, Aaron was to be his spokesman because earlier he had complained that he was not eloquent, but was slow in speech. With Aaron as an assistant, God solved the problem. To succeed in ministry, you need a partner. You will notice that the Lord Jesus always put his disciples in groups when sending them for evangelism. Luke 10:1; Matt 10:1-5
6. **He must go with the rod of signs and wonders; v. 17.** Another companion Moses had to go with was his rod of signs and wonders. This is because after the word is spoken by Aaron, the rod needed to cause the word to be confirmed with signs and wonders. Mk 16:20. These were the most important partnership Moses needed to succeed in his ministry, the human instrument that will communicate the massage, and the rod of miracles that will confirm the massage.
7. **Preparation to go on the mission vs 18-19.**
8. **Moses returned to inform his immediate family**; v 18. He went back and met his family and father-in-law, to tell them the mission God was sending him to His people in Egypt. The father-in-law encouraged him. Sometimes, you need the support of your family, especially your wife and children to succeed in your mission or program.
9. **God gave Moses the good news; v. 19**. The Lord laid to rest all the things that were making Moses to drag his feet in going back to Egypt. It was indeed a good and encouraging news for Moses to know that the Pharaoh and all the people that sought his life were dead. There was no more fear because God would always make ways for His people.

**CHAPTER 11**

**TOPIC: MOSES RETURNED TO EGYPT**

**TEXT: Exodus 4:20-31**

Introduction: Moses finally harkened to the Lord and returned to Egypt. God had prepared him in the wilderness, by dealing with all the obstacles that were placed on his way. Some of which were; fear, doubt, all forms of inferiority complex, and self-disqualification etc. The Lord used His word and presence to deal with the issues; “Sanctify them by your truth, your word is truth”. John 17:17, Eph 5:26. Another thing God did in order to prepare him for the mission was to anoint him through the power of His word “…… The words that I speak to you are spirit, and they are life”. Jn 6:63. God also equipped him with His power and Authority (the rod) … And Moses took the rod of God in his hand”. v 20.

1. **Moses went with everything he had; V 20.** Moses’ readiness to obey God and do everything He had commanded him, was demonstrated when he took his wife and children, plus his rod. Moses was not ready to go back to Midian no matter what he saw in the mission field. Moses taking his family along shows he has not with held anything from the Lord in obedience to the commission (calling). Moses going with his entire family was an indication that he had overcome his fears. Moses taking his wife and children was a demonstration of faith in the word of God. God had promised to be with him, so nothing will happen to him or members of his family. He wanted to concentrate on the work God called him to do, because a divided family will cause him serious distraction.
2. **God’s massage to pharaoh; v 21-23**.
3. **Pharaoh’s hardness of heart predicted; v 21.** It is quite amazing to see that God’s miracles and wonders that was supposed to move Pharaoh to obey God, will rather hardened him? Would you be surprised to know that there are people who even though God performed miracle and brought a dead person back to life, would still not be converted? When God sends his word and demonstrates His power, He has two things in Mind:
4. Obey and believe, then you will be saved;
5. Disobey and be hardened; then face judgment or condemnation. Mark 16:16; Matt 10:14,15. God intended to judge Pharaoh for all the evil he did to the children of Israel that was why He hardened his heart.
6. “R**elease my firstborn or risk loosing your first born”; v 22,23.** Israel as a nation of God was His firstborn, just as the Church is His firstborn (Heb 12:23). So the message of God to Pharaoh was; “Release my firstborn to go and worship me, or I will kill your firstborn”. God was determined to get the children of Israel out of Egypt, but not until He had punished and judged Pharaoh and his people for all the maltreatment of the people of God. “Since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you” 2 Thess 1:6.
7. **God demands for covenant sign; v 24-26** “And the uncircumcised male child, who is not circumcised in flesh of his foreskin, that person shall be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant” Gen 17:14. Since Moses was going to meet with the children of Israel, God had expected him to circumcise his son. While at midian, God never made a covenant with Midianites, and so the covenant could not be invoked. But now that God had met with Moses, given him His word, that he was sending him to Egypt to meet with the nation of Israel (God’s covenant people), everyone in his household (male) was expected to be circumcised. I perhaps, Moses might have forgotten that his son who was born in Midian was not circumcised. I perceived that Zipporah (Moses’ wife), was the reason why the son was not circumcised, because it was not their tradition. She might have said thus; “I can’t with stand seeing my son in such pains”. I also think that Moses might have reminded her before they left Midian of the need for the son to be circumcised. That was why she quickly perceived that the death that was coming had something to do with the son’s circumcision.
8. **Moses met with Aaron; v 27-29.** God spoke to Aaron to go and meet Moses. It is not enough to follow someone to do the work of ministry because the person said God told him. Try and let the Lord speak to you or give you a conviction so that whatever you will be told later will be a confirmation. When you hear from God, it will give you confidence in the face of any challenging situation. Remember’ God had told Moses that Aaron his brother will assist him in the mission, but the Lord still had to talk to Aaron.
9. **Moses and Aaron met with elders of Israel; v 29-31.** In line with God’s instruction, Moses and Aaron met with the elders of Israel. They did all the signs God gave to them before the people. And the people believed and worship God. This time, Moses and his mission were accepted by the people. It was the appropriate time. Prophetic timing is important in carrying out Divine assignment.

**CHAPTER 12**

**TOPIC: MOSES MET WITH PHARAOH**

**TEXT: Exodus 5:1-14**

Introduction: Meeting with Pharaoh was the crucial point of Moses’ mission in Egypt, because this defined the theme and purpose of his mission. His message centered on meeting with Pharaoh, since the message God gave him was directed to pharaoh. Let us see how the whole event, actions and reactions began to unfold in the palace of the king of Egypt.

1. **The message to pharaoh; v 1** The message to Pharaoh was short, simple and direct; “Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to Me in the wilderness”. God’s message, whether that of salvation, judgment, etc, are simple and straight. At times, it can be so simple that the person He sends the message to may not take it seriously. Take for instance the message He gave through Noah to the world of his time, that He will destroy the world with flood. How many people then did believe him? Though the bible, God called Noah a preacher of righteousness, he was only able to save his household 2 Pet 2:5; Heb 11:7. In talking about the simplicity of the gospel, Paul called it “….the foolishness of the message preached” 1 Cor 1:21. In verse 23, he said “but we preach Christ crucified, to the Jews a stumbling block and to the Greeks foolishness”. Isaiah saw the entire redemption work of Christ, then asked the question; “Who has believed our report? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?” Isaiah 53:1. Beloved, you can never be confused by God because “He is not the author of confusion” since men have refused the simplicity of God’s message, the devil has given them all kinds of so called secret knowledge in the form of: occultism, astral projection, false religions, metaphysics mysticism, etc. 2 Thess 2:9-12.
2. **Pharaoh’s reaction to the message; V 2**. The first reaction of Pharaoh was to deny the knowledge of the God of Israel, and that he did not owe the God of Israel any obligation to obey His voice. Perhaps, in the mind of pharaoh, he must have thought to himself that if the nation of Israel could be in bondage in Egypt for over four hundred years, without any reaction from their God, he must as well ignore His voice. Pharaoh did not know that God was waiting for the appointed time. Gal 4:4. To Moses and his assistant Aaron, it was not a surprise, because God had warned them repeatedly that Pharaoh will be hardened. The response of Pharaoh to the Lord’s message was not only mean, but an insult to Him and God was willing to make Himself known to Pharaoh, since he requested for it, but that in judgment.
3. **Again Pharaoh ignored the plea of Moses and Aaron; v 3,4.** Moses told Pharaoh how the Lord met with them, and pleaded with him to let them go, so that they can worship the Lord in the wilderness.

Note: The purpose of Israel leaving Egypt was to worship; Moses never mentioned the land of milk and honey (blessing). The worship of God was his message. Indeed, God’s primary aim of creating man, was to worship Him. Rev 4:11. How do we present God’s message to the world? What do we emphasize in our message / presentation? Is it returning man back to God to worship Him or it is prosperity? Read Matt 6:33.

1. **Pharaoh increased the punishment for the people and placed them on hard labour; V 5-14**. The reaction of Pharaoh here can be compared to what happened to the three Hebrew boys in Babylon when they refused to worship the image of gold that king Nebuchadnezzar made “Then Nebuchadnezzar was full of fury, and the expression on his face changed towards Shedrach, Meshack and Abednego. He spoke and commanded that they heat the furnace seven times more than it was usually heated” Dan 3:19. This is usually the devil’s initial reaction, when someone is seeking deliverance from his kingdom. He will increase the attack so much that if the person is not careful, he may not want to continue. So Pharaoh got angry that God had sent a deliverer to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt, and therefore decided not to give them raw materials for the building. Instead, he commanded that they should sort for the raw materials themselves, and still produce the same numbers of bricks. This action was targeted at discouraging Moses and Aaron, and setting the people against them. The children of Israel will now see Moses and Aaron as the cause of their problem and not Pharaoh. How often do we blame pastors and even church for our problems?

**CHAPTER 13**

**TOPIC: THE INITIAL SET BACK**

**TEXT. Exodus 5:15-23**

**Introduction:** Sometimes, starting something is difficult,especially when you are confronted with unexpected challenges. To the children of God, when God gives us a vision, or speaks to us about His plan or what He will do in our lives, we will like to see everything happening quickly and with a positive result. When we do not see it the way God revealed to us, we get discouraged and disappointed, and sometimes we doubt if God had actually spoken to us. This was the case of Moses and Aaron.

1. **The Elders of Israel complained to Pharaoh; v 15,16.** Where do we go to when we are confronted with challenges and problems? Is it right to go to the same person who oppresses us to complain of our oppression? Read the story in 2 kings 1:2-6. How often do some believers because of desperation run to false prophets who are the agents of the same Satan that fights them to seek for solution?. Listen to what God says; “Woe to those who go down to Egypt for help, and rely on horses, who trust in chariots because they are many. And in horsemen because they are very strong, But who do not look to the Holy one of Israel, Nor seek the Lord!” Isa. 31:1. The Lord sent Moses and Aaron to the children of Israel who did all the miracles before them in order to convince them to believe that they re His messengers. Therefore if they had encountered any problem they should have first consulted with Moses to receive counsel from the Lord. Isa. 55:6; Jer 29:11-14
2. **Pharaoh turned them against Moses and Aaron; v 17-**21. Pharaoh wanted them to see that the deliverance that Moses claimed God sent him to bring them out of bondage in Egypt was rather going to bring them more problems and increase their sorrow. Pharaoh wanted them to back out of the deliverance agenda of Moses and Aaron, or he will increase their pains and sorrow. Sometimes the devil would want to turn you against your pastor and fellow brethren, so that you see them as the cause of your woes. The bible calls it, ‘the wiles of the devil’. Eph 6:11. At times, he will manipulate your dream life, and paint a picture of the wrong enemy. (Jer 23:28-29).
3. **Moses’ discouragement; v 22,23.** At this point Moses couldn’t help but went to God and complained of the people’s problem, and even questioned why God sent him. Have you reached a point in your life when you have asked God a similar question? “Why is it You have sent me?” “For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people; neither have You delivered Your people at all”. That you have not seen sign of deliverance doesn’t mean that God has not started it. Hold unto God and persevere in your prayers. Do not give up because you are seeing negative things, or your expectations have not yet been met. God is on the throne.