



Lesson 5

Psalm 113:5

Who is like the Lord our God? He sits on His throne in Heaven.

Bricks Without Straw

Exodus 5:1–21

¹Later on, Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh. They said, “The Lord is the God of Israel. He says, ‘Let My people go. Then they will be able to hold a feast to honour Me in the desert.’”

²Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord? Why should I obey Him? Why should I let Israel go? I don’t even know the Lord. And I won’t let Israel go.”

³Then Moses and Aaron said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Now let us take a journey that lasts about three days. We want to go into the desert to offer sacrifices to the Lord our God. If we don’t, He might strike us with plagues. Or He might let us be killed by swords.”

⁴But the king of Egypt said, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their work? Get back to work!” ⁵Pharaoh continued, “There are large numbers of your people in the land. But you are stopping them from working.”

⁶That same day Pharaoh gave orders to the slave drivers and the overseers in charge of the people. ⁷He said, “Don’t give the people any more straw to make bricks. Let them go and get their own straw. ⁸But require them to make the same number of bricks as before. Don’t lower the number they have to make. They are lazy. That’s why they are crying out, ‘Let us go. We want to offer sacrifices to our God.’ ⁹Make them work harder. Then they will be too busy to pay attention to lies.”

¹⁰The slave drivers and the overseers left. They said to the people, “Pharaoh says, ‘I won’t give you any more straw. ¹¹Go and get your own straw anywhere you can find it. But you still have to make the same number of bricks.’” ¹²So the people scattered all over Egypt. They went to gather any pieces of straw left in the fields. ¹³Pharaoh’s slave drivers kept making the people work hard. They said, “Finish the work you are required to do each day. Make the same number of bricks you made when you had straw.” ¹⁴The slave drivers whipped the Israelite overseers they had appointed. The slave drivers asked, “Why haven’t you made the same number of bricks yesterday or today, just as before?”

¹⁵Then the Israelite overseers appealed to Pharaoh. They asked, “Why have you treated us like this? ¹⁶You didn’t give us any straw. But you told us, ‘Make bricks!’ We are being whipped. But it’s the fault of your own people.”

¹⁷Pharaoh said, “You are lazy! That’s why you keep saying, ‘Let us go. We want to offer sacrifices to the Lord.’ ¹⁸Now get to work. We won’t give you any straw. But you still have to make the same number of bricks.”

¹⁹The Israelite overseers realized they were in trouble. They knew it when they were told, “Don’t

reduce the number of bricks you are required to make each day.” ²⁰When they left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them. ²¹They said to Moses and Aaron, “We want the Lord to look at what you have done! We want Him to judge you for it! We are like a very bad smell to Pharaoh and his officials. You have given them an excuse to kill us with their swords.”

Questions

- 1 Whom did Moses and Aaron go to see after they talked to the elders of Israel? Moses and Aaron went to see _____. (Ex. 5:1)
- 2 What was Pharaoh’s response when Moses and Aaron told him about the Lord’s command to let the people of Israel go? Why? Pharaoh said, “_____!” (opposite of “yes”), because he didn’t know _____ this Lord was and, therefore, had no reason to obey Him. (Ex. 5:2)



Pharaoh didn’t know who the Lord is, but he would soon find out! All people will one day.

- 3 What did Moses and Aaron say might happen to the Hebrews if Pharaoh didn’t let them go? They told Pharaoh that the Lord might _____ the Hebrews with _____ or let them be killed by _____ if Pharaoh didn’t let them go. (Ex. 5:3)
- 4 Was Pharaoh at all concerned about this? (Yes/No) _____. Pharaoh was only concerned about the people of Israel being taken away from their _____. (Ex. 5:4)
- 5 Who actually punished the Israelites? Pharaoh punished the Israelites by giving _____ to the slave drivers and the overseers in charge of the Israelites. Pharaoh told them not to give the Israelites any more _____ to make _____. The Israelites had to instead _____ that material for themselves, but still make the _____ number of bricks. (Ex. 5:6–12)
- 6 Did the slave drivers and overseers do what Pharaoh ordered them to do? (Yes/No) _____. (Ex. 5:10–14)
- 7 What did the Egyptian slave drivers do to the Israelite overseers when the Israelites weren’t able to make the same number of bricks as before? The Egyptian slave drivers _____ the Israelite overseers. (Ex. 5:14)
- 8 What was Pharaoh’s response when the Israelite overseers appealed to Pharaoh and begged him to stop this brutal treatment of the Israelites? Pharaoh didn’t **C**_____ (rhymes with “hair”). (Ex. 5:15–18)
- 9 Who was waiting to meet with the Israelite overseers after they finished speaking with Pharaoh? _____ and _____ were waiting to meet them. (Ex. 5:20)

- 10 Whom did the Israelite overseers blame for the trouble they were in? They blamed _____ and _____. (Ex. 5:21)
- 11 What did the overseers blame them for? The overseers said that Moses and Aaron had given Pharaoh and his officials an _____ to use their swords to _____ the Israelites. (Ex. 5:21)



In other words, the Israelite's lives were now in danger because they were no longer able to meet Pharaoh's demands.



God promised the Israelites victory, freedom, and salvation, but when things got hard and it looked like defeat, the people were quick to lose faith.

The Lord Promises to Save the Israelites

Exodus 5:22–23, 6:1–12

^{5:22}Moses returned to talk to the Lord. He said to Him, “Why, Lord? Why have You brought trouble on these people? Is this why You sent me? ²³I went to Pharaoh to speak to him in Your Name. Ever since then, he has brought nothing but trouble on these people. And You haven’t saved Your people at all.”

^{6:1}Then the Lord said to Moses, “Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh. Because of My powerful hand, he will let the people of Israel go. Because of My mighty hand, he will drive them out of his country.”

²God continued, “I am the Lord. ³I appeared to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob as the Mighty God. But I did not show them the full meaning of My Name, The Lord. ⁴I also made My covenant with them. I promised to give them the land of Canaan. That is where they lived as outsiders. ⁵Also, I have heard the groans of the Israelites. The Egyptians are keeping them as slaves. But I have remembered My covenant.

⁶“So tell the people of Israel, ‘I am the Lord. I will throw off the heavy load the Egyptians have put on your shoulders. I will set you free from being slaves to them. I will reach out My arm and save you with mighty acts when I judge Egypt. ⁷I will take you to be My own people. I will be your God. I throw off the load the Egyptians have put on your shoulders. Then you will know that I am the Lord your God. ⁸I will bring you to the land I promised to give to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. I lifted up My hand and promised it to them. The land will belong to you. I am the Lord.’”

⁹Moses reported these things to the Israelites. But they didn’t listen to him. That’s because they had lost all hope and had to work very hard.

¹⁰Then the Lord said to Moses, ¹¹“Go. Tell Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, to let the people of Israel leave his country.”

¹²But Moses said to the Lord, “The people won’t listen to me. So why would Pharaoh listen to me? After all, I don’t speak very well.”

Questions

- 12 Did Moses question God’s plan after meeting with the overseers? (Yes/No) _____. (Ex. 5:22–23)

- 13 What was God's response? God's response was, "_____ you will _____ what I will _____ to Pharaoh." (Ex. 6:1)
- 14 What was God about to show that He hadn't shown to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob? God was about to show the _____ meaning of His _____, "The Lord." (Ex. 6:2-3)
- 15 What would be the purposes of God's mighty acts? The purposes of God's mighty acts would be to **s**_____ the Israelites, **j**_____ Egypt, and **b**_____ the Israelites to the _____ God had promised to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. (Ex. 6:6,8)
- 16 Were the Israelites excited to hear what Moses had to say to them from God? (Yes/No) _____. Why not? Because they had _____ all _____ and were too tired from having to work _____ hard. (Ex. 6:9)
- 17 Was Moses eager to do what God told him to do? (Yes/No) _____. Why not? Moses was **a**_____ (opposite of "having faith"). Moses didn't think Pharaoh would _____ to him, and Moses was still insecure about not _____ very well. (Ex. 6:12)

Aaron Speaks for Moses

Exodus 7:1-7

¹Then the Lord said to Moses, "I have made you like God to Pharaoh. And your brother Aaron will be like a prophet to you. ²You must say everything I command you to say. Then your brother Aaron must tell Pharaoh to let the people of Israel leave his country. ³But I will make Pharaoh stubborn. I will multiply the signs and amazing things I will do in Egypt. ⁴In spite of that, he will not listen to you. So I will use My powerful hand against Egypt. When I judge them with mighty acts, I will bring My people Israel out like an army on the march. ⁵Then the Egyptians will know that I am the Lord. I will reach out My powerful hand against them. I will bring the people of Israel out of Egypt."

⁶Moses and Aaron did exactly as the Lord had commanded them. ⁷Moses was 80 years old and Aaron was 83 when they spoke to Pharaoh.

Questions

- 18 What had the Lord made Moses like to Pharaoh? The Lord had made Moses like _____ to Pharaoh. (Ex. 7:1)
- 19 What would Aaron be like to Moses? Aaron would be like a _____ to Moses. (Ex. 7:1)
- 20 Why did God make Pharaoh stubborn? God made Pharaoh stubborn so that **j**_____ **ment** would come to Pharaoh and all the Egyptians, and they would _____ that God is the Lord. (Ex. 7:4-5)

- 21 When God told Moses to go to Pharaoh, did Moses and Aaron do exactly as the Lord commanded them? (Yes/No) _____. (Ex. 7:6)



God had to first teach Moses obedience (in Lesson 4) so that the lives of Moses and all the Israelites could be saved.

- 22 What were the ages of Moses and Aaron when these events took place? Moses was _____ years old, and Aaron was _____ years old. (Ex. 7:7)

Aaron's Walking Stick Becomes a Snake

Exodus 7:8–13

⁸The Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron. ⁹He said, “Pharaoh will say to you, ‘Do a miracle.’ When he does, speak to Aaron. Tell him, ‘Take your walking stick and throw it down in front of Pharaoh.’ It will turn into a snake.”

¹⁰So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh. They did exactly as the Lord had commanded them. Aaron threw the stick down in front of Pharaoh and his officials. It turned into a snake. ¹¹Then Pharaoh sent for wise men and people who do evil magic. By doing their magic tricks, the Egyptian magicians did the same things Aaron had done. ¹²Each one threw down his walking stick. Each stick turned into a snake. But Aaron's walking stick swallowed theirs up. ¹³In spite of that, Pharaoh became stubborn. He wouldn't listen to them, just as the Lord had said.

Questions

- 23 What was the miracle God performed in front of Pharaoh? When Aaron _____ down his walking _____ in front of Pharaoh, it turned into a _____. (Ex. 7:9–10)
- 24 What was Pharaoh's response to this miracle? Pharaoh _____ for _____ men and people who do _____ magic to see if they could do the same thing. (Ex. 7:11)
- 25 Were Pharaoh's wise men and people who do evil magic able to change their walking sticks into snakes? (Yes/No) _____. (Ex. 7:12)



This means these wise men and people who did evil magic were possessed by evil spirits. However, their power is not even comparable to God's power.

- 26 What happened next? Aaron's walking stick _____ up all of the Egyptian magicians' walking sticks. (Ex. 7:12)
- 27 Did Pharaoh listen to Moses and Aaron after this? (Yes/No) _____. He became _____. (Ex. 7:13)

How did the Holy Spirit speak to you this week as you studied these Bible verses? In other words, what did you learn this week from reading God's Word?

