

Exodus 5

King James Version (KJV)

5 And afterward Moses and Aaron went in, and told Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go, that they may hold a feast unto me in the wilderness. (This was a ploy to get them out of Egypt. They had no desire to return)

² And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go. (This Pharaoh is an idol worshipper. He is descended from Egyptian ancestry. He knows nothing about Yahoveh, our God)

NOTE: (The Pharaoh that elevated Joseph <400 years earlier, in Genesis> was of the Hicksos <the Shepherd Kings> of Southern Egypt. These people were descendants of Adam and Eve – Adamic people. They knew the Lord)

³ And they said, The God of the Hebrews hath met with us: let us go, we pray thee, three days' journey into the desert, and sacrifice unto the LORD our God; lest he fall upon us with pestilence, or with the sword. (That won't work. Pharaoh has no compassion for the Israelites. God said that He would harden Pharaoh's heart; so that He could later chastise Egypt for their mistreatment of the Israelites)

⁴ And the king of Egypt said unto them, Wherefore do ye, Moses and Aaron, let the people from their works? get you unto your burdens. (Shut up and get back to work)

⁵ And Pharaoh said, Behold, the people of the land now are many, and ye make them rest from their burdens. (The Israelites outnumber us and you want to give them rest? Pharaoh feared the numbers of the Israelites. He thought that they might rebel)

⁶ And Pharaoh commanded the same day the taskmasters of the people, and their officers, saying,

⁷ Ye shall no more give the people straw to make brick, as heretofore: let them go and gather straw for themselves. (He's making their task impossible, as payback for Moses asking that they go. Pharaoh knows that they can't make bricks all day and gather straw all night. There would be no time to rest)

⁸ And the tale of the bricks, which they did make heretofore, ye shall lay upon them; ye shall not diminish ought thereof: for they be idle; therefore they cry, saying, Let us go and sacrifice to our God. (After they gather straw all night, they will make the same number of bricks per day as they have been making. They must have too much free time, if they can find time to complain)

NOTE: (Pharaoh knows that this new hardship will turn the Israelites against Moses and Aaron. Divide and conquer)

⁹ Let there more work be laid upon the men, that they may labour therein; and let them not regard vain words. (He's calling God's words vain. That will come back to haunt him. No one mocks Almighty God and gets away with it)

¹⁰ And the taskmasters of the people went out, and their officers, and they spake to the people, saying, Thus saith Pharaoh, I will not give you straw.

¹¹ Go ye, get you straw where ye can find it: yet not ought of your work shall be diminished. (Now, you will have to gather your own straw every night. Then, you will still have to make the same quota on bricks every day)

¹² So the people were scattered abroad throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble instead of straw. (stubble – reeds, weeds, whatever they could find)

¹³ And the taskmasters hasted them, saying, Fulfil your works, your daily tasks, as when there was straw. (That's not going to be possible)

¹⁴ And the officers of the children of Israel, which Pharaoh's taskmasters had set over them, were beaten, and demanded, Wherefore have ye not fulfilled your task in making brick both yesterday and to day, as heretofore? (the officers of the children of Israel - these were Israelites. They were overseers of the other Israelite who were doing the work. The new tasks given to them by Pharaoh were impossible to meet. They were in a losing situation)

NOTE: (This might have been a plan by Pharaoh to systematically work the Israelites to death; thus decreasing their numbers. They outnumbered the Egyptians at that time. The Egyptians feared an uprising)

¹⁵ Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried unto Pharaoh, saying, Wherefore dealest thou thus with thy servants?

¹⁶ There is no straw given unto thy servants, and they say to us, Make brick: and, behold, thy servants are beaten; but the fault is in thine own people. (They are trying to reason with Pharaoh. They don't realize that the new order came from Pharaoh, not from his taskmasters)

¹⁷ But he said, Ye are idle, ye are idle: therefore ye say, Let us go and do sacrifice to the LORD. (Divide and conquer – Pharaoh is blaming Moses for the troubles of the people. Pharaoh was worshipped as a god in Egypt. In his mind, no other god mattered)

¹⁸ Go therefore now, and work; for there shall no straw be given you, yet shall ye deliver the tale of bricks. (No deal. Get back to work)

¹⁹ And the officers of the children of Israel did see that they were in evil case, after it was said, Ye shall not minish ought from your bricks of your daily task.

²⁰ And they met Moses and Aaron, who stood in the way, as they came forth from Pharaoh:

²¹ And they said unto them, The LORD look upon you, and judge; because ye have made our savour to be abhorred in the eyes of Pharaoh, and in the eyes of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to slay us. (The people are turning on Moses and Aaron for upsetting Pharaoh against them. They're too stupid to recognize that Pharaoh is the problem; not Moses and Aaron)

NOTE: (The same thing happens today in the US. The corrupt government divides the people into right versus left; black versus white; male versus female. Then they created scenarios to turn us against each other; while they plunder the country to steal the wealth of the working class. They will be judged for it by God Himself)

²² And Moses returned unto the LORD, and said, LORD, wherefore hast thou so evil entreated this people? why is it that thou hast sent me? (Moses thinks that God's plan is failing. God's plans never fail. When we think that God is failing, we don't understand the plan)

²³ For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in thy name, he hath done evil to this people; neither hast thou delivered thy people at all. (Moses

must have expected immediate results. Pharaoh was already doing evil to the Hebrews, before Moses arrived)

NOTE: (Unfortunately, impatience is a part of human nature. We expect results now, instead of realizing that sometimes, change comes slowly and patience wins in the end)