

Devotional Thoughts :: A Pillar By Day - May 30

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Daily Devotional by Jon Courson

May 30

And the LORD said unto Moses, See, I have made thee a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron thy brother shall be thy prophet. Thou shalt speak all that I command thee: and Aaron thy brother shall speak unto Pharaoh, that he send the children of Israel out of his land. And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and multiply my signs and my wonders in the land of Egypt. But Pharaoh shall not hearken unto you, that I may lay my hand upon Egypt, and bring forth mine armies, and my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great judgments. And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch forth mine hand upon Egypt, and bring out the children of Israel from among them.

Exodus 7:1-5

"Go speak to Pharaoh," God instructed Moses. "He won't listen to you, but that will give Me the opportunity to stretch out My hand upon the land of Egypt. As a result, the entire nation will know that I am the Lord and there is none like Me." Yes, there would be problems. Yes, there would be tribulation. Yes, there would be difficulty, all of which would affect God's people. But it was all part of God's purpose and plan not only to provide liberation for His children, but to give revelation to the Egyptians.

"Lord, liberate me," we cry. "Set me free from the snap of the whips of the Egyptian oppressors. Set me free from the bondage of baking bricks under the desert sun."

"Gladly, for that's My intention," the Lord says. "But I am also doing something else simultaneously. You see, I want the Egyptians, the unsaved, the lost souls to see My power, to understand My reality. And for that to happen, there will be a series of problems which will affect you too."

"But why do I have to endure this trial, Lord? Why can't You take this cancer away immediately? Don't You have the ability? Why can't You solve the problem today? Why can't You work now?"

And the Lord answers, "I've got two things I'm doing simultaneously. Yes, I'm bringing you into the Land of Promise. But at the same time, there are Egyptians watching carefully to see how you handle the same trials they face. I want them to see My power. I want them to see what I can do. I want to show them that I can see you through."

Seeing you win the Publisher's Clearinghouse Sweepstakes doesn't cause the Egyptian to scratch his head and say, "Wow." No, the Egyptian scratches his head when he sees you facing problems on the job, difficulties in the family, setbacks financially, difficulties physically, and yet walking through them victoriously. God never promised to protect us from problems. He promised to see us through them. And as He does, the neighbor, the co-worker, brother, sister-in-law, or father will say, "There's something about the way you navigate through life that I don't understand."

And then you can say, "It's the power and reality, the grace and goodness of God. And He's available for you too."

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