

Exodus

The call of Moses: The first phase of the plan to bring the Israelites back to their land.

- God now begins to give specific instruction: 3:16-22
 - Meet with the elders (leaders) of and tell them that the “I Am”, the God of their fathers has sent you
 - I know your condition
 - I promise to deliver you and bring you into the Promised Land.
 - God assures Moses that they will listen
 - They are then instructed to approach the king of Egypt with the request to journey 3 days in to wilderness to worship “the LORD our God.”
 - God revealed the resistance of the king of Egypt
 - God revealed how He will break that resistance.
 - God revealed that deliverance would happen, including how the Egyptians would be plundered.

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- Moses, up to this point, has responded by asking some reasonable questions. Now he begins to raise objections by challenging God on things He has already revealed. 4:1-17
 - Moses challenges fact that the elders will listen to him. 4:1-9
 - God responds by giving Moses two demonstrations of His power and promises a third
 - The staff becomes a serpent and back to a staff
 - His hand becomes leprous and then is healed
 - God tells Moses that he will turn water from the Nile into blood, not Moses' ability that will produce results.

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- Moses, up to this point, has responded by asking some reasonable questions. Now he begins to raise objections by challenging God on things He has already revealed.
 - Moses tried to disqualify himself on the basis of his perceived personal limitations. 4:10-11
 - Moses did not consider himself an effective communicator.
 - God responded once again by revealing that it is His ability that is sufficient.

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- Moses, up to this point, has responded by asking some reasonable questions. Now he begins to raise objections by challenging God on things He has already revealed.
 - Finally Moses pleads with God to send someone else. 4:13-17
 - Moses' response invokes God's anger but God acts in mercy
 - God does not let Moses off the hook but provides Aaron, Moses' brother to help him.

Moses returns to Egypt

- He secures leave from his father-in-law Jethro 4:18-20
- The LORD prepares Moses for Pharaoh's resistance. 4:21-23
 - The hardening of Pharaoh's heart is God's response to Pharaoh hardening his own heart.
 - The LORD reveals the lengths to which He will go to free his children

Moses returns to Egypt

- Zipporah averted disaster by circumcising one of their sons. 4:24-26
 - Moses seemed to be incapacitated and near death
 - Zipporah discerned that this condition was God's judgment due to disobedience regarding the circumcision of every male child born to His people.
 - Circumcision was the absolute, unmistakable mark that distinguished the chosen people of God.
 - Perhaps Moses' last desperate attempt to disqualify himself for this task to which God had called him was to show up in Egypt having neglected the command of God that every male was to be circumcised on the eight day of life.

Moses returns to Egypt

- Reconnection with Aaron and meeting with the leaders of Israel. 4:27-31
 - God sent Aaron to meet Moses
 - Together they met with the leaders of Israel.
 - Related the words God had spoken to them
 - Performed the sign God had ordered them to show.
 - The people believed and worshipped God.