



Portion:

Title:

SCRIPTURES

- Ex. 1-6:1; 33:7-23; 34:29-35
- Ezekiel 29:9-16
- Matthew 2:1-23; 16:21-28
- 2 Cor. 3:7-18; 1 Cor. 2:1-5
- Isaiah 42:5-8; 52:4-6
- John 5:19; 16:12-15; 20:19
- Lk. 12:8-12; Mk. 14:48-50
- Romans 8:18; 26-27; 5:3-5
- Acts 14:19-22
- 1 Pt. 1:6-9; Js. 1:2-4

PLAYWRIGHT AND PLAYERS

- His Plan
- His Children
- His Provision
- His Calling
- His Face
- His Name
- His Power
- His Words
- His Warning
- His Promise

THEME: His Words and His Power

“Moses said to the LORD, ‘Pardon your servant, Lord. **I have never been eloquent**, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.’ The LORD said to him, ‘Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? **Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to**

say.’ But Moses said, ‘Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else.’ Then the LORD’s anger burned against Moses and he said, ‘What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. **You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do.** He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and **as if you were God to him.** But take this staff in your hand so that you can **perform the signs** with it.’” Exodus 4:10-17 NIVUK

OUTCOME: Y’shua and the Holy Spirit did nothing on their own!

What do you do when you are called to speak for Yahweh. It can get pretty intimidating, but He promises you need not worry! He’s the Playwright and we are the Players. All you have to do is follow the script!

Y’shua did not do it alone! “Jesus answered, ‘**My teaching is not my own.** It comes from the one who sent me.’ (John 7:16) “Jesus gave them this answer: ‘Very truly I tell you, **the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing,** because whatever the Father does the Son also does.” John 5:19

The Holy Spirit did not do it alone! “I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when [s]he, the Spirit of truth, comes, [s]he will guide you into all the truth. **[S]he will not speak on his [her] own; [s]he will speak only what [s]he hears,** and [s]he will tell you what is yet to come.” John 16:12-13

You don't have to figure out what to say alone! “When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, **do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.**” Luke 12:11-12

You don't have to figure out what to pray alone! “In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. **We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit [her]himself intercedes for us through wordless groans.** And [s]he who searches our hearts knows the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God.” Romans 8:26-27

And you don't have to figure out how save anybody! “And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with **eloquence** or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in

weakness with great fear and trembling. **My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit's power,** so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God's power." 1 Corinthians 2:1-5

Let's Set the Scene: Portion in a blurb

1. The Hebrew title for the book of Exodus comes from the opening phrase of the book: "Now these are the names (shemot) of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob" (Exodus 1:1). The English name Exodus comes from the Septuagint (LXX), the Greek translation of the Hebrew Bible. The Greek title is Exodus Aigyptou, "Departure from Egypt." Exodus means "departure." The book of Exodus tells the story of the children of Israel enslaved in Egypt and their miraculous redemption through the hand of Moses, the story of the giving of the Torah at Mount Sinai, the construction of the golden calf and the construction of the Tabernacle. As we study the first week's reading from the book of Exodus, we find the children of Israel in slavery. It seems at first that the God of their forefathers has forgotten them. But God has not forgotten His promises. [see First Fruits of Zion [here](#)]

2. The Israelites who came to Egypt are named, and with their household there is total of 70 people.
3. Joseph's entire generation passes on but Israel continues to multiply dramatically.
4. A new king (Pharaoh) is in power who cares nothing about the memory of Joseph and his descendants, but instead is afraid of Israel's growing strength in numbers.
5. Instead of risking an uprising or Israel siding with his enemies, he places the Israelites under forced hard labor—they go from guests to prisoners (slaves).
6. The oppression does not stop their fruitful multiplication. So, Pharaoh instructs the Hebrew midwives to kill any males at birth. They, instead, honor Yahweh and refuse to do so!
7. Pharaoh instructs his people to kill all the male babies by throwing them in the Nile. [See Matthew 2 for a similar decree by Herod to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under.]
8. Moses is born and is hidden for three months. To preserve his life he is placed in a basket on the banks of the Nile. His sister Miriam watches over him until he is plucked from the river by Pharaoh's daughter. [Note: instead of Moses dying in the Nile waters, he is saved in a basket above the waters, like Noah and the Ark!]

9. Pharaoh's daughter knows it is a Hebrew boy but it seems that Miriam then offers to get a wet nurse to feed the baby. Miriam brings Moses' mother to nurse her own child and she gets paid to do so!
10. After he has grown past nursing he is brought back to Pharaoh's daughter who then adopts him as her own and names him Moses (because he was drawn from the water.)
11. As an adult, Moses sees a Hebrew being abused by an Egyptian and he kills him and hides the body in the sand.
12. The next day he rebukes two Hebrew men for fighting with one another and they ask if he plans on killing them like he did the Egyptian.
13. Now that his crime is found out, Pharaoh wants to kill Moses so he escapes to Midian.
14. Moses rescues the seven daughters of a Midianite priest (Jethro) from raiders and then he helps them draw water.
15. He's invited back to their home and is given one daughter, Zipporah, as his wife. She gives birth to a son, Gershom (immigrant).
16. Pharaoh dies and the Israelites are still groaning because of their hard labor.
17. Next is the burning bush incident: Moses sees a bush on fire which is not being consumed and he goes to check it out.

18. Yahweh's messenger appears in the bush and calls to Moses.
19. As he approaches, Moses is told he is standing on holy ground and Yahweh calls out to him.
20. Mose hides his face as he cannot look upon Yahweh.
21. Yahweh promises to rescue his people from Egypt and bring them to a promised land and that He is sending Moses to do it.
22. Moses doubts his ability to do so and **Yahweh** reveals His name to Moses ("This is my name forever; this is how all generations will remember me.") and tells him what to say (Tell them Yahweh sent you) and gives him signs he can use to convince the people that he was sent by Yahweh. It is also the name that will be declared to Pharaoh!
23. Instructions: First tell the Hebrew people what you are there to do (they will believe you) and then go with their elders and tell Pharaoh that you need to go three-day's journey into the dessert to worship Me (he will not relent without force). Use these signs to convince him (Rod into a snake, leprous hand, water into blood).
24. He will not want to let them leave, "So I'll use my strength and hit Egypt with dramatic displays of my power. After that, he'll let you go."

25. In the end, they will not only let you leave but you will not go away empty-handed. You will take their silver and their gold jewelry as well as their clothing.
26. Moses fears his lack of public speaking ability, so Yahweh assigns his brother Aaron to help. **Yahweh promises to teach them both what to say.**
27. Moses is told to go back to Egypt with his family and to make sure he appears before Pharaoh with the signs.
28. Yahweh warns Moses that He intends to make Pharaoh stubborn so that he won't let the people go.
29. **The Ultimate Warning [PROPHETIC MOMENT]:** Moses, tell Pharaoh this: 'This is what the Lord says: Israel is my firstborn son. I said to you, "Let my son go so he could worship me." But you refused to let him go. As a result, now I'm going to kill your firstborn son.'" *[Things to keep in mind throughout the entire book of exodus: (a) The firstborn is the one at risk (b) the firstborn is the one who either dies without or is delivered by the blood of the lamb (c) we are the church of the firstborn, Hebrews 12:22-24 (d) non-firstborns are not at risk and have a choice to stay in Egypt or leave with Israel.]*
30. On the way to Egypt Zipporah saves Moses' life by circumcising her son and she holds the knife to Moses genitals and calls him a "bridegroom because of bloodshed."

31. Yahweh tell Aaron to meet Moses on His mountain and Moses tells him of the mission and about all the signs.
32. They arrive in Egypt and Aaron relays the message to the people while Moses performs the signs and the people believed and worshiped Yahweh.
33. In Moses' first meeting with Pharaoh his response is, "**Who is Yahweh** whom I'm supposed to obey by letting Israel go? **I don't know this Yahweh**, and I certainly won't let Israel go."
34. As an angry response, Pharaoh removes the straw from the Hebrew slaves and demands they fetch their own straw, yet still they must produce the same quota of bricks.
35. The Hebrew slaves are driven even harder by the Egyptian slave masters and as a result they rebuke Moses. "Let Yahweh see and judge what you've done! You've made us stink in the opinion of Pharaoh and his servants. You've given them a reason to kill us."
36. Moses questions Yahweh about the negative results thus far and Yahweh reassures him of His plan. "Now you will see what I'll do to Pharaoh. In fact, he'll be so eager to let them go that he'll drive them out of his land by force."

YAHWEH'S SCRIPT

1. Playwright

A. His Plan (Joseph comes to nothing)

- (1) What happens when the King decides he no longer needs a Joseph?
 - (a) “Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt.” Exodus 1:8
 - (b) This above verse is the hinge point of the entire narrative of the FALL of Egypt! Think about it, the “good Pharaoh” died and Joseph meant nothing to the new one. He discards that office and begins to dismantle all Joseph accomplished. In the end we know the outcome (many years later). Egypt is ultimately destroyed beginning at the time of the exodus (the First Passover) and never again will be a great power in the earth!
 - (c) **Deal Shrewdly**—“Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country.’ **So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labour**, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. But the more they were oppressed, the more they

multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites” Exodus 1:10-12 NIVUK

- (d) **“They made their lives bitter with harsh labour** in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labour, the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly. Exodus 1:14 NIVUK

(2) This is the Key moment in the beginning of Egypt’s downfall...

- (a) Think about it, this is what ultimately lead to the exodus and the removal of Egypt as a world power EVER AGAIN (see Ezekiel)
- (b) **Quick fast forward to see where this ends:** “Then say to Pharaoh, “This is what the LORD says: **Israel is my firstborn son**, and I told you, ‘Let my son go, so that he may worship me.’ **But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.**”” Exodus 4:22-23 NIVUK
- (c) **“Egypt will become a desolate wasteland.** Then they will know that I am the LORD. ‘ “Because you said, ‘The Nile is mine; I made it,’ therefore I am against you and against your streams, **and I will make the land of Egypt a ruin and a desolate waste** from Migdol to Aswan, as far as the border of Cush. The foot of neither man nor beast will pass through it; no-one will live there for forty

years. **I will make the land of Egypt desolate among devastated lands, and her cities will lie desolate for forty years among ruined cities. And I will disperse the Egyptians among the nations and scatter them through the countries.** ‘ “Yet this is what the Sovereign LORD says: at the end of forty years I will gather the Egyptians from the nations where they were scattered. I will bring them back from captivity and return them to Upper Egypt, the land of their ancestry. There they will be a lowly kingdom. **It will be the lowliest of kingdoms and will never again exalt itself above the other nations. I will make it so weak that it will never again rule over the nations.** Egypt will no longer be a source of confidence for the people of Israel but will be a reminder of their sin in turning to her for help. Then they will know that I am the Sovereign LORD.” ’”
Ezekiel 29:9-16 NIVUK

- (d) **This is what happens with a King and Kingdom that does not have a Jospeh!**— It will be the lowliest of kingdoms and will never again exalt itself above the other nations. I will make it so weak that it will never again rule over the nations.” Ezekiel 29:15

B. His Children (Kill the babies, a prophetic death sentence)

- (1) Pharaoh to the Hebrew Midwives—kill the babies!
 - (a) “The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, ‘When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, **if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him;** but if it is a girl, let her live.’” Exodus 1:15-16 NIVUK
- (2) The Hebrew Midwives to Pharaoh
 - (a) “The midwives, however, feared God **and did not do** what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live.” Exodus 1:17 NIVUK
 - (b) “Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, ‘Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?’ The midwives answered Pharaoh, ‘Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive.’” Exodus 1:18-19 NIVUK
- (3) Pharaoh to his people
 - (a) “Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: ‘**Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile,** but let every girl live.’” Exodus 1:22 NIVUK
- (4) Another jealous ruler:
 - (a) “After Jesus was born in Bethlehem in Judea, during the time of King Herod, Magi from the east came to

Jerusalem and asked, 'Where is the one who has been born king of the Jews? We saw his star when it rose and have come to worship him.' When King Herod heard this he was disturbed, and all Jerusalem with him. When he had called together all the people's chief priests and teachers of the law, he asked them where the Messiah was to be born. 'In Bethlehem in Judea,' they replied, 'for this is what the prophet has written: ' "But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you will come a ruler who will shepherd my people Israel." ' Then Herod called the Magi secretly and found out from them the exact time the star had appeared. He sent them to Bethlehem and said, 'Go and search carefully for the child. As soon as you find him, report to me, so that I too may go and worship him.' After they had heard the king, they went on their way, and the star they had seen when it rose went ahead of them until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw the star, they were overjoyed. On coming to the house, they saw the child with his mother Mary, and they bowed down and worshipped him. Then they opened their treasures and presented him with gifts of gold, frankincense and

myrrh. **And having been warned in a dream not to go back to Herod, they returned to their country by another route.**" Matthew 2:1-12 NIVUK

(5) Herod—Kill the babies!

- (a) "When they had gone, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream. 'Get up,' he said, 'take the child and his mother **and escape to Egypt**. Stay there until I tell you, for Herod is going to search for the child to kill him.' So **he got up, took the child and his mother during the night and left for Egypt, [Y'shua is preserved in Egypt, like Joseph, like his brothers and all of Israel, and like Moses]** where he stayed until the death of Herod. And so was fulfilled what the Lord had said through the prophet: '**Out of Egypt I called my son.**' **When Herod realised that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under**, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi. Then what was said through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: 'A voice is heard in Ramah, weeping and great mourning, Rachel weeping for her children and refusing to be comforted, because they are no more.'" Matthew 2:13-18 NIVUK

(6) Divine Deliverance (just like what we see with Moses)

- (a) **“After Herod died,** an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for those who were trying to take the child’s life are dead.’ So he got up, took the child and his mother and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was reigning in Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. Having been warned in a dream, he withdrew to the district of Galilee, **and he went and lived in a town called Nazareth. So was fulfilled what was said through the prophets, that he would be called a Nazarene.**” Matthew 2:19-23 NIVUK

C. His Provision (Moses preserved and placed)

(1) Moses is protected as a baby

- (a) “But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. **Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. [Moses floats above the Nile instead of being drowned in it]** His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. Then Pharaoh’s daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the riverbank. She

saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. 'This is one of the Hebrew babies,' she said." Exodus 2:3-6 NIVUK

(2) Moses is placed in Egypt

(a) "Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?' 'Yes, go,' she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you.' So the woman took the baby and nursed him. **When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, 'I drew him out of the water.'**" Exodus 2:7-10 NIVUK

(3) Moses defends his people but then is rejected!

(a) "One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labour. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. Looking this way and that and seeing no-one, **he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.**" Exodus 2:11-12 NIVUK

(b) "The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, 'Why are you

hitting your fellow Hebrew?’ The man said, ‘Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?’ Then Moses was afraid and thought, ‘**What I did must have become known.**’”

Exodus 2:13-14 NIVUK

(4) Mose is protected as an adult

(a) “When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, **but Moses fled from Pharaoh** and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well.” Exodus 2:15 NIVUK

(5) The King who **wants to kill** Moses dies so Moses can go back to Egypt

(a) “During that long period, **the king of Egypt died**. The Israelites groaned in their slavery and cried out, and their cry for help because of their slavery went up to God. God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob. So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them.” Exodus 2:23-25 NIVUK

(b) HEROD WHO WANTS TO KILL Y’SHUA HAS DIED: **After Herod died**, an angel of the Lord appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ‘Get up, take the child and his mother and go to the land of Israel, for

those who were trying to take the child's life are dead.'"

Matt. 2:13-15, 19-20 NIVUK

D. His Calling (the Burning bush)

(1) The appearance

- (a) ""There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush **was on fire it did not burn up**. So Moses thought, 'I will go over and see this strange sight – **why the bush does not burn up**.'" Exodus 3:2-3
NIVUK

(2) Holy Ground

- (a) ""When Yahweh saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, 'Moses! Moses!' And Moses said, 'Here I am.' 'Do not come any closer,' God said. 'Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is **holy ground**.'" Exodus 3:4-5 NIVUK
- (b) **Note:** The Sabbath is Holy Time; the Burning Bush is Holy Land; the Torah is for a Holy People, Yahweh is a Holy name!

(3) The Calling!

- (a) "The LORD said, 'I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their

suffering. **So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians** and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey – the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.”

Exodus 3:7-8 NIVUK

(b) **“So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.”** Exodus 3:10

NIVUK

(4) Who am I? (Typical response when called to greatness)

(a) “But Moses said to God, **‘Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?’** And God said, **‘I will be with you.** And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.’” Exodus 3:11-12 NIVUK

E. His Face (holy ground holy God)

(1) Moses hides his face from Yahweh

(a) Then he said, ‘I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.’ **At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.**” Exodus 3:6

(b) **Later after the exodus, again Moses hides his face:**

““Now Moses used to take a tent and pitch it outside the camp some distance away, calling it the ‘tent of meeting’. Anyone enquiring of the LORD would go to the tent of meeting outside the camp. And whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people rose and stood at the entrances to their tents, watching Moses until he entered the tent. As Moses went into the tent, the pillar of cloud would come down and stay at the entrance, while the LORD spoke with Moses. Whenever the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance to the tent, they all stood and worshipped, each at the entrance to their tent. **The LORD would speak to Moses face to face, as one speaks to a friend.**

Then Moses would return to the camp, but his young assistant Joshua son of Nun did not leave the tent.

Moses said to the LORD, ‘You have been telling me, “Lead these people,” but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, **“I know you by name and you have found favour with me.”** If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you.

Remember that this nation is your people.’ The LORD

replied, 'My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.' Then Moses said to him, 'If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?' And the LORD said to Moses, 'I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.' **Then Moses said, 'Now show me your glory.' And the LORD said, 'I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. But,' he said, 'you cannot see my face, for no-one may see me and live.'** Then the LORD said, **'There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.'**" Exodus 33:7-23 NIVUK

(2) Moses hides his face from the people

- (a) “When Moses came down from Mount Sinai with the two tablets of the covenant law in his hands, he was not aware that **his face was radiant because he had spoken with Yahweh.** When Aaron and all the Israelites saw Moses, his face was radiant, and **they were afraid to come near him.** But Moses called to them; so Aaron and all the leaders of the community came back to him, and he spoke to them. Afterwards all the Israelites came near him, and he gave them all the commands Yahweh had given him on Mount Sinai. **When Moses finished speaking to them, he put a veil over his face.** But whenever he entered Yahweh’s presence to speak with him, he removed the veil until he came out. And when he came out and told the Israelites what he had been commanded, they saw that his face was radiant. Then Moses would put the veil back over his face until he went in to speak with Yahweh.” Exodus 34:29-35
- (3) We have no need to hide our faces!
- (a) “Now if the ministry that brought death, which was engraved in letters on stone, came with glory, **so that the Israelites could not look steadily at the face of Moses because of its glory,** transitory though it was, will not the ministry of the Spirit be even more glorious? If

the ministry that brought condemnation was glorious, how much more glorious is the ministry that brings righteousness! For what was glorious has no glory now in comparison with the surpassing glory. And if what was transitory came with glory, how much greater is the glory of that which lasts! Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. **We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face** to prevent the Israelites from seeing the end of what was passing away. **But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away.** Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. **And we all, who with unveiled faces contemplate the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his image with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit."** 2

Corinthians 3:7-18 NIVUK

F. His Name (this is my Name forever!)

(1) The Divine Name Revealed

- (a) “Moses said to God, ‘Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you,” and they ask me, “**What is his name?**” **Then what shall I tell them?**’ God said to Moses, ‘ **I AM WHO I AM.** This is what you are to say to the Israelites: “ I AM has sent me to you.” ’ God also said to Moses, ‘Say to the Israelites, “**The LORD [Yahweh]**, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you.” ‘**This is my name for ever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.**” Exodus 3:13-15 NIVUK [Note: LORD is NOT A NAME but a title; Yahweh is His name.]
- (2) The first time man call Him by Name!
- (a) “Seth also had a son, and he named him Enosh. **At that time people began to call on the name of Yahweh.**”
Genesis 4:26 NIVUK
- (3) The Third Commandment!
- (a) “You shall not misuse [**in Hebrew: bring to nothingness**] the name of the LORD [**Yahweh**] your God, for the LORD [**Yahweh**] will not hold anyone guiltless who misuses [**bring to nothingness**] his name.” Exodus 20:7
- (b) **IMPORTANT NOTE:** over 6800 times in most English translations of the Bible, the name of the Creator is

replaced with the generic term 'LORD'. In most versions it is printed in all caps, as opposed to 'Lord' that is used to refer to Y'shua. As a personal note, I am not against referring to Him by a title (LORD or MASTER) as the Bible has many titles attributed to the Creator of the universe, all of which emphasize a characteristic of His nature. But He does have a Name and forgetting to use that name or bring it to nothingness has been a key error in the history of His people (in my humble opinion). And although I do not personally ascribe to the theory that it is sinful to say LORD, **I would issue this warning:** "Don't only use titles to refer to Him at the expense of ever referring to Him by name (bringing to nothingness); as it says in Exodus 3 above, **'This is my name for ever, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.'**" I also don't pretend to have divine revelation on how you must pronounce that name (as some claim), but do your best, whether it is Yahweh, or YeHoVaH, or any other pronunciation that is used to speak the Holy Name [יהוה]. **Most important is that you are not complicit in bringing it to NOTHINGNESS!**

(4) A few other key scriptures to emphasize the importance of this topic. Practice reading them with 'the LORD' and then again with Yahweh in place of 'the LORD'. And consider the actual content of the prophecy as well and actually how **they simply make no sense if you bring His name to nothingness!**

(a) "This is what God **the LORD** says – the Creator of the heavens, who stretches them out, who spreads out the earth with all that springs from it, who gives breath to its people, and life to those who walk on it: **'I, the LORD, have called you in righteousness; I will take hold of your hand. I will keep you and will make you to be a covenant for the people and a light for the Gentiles, to open eyes that are blind, to free captives from prison and to release from the dungeon those who sit in darkness. 'I am the LORD; that is my name!** I will not yield my glory to another or my praise to idols." Isaiah 42:5-8 NIVUK

(b) "For this is what the Sovereign **LORD** says: 'At first my people went down to Egypt to live; lately, Assyria has oppressed them. 'And now what do I have here?' declares **the LORD**. 'For my people have been taken away for nothing, and those who rule them mock, '

declares **the LORD**. 'And all day long my name is **constantly blasphemed. Therefore my people will know my name**; therefore in that day they will know that it is I who foretold it. Yes, it is I.'" Isaiah 52:4-6 NIVUK

G. His Power (the supernatural is needed as a proof to Hebrew People, to Pharaoh, and to Moses himself)

(1) What if they don't believe me?

- (a) **THREE SIGNS OF POWER:** "Moses answered, 'What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, "The LORD did not appear to you"?' Then the LORD said to him, 'What is that in your hand?' 'A staff,' he replied. The LORD said, '**Throw it on the ground!** **Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake**, and he ran from it. Then the LORD said to him, 'Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.' So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. 'This,' said the LORD, 'is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has appeared to you.' Then the LORD said, 'Put your hand inside your cloak.' **So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, the skin was leprous** – it had become as white as snow. 'Now put it back into

your cloak,' he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh. Then the LORD said, 'If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second. But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. **The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground.**'" Exodus 4:1-9 NIVUK

(2) Use the power to show Pharaoh!

(a) "The LORD said to Moses, 'When you return to Egypt, see that you **perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do.** But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go.'" Exodus 4:21 NIVUK

(3) Then the ultimate prophetic warning!

(a) "Then say to Pharaoh, "This is what the LORD says: **Israel is my firstborn son,** and I told you, 'Let my son go, so that he may worship me.' **But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.**"'" Exodus 4:22-23 NIVUK

(b) **And remember what Yahweh just told Moses:** "But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go **unless a**

mighty hand compels him. So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go.”

Exodus 3:19-20 NIVUK

- (c) **And in the end you will depart Egypt with favor:** ““And I will **make the Egyptians favourably disposed towards this people**, so that when you leave you will not go empty-handed. Every woman is to ask her neighbour and any woman living in her house for **articles of silver and gold and for clothing**, which you will put on your sons and daughters. And so you will plunder the Egyptians.” Exodus 3:21-22 NIVUK
- (4) Then use the power convince the people!
- (a) “Moses and Aaron brought together all the elders of the Israelites, and Aaron told them everything the LORD had said to Moses. **He also performed the signs before the people, and they believed.** And when they heard that the LORD was concerned about them and had seen their misery, they bowed down and worshipped.” Exodus 4:29-31 NIVUK

H. *His Words (Don't worry about what to say)

- (1) I have no ability to be eloquent!

- (a) “Moses said to the LORD, ‘Pardon your servant, Lord. **I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant.** I am slow of speech and tongue.’ The LORD said to him, ‘Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? **Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.**” Exodus 4:10-12 NIVUK
- (2) I will use your brother to help you and put **My words** in his mouth and yours and you go ahead and perform the signs of **My power!**
- (a) “You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; **I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do.** He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. But take this staff in your hand **so that you can perform the signs** with it.” Exodus 4:15-17 NIVUK
- (3) Yahweh prepares Aaron
- (a) “The LORD said to Aaron, ‘**Go into the wilderness to meet Moses.**’ So he met Moses at the mountain of God and kissed him. Then Moses told Aaron everything the LORD had sent him to say, and also about all the signs

he had commanded him to perform.” Exodus 4:27-28
NIVUK

(4) It is NEVER about being **eloquent**!

(a) “And so it was with me, brothers and sisters. When I came to you, I did not come with **eloquence** or human wisdom as I proclaimed to you the testimony about God. For I resolved to know nothing while I was with you except Jesus Christ and him crucified. I came to you in weakness with great fear and trembling. **My message and my preaching were not with wise and persuasive words, but with a demonstration of the Spirit’s power,** so that your faith might not rest on human wisdom, but on God’s power.” 1 Corinthians 2:1-5 NIVUK

(5) It’s NEVER about the **words of man** or **his ability to act** anyway!

(a) “Jesus answered, ‘My teaching is not my own. It comes from the one who sent me. **Anyone who chooses to do the will of God will find out whether my teaching comes from God or whether I speak on my own. Whoever speaks on their own** does so to gain personal glory, but he who seeks the glory of the one who sent him is a man of truth; there is nothing false about him. Has not Moses given you the law? Yet not one of you

keeps the law. Why are you trying to kill me?" John 7:16-19 NIVUK

- (b) "Jesus gave them this answer: 'Very truly I tell you, **the Son can do nothing by himself; he can do only what he sees his Father doing**, because whatever the Father does the Son also does.'" John 5:19 NIVUK
- (c) "'I have much more to say to you, more than you can now bear. But when he, the Spirit of truth, comes, he will guide you into all the truth. **He will not speak on his own; he will speak only what he hears**, and he will tell you what is yet to come. He will glorify me because it is from me that he will receive what he will make known to you. All that belongs to the Father is mine. That is why I said the Spirit will receive from me what he will make known to you.'" John 16:12-15 NIVUK
- (6) **Yahweh will fill your mouth** with exactly what He wants to say! And anyone who speaks against such **is guilty of the unpardonable sin!**
- (a) "'When you are brought before synagogues, rulers and authorities, **do not worry about how you will defend yourselves or what you will say, for the Holy Spirit will teach you at that time what you should say.**" Luke 12:11-12 NIVUK

(b) “I tell you, whoever publicly acknowledges me before others, the Son of Man will also acknowledge before the angels of God. But whoever disowns me before others will be disowned before the angels of God. **And everyone who speaks a word against the Son of Man will be forgiven, but anyone who blasphemes against the Holy Spirit will not be forgiven.**” Luke 12:8-10
NIVUK

(7) ***Is this not exactly what Pharaoh did!? Because we know the words of Aaron and Moses were not their own!**

(a) *“Pharaoh said, ‘**Who is the LORD, that I should obey him** and let Israel go? **I do not know the LORD** and I will not let Israel go.’” Exodus 5:2 NIVUK

(b) *We can presume that Yahweh filled their mouths using **the Holy Spirit to teach them at that time what they should say—so we might conclude that Pharaoh is guilty of blaspheme of the Holy Spirit— THE UNFORGIVABLE SIN!**

(c) “Yet they **rebelled and grieved his Holy Spirit**. So he turned and became their enemy and he himself fought against them.” Isaiah 63:10 NIVUK

(d) “Then Peter said, ‘Ananias, how is it that Satan has so filled your heart that you have **lied to the Holy Spirit**

and have kept for yourself some of the money you received for the land?" Acts 5:3 NIVUK

(e) **"And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God,** with whom you were sealed for the day of redemption." Ephesians 4:30 NIVUK

(f) "If we **deliberately keep on sinning** after we have received the knowledge of the truth, **no sacrifice for sins is left,** but only a fearful expectation of judgment and of raging fire that will consume the enemies of God. Anyone who rejected the law of Moses died without mercy on the testimony of two or three witnesses. How much more severely do you think someone deserves to be punished who has trampled the Son of God underfoot, who has treated as an unholy thing the blood of the covenant that sanctified them, and who has **insulted the Spirit of grace?"** Hebrews 10:26-29 NIVUK

(g) "If you see any brother or sister commit a sin that does not lead to death, you should pray and God will give them life. I refer to those whose sin does not lead to death. **There is a sin that leads to death. I am not saying that you should pray about that.** All wrongdoing is sin, and there is sin that does not lead to death." 1 John 5:16-17 NIVUK

(h) THIS CONCEPT OF WHAT CONSTITUTES WHAT YAHWEH WILL NOT FORGIVE SEEMS CLEARLY DEFINED AS MOSES RECOUNTS ISRAEL'S JOURNEY. "Make sure there is no man or woman, clan or tribe among you today whose heart turns away from the LORD our God **to go and worship the gods of those nations**; make sure there is no root among you that produces **such bitter poison**. When such a person hears the words of this oath and they invoke a blessing on themselves, thinking, '**I will be safe, even though I persist in going my own way,**' they will bring disaster on the watered land as well as the dry. **The LORD will never be willing to forgive them**; his wrath and zeal will burn against them. All the curses written in this book will fall on them, and the LORD will blot out their names from under heaven." Deuteronomy 29:18-20 NIVUK— THE UNFORGIVABLE SIN!

(8) This truth of Yahweh filling your mouth also extends to prayer.

(a) "In the same way, the Spirit helps us in our weakness. **We do not know what we ought to pray for, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us through wordless groans**. And he who searches our hearts knows the

mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for God's people in accordance with the will of God."

Romans 8:26-27 NIVUK

I. His Warning (I will take the firstborns)

(1) Let my people go (the first declaration!)

(a) "Afterwards Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, '**This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: "Let my people go,** so that they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.'"'" Exodus 5:1 NIVUK

(2) I don't acknowledge Yahweh!

(a) "Pharaoh said, 'Who is the LORD, that I should obey him and let Israel go? **I do not know the LORD** and I will not let Israel go.'" Exodus 5:2 NIVUK

(b) You see the seriousness here? Yahweh says...and Pharaoh says, "I don't acknowledge Yahweh!"

(3) Plagues are coming!

(a) "Then they said, 'The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Now let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, **or he may strike us with plagues** or with the sword.'" Exodus 5:3 NIVUK

(4) Then the entire bricks without straw thing happens and Pharaoh punishing the Hebrews. He is sealing his fait that was predicted earlier in this portion!

- (a) “Then say to Pharaoh, “This is what the LORD says: **Israel is my firstborn son**, and I told you, ‘Let my son go, so that he may worship me.’ **But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.**”” Exodus 4:22-23

J. His Promise (I will deliver my people)

(1) Moses has doubts

- (a) “Moses returned to the LORD and said, ‘Why, Lord, why have you brought trouble on this people? Is this why you sent me? Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has **brought trouble on this people, and you have not rescued your people at all.**”” Exodus 5:22-23 NIVUK

(2) Yahweh assures him

- (a) “Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Now you will see what I will do to Pharaoh: because of my mighty hand he will let them go; because of my mighty hand he will drive them out of his country.’” Exodus 6:1 NIVUK

OUR ROLE

2. Players

A. Keep the faith through trials

(1) The Hebrews did not!

- (a) “You are **no longer to supply the people with straw for making bricks; let them go and gather their own straw. But require them to make the same number of bricks as before;** don’t reduce the quota. They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, “Let us go and sacrifice to our God.” **Make the work harder for the people** so that they keep working and pay no attention to lies.” Exodus 5:7-9 NIVUK
- (b) “The slave drivers kept pressing them, saying, ‘Complete the work required of you for each day, just as when you had straw.’ **And Pharaoh’s slave drivers beat the Israelite overseers** they had appointed, demanding, ‘Why haven’t you met your quota of bricks yesterday or today, as before?’” Exodus 5:13-14 NIVUK
- (c) “When they left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them, and they said, ‘May the LORD look on you and judge you! **You have made us obnoxious to Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.**’” Exodus 5:20-21 NIVUK

(2) Y'shua's disciples did not keep the faith (at first)!

- (a) "From that time on **Jesus began to explain to his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and suffer many things** at the hands of the elders, the chief priests and the teachers of the law, and that he must be killed and on the third day be raised to life. **Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. 'Never, Lord!' he said. 'This shall never happen to you!'** Jesus turned and said to **Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan!** You are a stumbling-block to me; you do not have in mind the concerns of God, but merely human concerns.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, **'Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.** For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it. What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world, yet forfeit their soul? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will **reward each person according to what they have done.** 'Truly I tell you, some who are standing here will not taste death before they see the Son of Man coming in his kingdom.'" Matt. 16:21-28 NIVUK

- (b) “‘Am I leading a rebellion,’ said Jesus, ‘that you have come out with swords and clubs to capture me? Every day I was with you, teaching in the temple courts, and you did not arrest me. But the Scriptures must be fulfilled.’ **Then everyone deserted him and fled.**” Mark 14:48-50 NIVUK
- (c) Post Crucifixion: “On the evening of that first day of the week, when the disciples were together, **with the doors locked for fear of the Jewish leaders,** Jesus came and stood among them and said, ‘Peace be with you!’” John 20:19 NIVUK

B. The path to the Kingdom is through trials

- (1) No Comparison
- (a) “I consider that our **present sufferings are not worth comparing** with the glory that will be revealed in us.” Romans 8:18 NIVUK
- (2) Through hardships!
- (a) “Then some Jews came from Antioch and Iconium and won the crowd over. **They stoned Paul and dragged him outside the city, thinking he was dead.** But after the disciples had gathered round him, he got up and went back into the city. The next day he and Barnabas left for Derbe. They preached the gospel in that city and won a

large number of disciples. Then they returned to Lystra, Iconium and Antioch, strengthening the disciples and encouraging them to remain true to the faith. **'We must go through many hardships to enter the kingdom of God,' they said.**" Acts 14:19-22

(3) Rejoice Anyway!

- (a) "In all this you **greatly rejoice**, though now for a little while you may have had to suffer grief in all kinds of trials. These have come so that the proven genuineness of your faith – of greater worth than gold, which perishes even though refined by fire – may result in praise, glory and honour when Jesus Christ is revealed. Though you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and are **filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy**, for you are receiving the end result of your faith, the salvation of your souls." 1 Peter 1:6-9 NIVUK
- (b) "**Consider it pure joy**, my brothers and sisters, whenever you face trials of many kinds, because you know that the testing of your faith produces perseverance. Let perseverance finish its work so that you may be mature and complete, not lacking anything." James 1:2-4 NIVUK

(c) “Not only so, but we also glory in our sufferings, **because we know that suffering produces** perseverance; perseverance, character; and character, hope. And hope does not put us to shame, because God’s love has been poured out into our hearts through the Holy Spirit, who has been given to us.” Romans 5:3-5 NIVUK

Questions & Discussion

1. **Yahweh’s ultimate threat to Egypt was to kill the firstborn.**

- C. What does that mean prophetically?
- D. How did that ultimately play out?

2. **Discuss Egypt’s prophetic role in the following:**

- A. The life of Joseph and his family
- B. The life of Moses
- C. The life of Y’shua

3. **Seeing Yahweh face-to-face:**

- A. Why did Moses hide his face in both incidences we see in scripture?
- B. Why did the people hide their faces when Moses appears before them after he was in the presence of Yahweh?

C. What has changed regarding this when considering Paul's words in 2 Corinthians 3:7-18?

4. "This is My name for ever, the name you shall call Me from generation to generation."

A. How has the name of Creator been used throughout the centuries?

B. In what ways have we misused or forgotten His name?

C. What might it mean prophetically that His people WILL know His Name?

5. What do you do when you are called to speak for Yahweh?

A. It can get pretty intimidating, but He promises you need not worry! Why?

B. What does it mean to you that Yahweh is the playwright and we are the players?

C. Did Y'shua or the Holy Spirit ever speak on their own authority? Explain.

6. Discuss how trials are related to the Kingdom of heaven.

A. What should you do when you experience grief, trials and hardships?

B. What outcome can you expect if you use trials the way scripture says to use them? (Hint: consider Romans 8:18; 1 Peter 1:6-9; James 1:2-4; Romans 5:3-5)