

Moses Stood with God

Read Exodus 5 & 6

Moses' first meeting with Pharaoh did not seem to go well. Instead of relieving the burden on Israel, Pharaoh retaliated by making the burden even heavier (Exodus 5:6-21). As a result, the people of Israel, who had initially believed Moses, now turned against him (6:9).

As God's servant, Moses had to stand with God. That meant enduring misunderstanding from God's own people and powerful opposition from God's opponents. This is still the calling of God's servants. Misunderstanding from within and fierce opposition from outside are part of serving God.

Moses was discouraged. *"Behold the sons of Israel have not listened to me; how then will Pharaoh listen to me, for I am unskilled in speech?"* (Exodus 6:12, NASB)

It's OK to lose confidence in ourselves, as long as we cling to our confidence in God. God didn't assure Moses how intelligent, persuasive, and talented he was in himself. God only assured Moses that He and all His power were with Him. *"Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for under compulsion he will let them go, and under compulsion he will drive them out of his land...I am the Lord"* (Exodus 6:1-2, NASB)

Often patient endurance through a long, painful process is a necessary part of God displaying His full glory in our situation.

"See, I make you as God to Pharaoh...You shall speak all that I command you...But I will harden Pharaoh's heart that I may multiply My signs and My wonders in the land of Egypt. When Pharaoh does not listen to you, then I will lay My hand on Egypt and bring out My hosts, My people the sons of Israel, from the land of Egypt by great judgments. The Egyptians will know that I am the Lord."
(Exodus 7:1-5, NASB)

Moses' call to stand with God didn't end when Israel left Egypt. Throughout forty years in the wilderness, God positioned Moses as a mediator between Him and His people. Moses represented God to His people and His people to God.

Through all this, not only did Israel and Egypt experience God's presence and power in an undeniable way. Moses himself experienced that Almighty God accomplishes His purposes fully and gloriously through frail, flawed human creatures like us.

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