

RAISING A GOLDY GENERATION.

Exodus. 1

Exodus clearly is an almost seamless continuation from Genesis. 46:27. It brings to light the promises made by a God that was most out standing among the many the people of the time knew. The point of this book is to illuminate the eternity of God, the intentionality of God and the exceptional of God.

1. The Eternal God.

From Genesis, We see God interacting with man and instructing him to fill the earth. But Adam as is with all men falls into sin and messes up God's intended plan.

God's eternal bird eye view looks past all the wickedness and near extinction of mankind and starts the redemptive plan with a man named Abraham. He makes a promise, one now called the Abrahamic covenant. He promises Abraham's descendants will be a great multitude. More than the sand on the shores or stars in the sky.

Twice. He wants to fill the earth with the people. Twice he sets the stage for it. Why?

In Hab.2 .,God speaks to the enemies of His rule and order and gives them several woes... But sandwiched between them is a profound statement that makes God's point ever so clear.

" For the earth will be filled with the knowledge of the glory of the Lord as the waters cover the sea.

Habakkuk 2:14

Else where, God desires that all the nations, tongues, tribes and peoples know that the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob is the one true God and Lord.

The Psalms are littered with definite clarity on God's eternal purposes for the world and not just a small insignificant people.

Psalm 96:3-6

Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous deeds among all peoples. For great is the Lord and most worthy of praise; he is to be feared above all gods. For all the gods of the nations are idols, but the Lord made the heavens. Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and glory are in his sanctuary.

Psalm 22:27-28

All the ends of the earth will remember and turn to the Lord , and all the families of the nations will bow down before him, for dominion belongs to the Lord and he rules over the nations.

Psalm 10:16 NIV

The Lord is King for ever and ever; the nations will perish from his land.

God's eternal purpose is to fill the earth with the knowledge of himself.

Why? Is God egotistic? Is he egoistic? Does he have too high an opinion about himself? Does God want all this for himself,? Is he selfish? Is he self centered?

The nature of God is revealed in this honest search of God's character using his word.

Jesus said, to know him is eternal life.

In the beginning , God! All that is beautiful .all that is brilliant, all that is pristine... All that is glorious, powerful and honorable finds its source and origin in this eternal, all knowing and everlasting present being we have lovingly come to know as Lord and Savior.

God is not being vain when he says he is the best there is. Kebeyi kyabeyi.

He is all that and he knows it. Nothing can be like him.

This is the undertone theme of exodus. God's holiness is permanent, unaltered and irreversible. He is, He was and forever will be a world class apart. Idols, gods and powers cannot not be compared to Him. He is the ultimate reality of all things. In Him are all things.

Paul puts it this way. Colossians 1:15-17

The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

We see, God setting the stage for salvation over 1000 years before. He is the God of time.. Exodus 1:1 reminds us of this.

2. The Intentional God.

Exodus 1 : 6 -7 is quick to bring out God's intentionality.

He is careful to keep his promise /word. Jer.1:12 .

A whole generation of leaders, fathers, brothers, passed on... A new one came by, and 300 years later, the people's are now a nation.

At this point though, they have forgotten the Lord, they have been engrossed in the Egyptian traditions and wickedness... This though, isn't why they were enslaved.

God's purposes were being fulfilled and the enemy has from time immemorial tried to thwart them.

They filled that places per the instruction of God.

God was determined to see His glory revealed by increasing their numbers.

His redemptive plan to restore mankind, have all nations display His glory, this is what was being threatened

God remained on the course.

Why was He interested in the numbers? Why was he interested in the many people? That His glory may fill the earth. It was through this lowly nation he committed to reveal his glory through time.

God was preparing them to be set apart. To bring them out from among other nations that they may be a light to the world.

Why? Because the world had grown dark and wickedness prevailed. They could no longer see the Light.

Paul described it this way,

"For since the creation of the world God's invisible qualities—his eternal power and divine nature—have been clearly seen, being understood from what has been made, so that people are without excuse. For although they knew God, they neither glorified him as God nor gave thanks to him, but their thinking became futile and their foolish hearts were darkened. and exchanged the glory of the immortal God for images made to look like a mortal human being and birds and animals and reptiles. Therefore God gave them over in the sinful desires of their hearts to sexual impurity for the degrading of their bodies with one another. They exchanged the truth about God for a lie, and worshiped and served created things rather than the Creator—who is forever praised. Amen.

Romans 1:20-21, 23-25 NIV

Because of this, God decided to shine his light through a people he chose not because they were special in any way, but because He was gracious enough to

choose them. Through an idolater called Abraham, he picked them out and promised over his own name to have Him and his descendants be part of his redemptive plan.

When we ourselves may be far from him, in our thinking, troubled by our own pettiness, God through his Son draws us back to him.

3. The Exceptional God

As we read Vs 10-14, we see the enemy prevailing amidst the darkness. We see the Pharaoh plotting against the flicker of light. He was not alone. He definitely was not acting on his own agenda. From before time, the prince of the air purposed to destroy all that was beautiful and light with wickedness and darkness.

The enemy opposes God's rule, his reign and his authority. He does this by influencing the very creation God made to rebel...

Pharaoh was a tool in the hand of the enemy,... He was out for blood. He would wipe the entire nation off if he didn't need their labour..

the Enemies MO

Break their backs. Frustrates your plans, your efforts, your dreams, your purpose, your hopes....

He made the Israelites slaves in a foreign land that had become their home. They suffered in their slavery, they were degraded, their identity lost, their hopes snuffed out, **their backs broken**.... Or we would think...

And yet, Exodus 1:12 says

... **But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites"**

Hallelujah. God's purposes prevail. He is careful to see His word fulfilled. His promise to Abraham in spite of the evil, the wickedness and the atrocities, God still comes through.

They multiplied, and filled the land.

Though they may have been distraught and broken, God worked through them. It can only be God doing this. Raising a nation in spite of the opposition...

He is exceptionally wise.... And patient... Waiting it out that the enemy may fully be exposed and permanently defeated ...

Until then, we wait.

Vs 15-21, shows a deeper progression of evil. If the enemy could not break their backs, he would break **their spirit**. He would crush their hopes. He would snuff out their future,. He would thwart God's plans with this lowly nation by taking out their precious treasure.. Their boys. Their legacy. Their heritage. Their very existence was challenged.

For children are a heritage from the Lord. A sign of blessing, continuity, survival.

The enemy knew this and attacked.

Yet God, in a remarkable and exceptional way, used the Hebrew Midwives that somehow still feared him to avert Pharaoh's mission to destroy The people of Israel.

God didn't strike Pharaoh dead at the thought of ethnic cleansing or didn't have him grow boils and hair on his teeth....

He preserved the nation of Israel. And even used the very weapons of the enemy to extend his agenda. Increasing the number of Israelites. The midwives themselves had families of their own...

God's plans prevailed exceptionally. He is an exceptional God.

The Charge

You may be under the York of slavery. You may be tied down and you are tapping out of life.

You are tired of it all. Tired of the empty promises,, this is your year.. This is your month, this is the day..... And Evey day, every month, Evey year passes and it is the same as last year....

If for you, God feels like a distant character in in a history of your life and you are just holding on by a thread of hope....

I ask you to look beyond your circumstances. Look above your distresses. Look past the enemy, past his schemes to break your back that you labour in vain, and break your spirit that hope for nothing.....

Look past the grave of your inadequacy, inability, insufficiency, hopelessness, despair.....

Look beyond all of that and see the Cross.

Through TIME, through PURPOSE, and through the EXTRAODINARY,

we see the ETERNAL God

we see the INTENTIONAL God

we see the EXCEPTIONAL God.

Once you were alienated from [this]God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. **This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven,** and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

Colossians 1:21-23 NIV

<https://bible.com/bible/111/col.1.21-23.NIV>

This is Our God.