

Exodus 1:14

*“And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage . . .”*

The conditions of life were growing worse and worse for the people of God living in Egypt. They had once been a highly favored part of the nation, even receiving special treatment. Now they were being persecuted, and faced annihilation. Their freedoms had been taken away, and their children’s future seemed bleak. As the story unfolds, we are told one of their own will rise to a place of prominence within the nation. What hope must have stirred within the people, when they learned that the prince, the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, was actually a believer. It would seem, it was only a matter of time before the political climate would change, and the people of God would be favored again. Sadly, that was not the case. The story progresses and we find Moses, the man of God, is incapable of rescuing Israel from bondage, and must flee to the wilderness. All hope seemed lost for the people of God. Little did they know, God had a plan. He would deliver His people, but it would not be through political reform.

Exodus 2:23-25

*“ . . . Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry came up to God because of the bondage. So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.”*

As conditions deteriorated, the people of God began to cry out to God. They realized their hope would not be found in politics or policy. They realized their only hope would come from heaven. They groaned and cried out, and those cries met the ears of God, and deliverance was given.

The present condition of our world has its parallel in the pages of Exodus. The Christian once held a favored status in our land. Religious freedoms were granted because the men and women who were involved in the founding of our nation, realized the need for the hand of God to be upon us. Sadly, as time has moved on, that status has been lost, and the Christian is looked at as a threat. Just as deliverance for Israel was realized in crying out to God, so our hope is not in Washington, but in heaven. If we want to see the moral climate change, we must obey the call of Scripture and humble ourselves and pray (2 Chronicles 7:14). We must also realize, our greatest need is not a balanced budget or a reformed foreign policy. What the world needs is Jesus.

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