

# Sermon Notes

## 15<sup>th</sup> September 2019

### Exodus 1, 2

#### Salvation stories

- The Bible contains many stories – but together they make one long story – how God rescues human beings from the mess we're in
- The pinnacle of that story is how Jesus came to die for us – we studied Mark's gospel earlier
- But there's another salvation story – how God rescued his people – in Exodus
- That story was very important too:
  - We saw how the psalms kept referring back to it
  - The story of Jesus builds on it
- We'll be looking at Exodus between now and Easter

#### Building on the past

- In Hebrew, the book starts with the word 'and' – it carries on from before
- It builds on the story of Genesis – it starts with clear references to the story
- In Genesis God called Abraham to be the founder of a family he would use to rescue the world
- Abraham's great grandson was Joseph – rejected by his brothers, sold as a slave, ended up in Egypt, rose to power and rescued his family (Genesis 37, 39-47)
- 70 descendants of Abraham went down to Egypt

#### Changed circumstances

- Exodus 1 covers 400 years of history in just a few verses
- God's command to Adam (Genesis 1:18) was to multiply in numbers
- God's promise/command to Abraham was to become a great nation (Gen 12:1-3)
- The promise was repeated to later generations (Gen 26:3-4, 28:3-4)
- This was a command the Israelites/Hebrews had no problems obeying!
  - Their numbers increased, pharaoh took fright and started persecuting them (Exodus 1:6-14)
  - Even that didn't stop them growing, so he gave an order to kill all the male children (Exodus 1:15-22)

#### God remembers

- Exodus 2:23-25 God heard and God remembered
  - Not that he'd forgotten – by this time the rescue plan had already started when God sent Moses (Exodus 2:1-22)

- God works through people. We like instant answers, but God's work can take time.
- What God remembered was his covenant with Abraham and his family. This is his long term plan to save the world.

#### Moses

- Born under pharaoh's threat
- Rescued by his mother
  - The word used for basket is the same as Noah's ark!
- Adopted by an Egyptian princess
  - Gave access and royal connections
  - Kept connection with his own people through his mother
- Anger and impetuosity combine when he kills an Egyptian
- Everybody knows – including pharaoh
- Moses flees to Midian – but falls on his feet (again)
  - Finds family of Reuel/Jethro
  - Marries and has a son
  - Settles down to life as a shepherd

#### Trust and faithfulness

- God was working even through the 'quiet times' of history
- When history got 'interesting', they longed for the quiet times!
- Our role is to trust in God to be faithful to his promises
- Testimonies are good! Can we share our story to encourage someone else?

#### Space for your notes

*Written by Ian McLenaghan, September 2019*