

Exodus

From Slavery to Sonship

Moses Returns to Egypt

Exodus 4:18-31 - Part 7

I. Some Practical Family Matters.

- a. Moses' father-in-law. vv.18,19
- b. Moses' family. v.20
- c. Moses' brother. vv.27-31

II. Some Profound Theological Matters. vv.21-23

- a. The matter of the hardening of Pharaoh's heart. v.21

What it does not mean: God *infused sin and unbelief* into Pharaoh's heart.

God hardened Pharaoh's heart.

Cf. 4:2; 7:3;9:12; 10:1,20,27; 11:10; 14:4,8,17

Pharaoh hardens his own heart.

Cf. 7:13,14,22; 8:15,19,32; 9:7,34,35

What it means in part: God *judicially* hardened Pharaoh's heart.

"This act of God should be considered *judicial and real*...God reserves the right to judge sin and the sinner whenever He desires." John Davis, *Moses and the God's of Egypt* p.70

Some possible reasons for this hardening.

1. It brings just and deserved judgment upon Pharaoh and Egypt.
Cf. Dt.2:30; Josh.11:20
2. It will become a means of displaying God's glory and power.
Cf. 9:16; Josh.2:10-11; Isa.46:9; Neh.9:10;
3. It will serve as an ongoing benefit for God's Old Covenant people.
Cf. 6:6-8; Dt.6:21,22; 7:8,18; 11:2-4; 29:2
4. It will serve as a benefit for God's New Covenant people.
Cf. Rom.9:14-23

- b. The matter of firstborn sons. vv.22,23

Cf. Dt.7:6-8; Hos.11:1; Matt.2:13-15; Jn.1:12,13; Rom.8:29

- c. The matter of circumcision. vv.24-26

Cf. Gen.17:10,11