

### **2Corinthians 4:8-Passion**

- 8 Though we experience every kind of pressure, we're not crushed. At times we don't know what to do, but quitting is not an option.
- 9 We are persecuted by others, but **God has not forsaken us.** We may be knocked down, but not out.

### **Exodus 1:7-8-NKJV**

- 7 But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them.
- 8 ***Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.***

### **Exodus 1:9-10-NKJV**

- 9 And he said to his people, "Look, the people of the children of Israel *are* more and mightier than we;
- 10 come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and it happen, in the event of war, that they also join our enemies and fight against us, and so go up out of the land."

### **Exodus 1:11-NKJV**

- 11 *Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with their burdens.* And they built for Pharaoh supply cities, Pithom and Raamses.

**When we go through changes, hard times when there used to be good times, in the midst of chaos, remember:**

### **1. GOD'S PROMISES NEVER CHANGE...THEY ARE ENDURING PROMISES.**

### **1Peter 1:25-NKJV**

- 25 **...but the Word of the Lord endures forever.**

### **Exodus 2:23-24-NKJV**

- 23 However, after a long time [*nearly forty years*] the king of Egypt died; and the Israelites were sighing and groaning because of the bondage. They kept crying, and their cry because of slavery ascended to God.
- 24 **And God heard their sighing and groaning and [earnestly] remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.**

### **Galatians 3:16-AMP**

- 16 Now the promises (covenants, agreements) were decreed and ***made to Abraham*** and his Seed (his Offspring, his Heir).

### **Genesis 15:13-14-NKJV**

- 13 And [*God*] said to Abram, Know positively that your descendants will be strangers dwelling as temporary residents in a land that is not theirs [*Egypt*], and they will be slaves there and will be afflicted and oppressed for 400 years.
- 14 ***But I will bring judgment on that nation whom they will serve, and afterward they will come out with great possessions.***

### **2. PERSECUTION OR HARD TIMES WILL EITHER MAKE US EITHER BITTER OR BETTER PEOPLE...THE CHOICE IS OURS.**

### **1 Peter 4:12-14-Passion**

- 12 Beloved friends, ***if life gets extremely difficult, with many tests,*** don't be bewildered as though something strange were overwhelming you.
- 13 **Instead, continue to rejoice,** for you, in a measure, have shared in the sufferings of the Anointed One ***so that*** you can share in the revelation of his glory and celebrate with even greater gladness!
- 14 If you are insulted because of the name of Christ, you are greatly blessed, **because the Spirit of glory and power, who is the Spirit of God, rests upon you.**

**The Israelites multiplied and spread out through the persecution.**

### **Exodus 1:12-13-NKJV**

- 12 But **the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew.** And they were in **dread** of the children of Israel.
- 13 So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor.

**Dread** – "to have an disgust for and horror, a sickening feeling."

### **Exodus 1:15-16-NKJV**

- 15 Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of one was ***Shiphrah*** and the name of the other ***Puah***;
- 16 and he said, "When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see ***them*** on the birthstools, if it is a son, then you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live."

### **Exodus 1:17-19-NKJV**

- 17 But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.
- 18 So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, "Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?"
- 19 And the midwives said to Pharaoh, "Because the Hebrew women *are* not like the Egyptian women; for they *are* lively and give birth before the midwives come to them."

**Exodus 1:20-21-NKJV**

20 Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty.

21 And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households for them.

Remember some of the truths of these scriptures:

a. Hard Times Don't Erase God's Promises.

Exodus 2:24 – GW ... and He remembered his promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

b. Hard Times Doesn't Escape God's Notice.

Exodus 2:25-GW - ... God saw the Israelites being oppressed and was concerned about them.

**Exodus 3:7-NKJV**

3 And the LORD said: "*I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.*

**Psalm 34:19-NKJV**

19 The righteous person *faces many troubles, but the LORD comes to the rescue each time.*

c. Heavy Tests And Trials Don't Hide From View God's Concern.

**1 Peter 5:7-Passion**

7 Pour out all your worries and stress upon him and leave them there, for he always tenderly cares for you.



**NOT FORSAKEN  
AND  
NOT FORGOTTEN!**

**Sunday, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2017**

**Pastor Audie Clairmont**