



## Exodus 1-18 Reflection

### Starting Questions:

- What do you think the original author was trying to get across?
- What does the passage say about God/man?
- How does the passage inform my response to God?

**These are some of our starting questions, but when we approach Scripture we are often left with additional questions of our own. This is a good thing! Here are a few questions we had while reading. Feel free to answer them, or come up with a few of your own:**

 (Cpt. 3:11-12) What is important about the way God answers Moses' questions dealing with his insecurities?

 (Cpt. 3:14) What does God reveal about himself through the name, "I am who I am," especially in relation to the other gods and religions with which Moses was familiar? (The ESV follows the tradition of replacing Yahweh, "I am," with LORD).


### Literary Elements (Themes and Repetition):

#### Hand

(3:8,19-20; 4:2-20; 5:21; 6:1; 7:4-19; 8:5-17; 9:3-33; 10:21-22; 11:5; 12:11; 13:3-14; 14:16-30; 15:6-20, 16:3;17:5-9) This motif involves God's promise to deliver his people out of Egypt by his mighty hand through the hand of Moses. This directly contrasts with Pharaoh's hand, and consequentially challenges his authority and the authority of his gods that all of Egypt and Israel, and all who hear of it may "know that I am the LORD" (6:7; 7:5,17; 8:22; 10:2; 14:4,18; 16:12).

#### Hard Heart

(4:21, 7:3,14,22,23; 8:15,19,32; 9:7,12,34,35,: 10:1,20,27: 11:10: 14:4,8,17:15:8) After Noah and the flood, God further establishes that the source of evil lies in the heart, and he demonstrates his sovereignty as he uses Pharaoh's hard heart for his ultimate glory and the ultimate good of his people. God also uses Pharaoh's attitude towards him as a comparison to the condition of Israel's heart toward God. He reveals that he will work through the hardness of their hearts even as they fail to rest in him. It would seem Israel, too, needs a new heart.

 **Prayer:** Heavenly Father, thank You for revealing Yourself as the one true Living God, as I Am. Transform my heart that I may respond to You in trust and rest in who You are, and worship You as the only one who satisfies my soul.