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Pray for the oppressed and trapped

Psalm 10:17-18:

O Lord, you have heard the desire of the humble; you will make their hearts firm, and you will listen to their prayers, and you will plead for the fatherless and the oppressed, so that men will no longer threaten them.

Psalm 146:7-9:

He is the avenger of the afflicted, he is the one who feeds the hungry, and the LORD frees the captive. The LORD opens the eyes of the blind, the LORD lifts up the downtrodden, the LORD loves the righteous.

Isaiah 61:1:

The Spirit of the Sovereign Lord is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me to bring good news to the humble; he has sent me to heal the broken hearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release from the prison to the prisoners.

These verses speak of God's concern for the oppressed, the oppressed, and the troubled. He heard the pleas of the humble, and pleaded for the orphan and the oppressed. God is the avenger of the afflicted, loving the righteous and freeing the prisoner. The Spirit of God rests on those anointed to deliver the good news, heal the broken hearted, and proclaim deliverance to the captives.

These verses show that God stands with those oppressed by dictators, that He cares about their suffering and helps them find justice and liberation. While the reality of pain and oppression can be hopeless, these scriptures remind us that God is just and merciful, who will deliver justice in due time and offer hope and comfort to those who suffer. Lord, in our prayers, we pray for

people around the world who are ruled by dictators. Aggravated by their misery, they face situations of oppression and injustice. These people are experiencing unspeakable suffering and torture. They live under the shadow of oppression, fear and injustice, their freedom is denied, their dignity is trampled upon, and their voices are silenced.

Dear father Lord,

Please stretch out your hand, comfort the people that are experiencing unspeakable suffering and torture, give them strength and courage. Let them feel your presence and comfort in their plight. Lord, may your love and mercy fill their hearts so that they can persevere and not give up their pursuit of freedom, justice and human rights.

Lord, please also give your attention to those who have lost loved ones under these dictatorships. They experience the intense torment of loss and pain, and their hearts are filled with pain and sorrow. Lord, may you warm their hearts with your comfort and grace, give them hope and shelter

We know that, Lord, you are a righteous God who cares for the oppressed and suffering. May your justice and fairness prevail in these places, and may your truth and peace prevail in these countries. Lord, may your kingdom come and liberate these suffering people so that they may live a life of freedom, peace and dignity.

I ask you to give them strength and courage so that they can stand firm in their faith and unswervingly fulfill the mission you have given them, just like Moses and Aaron.

Human selfishness and stubbornness lead to resistance against you, which makes liberation and justice more difficult. Save them, Lord, to view the world with justice and love. Teach us to understand our own shortcomings and mistakes so we can better serve you and others.

Although the current situation looks difficult, please rest assured that your plans will continue. In the struggle of justice and good against evil, you will lead us forward. Help us discern truth and fight for justice, on the side of the oppressed and suffering. Lead us, Lord, and let us be partners in Your righteous work to bring liberation and peace to the world.

In prayer, we also remember our responsibilities. Please grant us courage and wisdom so that we can be witnesses of justice and love. Help us to be a tool for changing the world, to build peace and harmony in your nation by caring and caring for others.

Hear our prayers, Lord, for we believe in you as Almighty God, whose love and mercy never fail.

I pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Amen.

Exodus CHAPTER 5

Ex. 5:1 Afterwards Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “This is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the desert.’”

Ex. 5:2 Pharaoh said, “Who is the LORD, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the LORD and I will not let Israel go.”

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Ex. 5:3 Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Now let us take a three-day journey into the desert to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God, or he may strike us with plagues or with the sword.”

Ex. 5:4 But the king of Egypt said, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their labour? Get back to your work!”

Ex. 5:5 Then Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are now numerous, and you are stopping them from working.”

Ex. 5:6 That same day Pharaoh gave this order to the slave drivers and foremen in charge of the people:

Ex. 5:7 “You are no longer to supply the people with straw for making bricks; let them go and gather their own straw.

Ex. 5:8 But require them to make the same number of bricks as before; don’t reduce the quota. They are lazy; that is why they are crying out, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’

Ex. 5:9 Make the work harder for the men so that they keep working and pay no attention to lies.”

Ex. 5:10 Then the slave drivers and the foremen went out and said to the people, “This is what Pharaoh says: ‘I will not give you any more straw.

Ex. 5:11 Go and get your own straw wherever you can find it, but

your work will not be reduced at all.”

Ex. 5:12 So the people scattered all over Egypt to gather stubble to use for straw.

Ex. 5:13 The slave drivers kept pressing them, saying, “Complete the work required of you for each day, just as when you had straw.”

Ex. 5:14 The Israelite foremen appointed by Pharaoh’s slave drivers were beaten and were asked, “Why didn’t you meet your quota of bricks yesterday or today, as before?”

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Ex. 5:15 Then the Israelite foremen went and appealed to Pharaoh: “Why have you treated your servants this way?

Ex. 5:16 Your servants are given no straw, yet we are told, ‘Make bricks!’ Your servants are being beaten, but the fault is with your own people.”

Ex. 5:17 Pharaoh said, “Lazy, that’s what you are — lazy! That is why you keep saying, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.’

Ex. 5:18 Now get to work. You will not be given any straw, yet you must produce your full quota of bricks.”

Ex. 5:19 The Israelite foremen realised they were in trouble when they were told, “You are not to reduce the number of bricks required of you for each day.”

Ex. 5:20 When they left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them,

Ex. 5:21 and they said, “May the LORD look upon you and judge you! You have made us a stench to Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us.”

Ex. 5:22 Moses returned to the LORD and said, “O Lord, why have you brought trouble upon this people? Is this why you sent me?

Ex. 5:23 Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble upon this people, and you have not rescued your people at all.”

Chapter 5 of Exodus in the Bible begins with Moses and Aaron returning to Pharaoh to again demand that he let the Israelites go. However, instead of acquiescing, Pharaoh accuses the Israelites of being lazy and gives them even more work to do. He orders that they gather their own straw to make bricks, but they must still produce the same amount of bricks as before.

The Israelite foremen plead with Pharaoh to be released from their hard labor, but Pharaoh refuses and accuses Moses and Aaron of causing the Israelites to become idle. The foremen then turn on Moses and Aaron, blaming them for their plight.

Moses then goes to God and complains about the situation. He asks why God has allowed this to happen and why He has not yet saved the Israelites. God responds by reminding Moses of His promises and assuring him that He will keep His covenant with the Israelites.

Despite the setbacks, Moses and Aaron continue to obey God's commands and persist in their efforts to deliver the Israelites. The chapter ends with the Israelites in despair over their difficult circumstances, and Moses questioning God about His plan.

the key verses Chapter 5 of Exodus in the Bible

Exodus chapter 5 continues the story of Moses and the Israelites' struggle to be freed from slavery in Egypt.

Here are some key verses from Exodus chapter 5:

1. "Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, 'This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the desert'" (Exodus 5:1): This verse shows how Moses and Aaron confront Pharaoh and demand that he release the Israelites so that they can worship God.
2. "But Pharaoh said, 'Who is the Lord, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord and I will not let Israel go'" (Exodus 5:2): This verse shows how Pharaoh rejects Moses and Aaron's request and denies the existence of the Israelites' God.
3. "Then the slave drivers and the foremen went out and said to the people, 'This is what Pharaoh says: I will not give you any more straw. Go and get your own straw wherever you can find it, but your work will not be reduced at all'" (Exodus 5:10-11): This verse shows how Pharaoh punishes the Israelites for Moses and Aaron's demands by increasing their workload and denying them the materials they need to make bricks.
4. "When they left Pharaoh, they found Moses and Aaron waiting to meet them, and they said, 'May the Lord look upon you and judge you! You have made us a stench to Pharaoh and his officials and have put a sword in their hand to kill us'" (Exodus 5:20-21): This verse shows how the Israelites blame Moses and Aaron for their increased suffering under Pharaoh's rule.
5. "Moses returned to the Lord and said, 'O Lord, why have you brought trouble upon this people? Is this why you sent me? Ever since I went to Pharaoh to speak in your name, he has brought trouble upon this people, and you have not rescued your people at all'" (Exodus 5:22-23): This

verse shows how Moses questions God's plan and expresses his frustration with the lack of progress in freeing the Israelites from slavery.

Here's a reflection on Exodus chapter 5:

Exodus chapter 5 depicts a critical moment in the narrative of the Israelites' liberation from Egypt. In this chapter, Moses and Aaron confront Pharaoh, demanding the release of the Israelites, but instead, their request is met with increased oppression and harsher labor for the Hebrew slaves.

One of the central themes in this chapter is the reality of resistance and adversity in the pursuit of God's purposes. Moses and Aaron obediently deliver God's message to Pharaoh, seeking freedom for the Israelites. However, Pharaoh responds by intensifying the burden on the Israelites, making their labor even more difficult. The Israelites, in turn, grow discouraged and blame Moses and Aaron for their increased suffering.

This chapter highlights the struggle and resistance that often accompanies the work of God. It reminds us that when we step out in faith and align ourselves with God's plans, we may encounter opposition and obstacles along the way. The journey towards liberation and fulfillment of God's promises is not always smooth, and setbacks are to be expected.

Another important theme in this chapter is the need for perseverance and trust in the face of adversity. Despite the initial setback, Moses and Aaron do not give up. They continue to rely on God's guidance and present their concerns to Him. Their trust in God remains steadfast as they seek His wisdom and direction for the way forward.

Reflecting on Exodus chapter 5, we can draw several lessons for our own lives. Firstly, it reminds us that obedience to God's calling does not guarantee immediate success or freedom from difficulties. In fact, it may even lead to increased challenges. However, it is essential to remain faithful and trust in God's faithfulness and timing.

Secondly, this chapter teaches us the importance of perseverance and resilience in the face of adversity. Moses and Aaron demonstrate resilience by seeking God's guidance and continuing to pursue their mission despite the hardships they face. Similarly, we are called to persevere in our own journey, trusting that God is with us, even when the path seems difficult.

Furthermore, Exodus chapter 5 prompts us to examine our response to setbacks and challenges. The Israelites' discouragement and blaming of Moses and Aaron reveal the tendency to doubt and assign

blame when faced with adversity. Instead, we are called to turn to God, seeking His guidance, and finding strength in Him rather than blaming others or giving in to despair.

In conclusion, Exodus chapter 5 portrays the resistance and adversity faced by Moses, Aaron, and the Israelites in their quest for freedom. It underscores the need for perseverance, trust in God's faithfulness, and reliance on His guidance. By reflecting on these lessons, we can find encouragement to press forward in our own journeys, even when faced with obstacles and setbacks, knowing that God is with us and His purposes will ultimately prevail.