

EXODUS: The Movement of God's People

WEEK 2, AUGUST 23, 2023

Let My People Go: The Politics of Yahweh

Readings: *Exodus 5:1-15:21*

- I. Review
 - A. Our Story
 - B. Hebrews

- II. The Politics of God
 - A. Moses the Hebrew vs. Sargon the Akkadian
 - B. Yahweh vs. Pagan gods
 - C. Bush and Desert not Tree and River
 - D. God of Freedom Everywhere – *Amos 9:7*
 - E. Walk like a Hebrew!!!!

- III. More Bricks: How to Resist All Pharaohs (*Exodus 5:1-9*)
 - A. scarcity vs. abundance
 - B. productivity vs. sabbath
 - C. alienation vs. identity

Reflection:

- 1) In what ways does our society offer a narrative of scarcity, productivity, and alienation as we pursue materialistic pleasures?
- 2) Sometimes the “stuff” that we own really ends up owning us, how much “stuff” is enough and why are human beings never satisfied?

- IV. A Liberating God
 - A. The Lord (Read *Exodus 6:2-8*) Self-Identify
 - B. The Plagues – Creation Undone, Blood, Death, Justice
 - C. The Passover (Read *Exodus 12:1-14*)
 - D. The Exodus
 - E. The Crossing – Sea of Reeds, Forward, Creation, Irony of Water, Amniotic waters
 - F. The Song (Read *Exodus 15:1-21*)

Reflection:

- 1) In what ways is the sacrament of Holy Communion a meal of liberation like Passover?
- 2) Read Mary’s Magnificat in Luke 1:46-56, what does it have in common with the song of Moses and Miriam? Compare this to the Spiritual, “Oh, Mary Don’t You Weep.”
- 3) Who in our world finds this news of Yahweh, the liberating God, to be good news, and who finds it to be bad news? In what ways does this fundamental nature of God provide good and bad news to you?

Next Week:

Is the Lord Among Us or Not? The Wilderness Experience

Readings: *Exodus 15:22-18:27*

Mary, Don't You Weep

African American Spiritual

Oh, oh, Mary (*repeated*)
Oh, oh, Mary, don't you weep
Don't moan
(Tell Martha, don't you moan)
Listen, Mary
(Oh, Mary, don't you weep)
Tell your sister don't moan
(Tell Martha, don't you moan)

Pharaoh's Army
(Pharaoh's army)
All of them men got drowned in the sea one day
(Drowned in the Red Sea)
Yes they did. Mary,
(Oh, Mary don't you weep)
Mary, don't weep (Don't weep)
Tell Martha not to moan
(Tell Martha, don't you moan)
Don't moan, don't moan

Now if I could
(If I could)
If I could I surely would
(Surely would)
I'd stand right up on the rock
(Stand on the rock)
I'd stand right where Moses stood
(Moses stood)
Yes I would

Pharaoh's army
(Pharaoh's army)
I know you know that story of how they got
drowned in the sea one day,
(Drowned in the Red Sea)
Jesus said, "Mary"
(Oh, Mary, don't you weep)
"Mary, don't weep" (Don't weep)
"Don't weep, tell your sister not to moan"
(Tell Martha not to moan)
Don't moan, don't moan

(Oh, Mary don't you weep)
We gonna review the story of two sisters
(Oh, Mary, don't you weep)
repeat
....

Jesus said,
(Oh, Mary, don't you weep)
(Oh, Mary, don't you weep)
(Tell Martha, don't you moan)
(Oh, Mary, don't you weep)
(Tell Martha, don't you moan)

Because, you see, Pharaoh's army
(Pharaoh's army)
Pharaoh's army, they got drowned
(Drowned in the Red Sea)
(Oh Mary, don't you weep)
Mary, don't weep
(Don't weep)
Mary
(Tell Martha don't you moan)