

March 23–29

Exodus 1–6

“I Have Remembered My Covenant”



# Israelites in Bondage

Exd 1:5-12,22

What did the Egyptians fear that led them to enslave the Israelites?

## Mark E. Petersen

“The fulfillment of God’s promises to Abraham required that Israel should become numerous. To accomplish this, the little family, numbering only 70 persons, needed sufficient time and a peaceful place in which to grow. Egypt was that place.

“Palestine was a battleground for warring nations that moved back and forth in their conquests between the Nile and the Euphrates. Israel would have found no peace there. They required stable conditions for their eventual growth and development.” (Moses: Man of Miracles, pg. 27–30)

# Moses In Pharaoh's Court

Hebrews 11:23-26

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment.

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

## Bruce R. McConkie

"Reared and taught amid all the wealth, splendor, and influence of Pharaoh's court; having at his command the prestige and power of the royal household; knowing he was assured of a life of ease and affluence-yet Moses, because of faith in Christ, chose to suffer with slaves and bondsmen of his own race rather than to accept the honors, wealth, and power of the greatest nation then on earth." (Doctrinal New Testament Commentary, 3: 213)

# Moses In Pharaoh's Court

Acts 7:20-27

22 And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.

23 And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

24 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian:

25 For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not.

26 And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another?

27 But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

# Moses the Deliverer

Exd 3:4-9

What great work did the Lord reveal to Moses that He was about to bring forth?

# Moses the Deliverer

Exd 3:10-12

What do we learn from the Lord's response when Moses questions his ability to deliver Israel?

## Neal A. Maxwell

"Moses said to God, 'Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?' Subsequently, after experiencing difficulty, 'Moses returned unto the Lord, and said, Lord,... why is it that thou hast sent me?' Nevertheless, after some needed tutoring, Moses loyally did as he was divinely bidden." (Men and Women of Christ, pg. 115)

## Lorenzo Snow

"Moses felt his inability and incompetency to do that which was required of him. The work was too great. It was too profound in its nature and character, and it required that which Moses felt he did not possess in power and ability; and he felt his weakness... So it is with the elders who are called to go forth to the nations of the earth as ministers of the gospel. They feel their inadequacy. They feel their insufficiency." (Brian H. Stuy, Collected Discourses, vol. 5, October 10 1887)

# Moses and the Elders of Israel

Exd 3:13-15

Why do you think Moses felt it was necessary to reveal God's identity to the Israelites?

## Russell M. Nelson

"Jehovah is derived from the Hebrew word Hayah, which means 'to be' or 'to exist.' A form of the word Hayah in the Hebrew text of the Old Testament was translated into English as 'I Am'. Remarkably, 'I Am' was used by Jehovah as a name for Himself.... [Jehova] revealed to Moses this very name that He had meekly and modestly chosen for His own premortal identification—'I Am.'

“Later in His mortal ministry,... when Jesus was taunted about His acquaintanceship with Abraham: ‘Then said the Jews unto him,... hast thou seen Abraham? Jesus said unto them, Verily, verily, I say unto you, Before Abraham was, I am’ (John 8:57–58). Jehovah—the great I Am and God of the Old Testament—clearly identified Himself when the resurrected Jesus personally appeared in His glory to the Prophet Joseph Smith and Oliver Cowdery in the Kirtland Temple... saying: ‘I am the first and the last; I am he who liveth, I am he who was slain’ (D&C 110:2–4). Jesus fulfilled His responsibility as Jehovah, ‘the Great I Am,’ with eternal consequence.” (“Jesus the Christ—Our Master and More,” pg. 20)

# Moses and the Elders of Israel

Exd 3:16-17

# Moses and the Elders of Israel

Exd 4:1

# Moses and the Elders of Israel

Exd 4:10-15

What does this passage teach us about how the Lord accepts our weaknesses and helps us do His work despite them?

## Henry B. Eyring

"None of us can do the work... relying solely on our own wisdom and talents. That is because this is not our work—it is the Lord's. So the only way to succeed is to rely on Him....

"So if you feel a little overwhelmed, take that as a good sign. It indicates that you can sense the magnitude of the trust God has placed in you. It means that you have some small understanding of what the priesthood really is." (CR, April 2017)

## Richard C. Edgley

"Moses made another attempt to express his feelings of inadequacy. He explained that he was 'slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.' In response, the Lord said, 'Who hath made man's mouth?' He explained that He would 'be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.' When Moses still expressed his uncertainty, the Lord assigned Aaron, Moses's brother, to be Moses's mouthpiece.

"Undoubtedly Moses was comforted. He understood that the Lord was on his side and that he would be able to perform the task." ("Lessons from the Old Testament," Ensign, Jan. 2006)

# Moses and the Elders of Israel

Exd 4:27-31

What does the Israelites' need to see signs before believing Moses and Aaron teach us about the state of their faith?

# Moses and the Elders of Israel

Exd 5:19-21

What does this passage teach us about the strength of the Israelites' faith when it was tested by increased trials?

# Moses and the Elders of Israel

Exd 6:6-9

What does the Lord's need to continually repeat His promises reveal about the Israelites' faith and spiritual development?

## Mark E. Petersen

"There was purpose in all [God] did, and as he permitted Pharaoh to resist, he also was teaching the monarch that the God of Israel was mightier than the gods of Egypt. This lesson was not alone for the Egyptians, either, for the Israelites themselves had to learn that great fact, inasmuch as many of them had become worshipers of the Egyptian deities.

"The Lord was under covenant to bring his people out, and he would keep his word... But when Moses carried that message to the people, 'they hearkened not unto Moses for anguish of spirit, and for cruel bondage.'

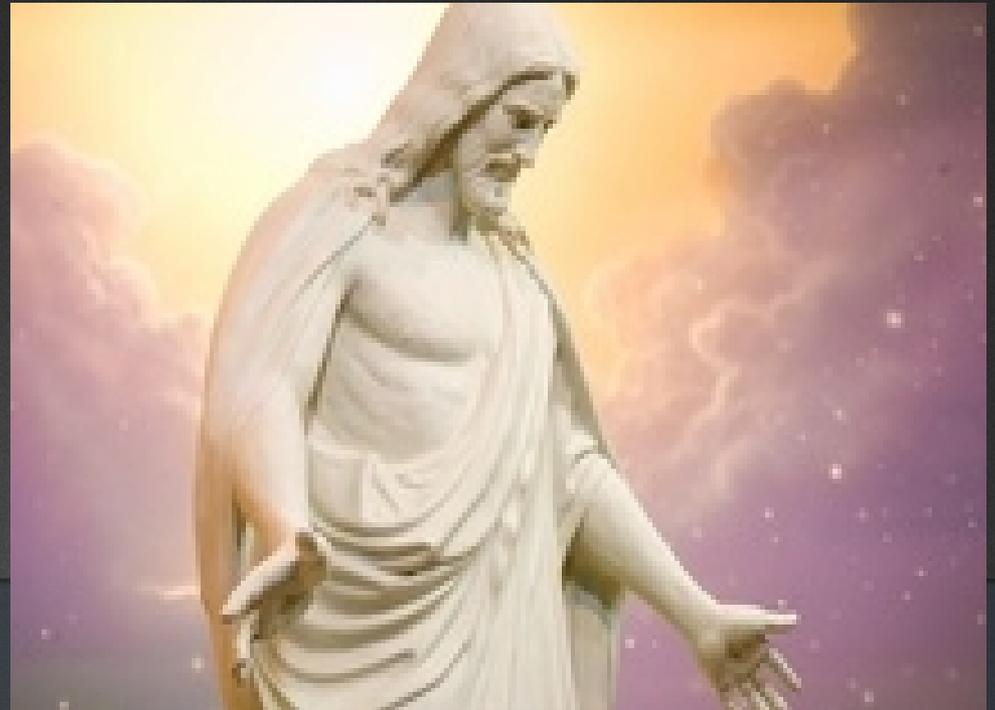
"Between the complaints of the people and the resistance of the king, Moses had a difficult time." (Moses: Man of Miracles, pg. 61-62)

Next Week:

April 6–12

Exodus 7–13

“Remember This Day, In Which Ye Came  
Out From Egypt”



# How Long Were the Israelites in Egypt?

Exodus 12:40

Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.

Moses was the Great Grandson of Levi

Levi → Kohath → Amram → Moses

Kohath was one of the 70 Israelites who joined Joseph in Egypt (Genesis 46:11) and he lived to be 133 (Exodus 6:18)

Amram lived to be 137 (Exodus 6:20)

Moses delivered the Israelites from Egypt when he was 80 (Exodus 7:7)

# How Long Were the Israelites in Egypt?

If Kohath was a newborn when he came to Egypt  
And if Amram was born the year Kohath died  
And if Moses was born the year Amram died

$$133 + 137 + 80 = 350 \text{ years in Egypt}$$

More realistic – If the fathers were 60 when their sons were born

$$60 + 60 + 80 = 200 \text{ years in Egypt}$$

Galatians 3:16-7

16 Now to Abraham and his seed were the promises made...

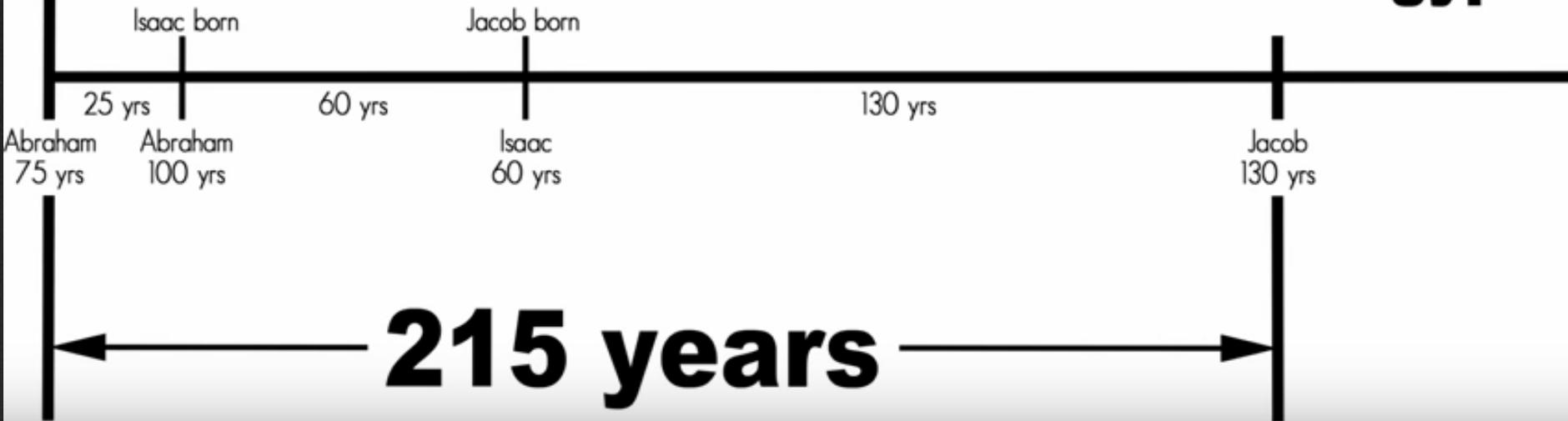
17 And this I say, that the covenant, that was confirmed before of God in Christ, the law, which was four hundred and thirty years after, cannot disannul, that it should make the promise of none effect

# How Long Were the Israelites in Egypt?

**Abraham  
received promise**

Entered Canaan

**All of Israel  
arrived in Egypt**



$$25 + 60 + 130 = 215$$

# How Long Were the Israelites in Egypt?



$430 - 215 = 215$  years in Egypt