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OUT



TO
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IN

Drawn Out to be Drawn In

August 6, 2023 Message Notes

TEXT: EXODUS 6:6-8

Have you ever asked, “where is God when you need Him?” The people of Israel have reason to ask the same question. He was already there, at work in the middle of their adversity. God is not far from you either.



NOTES

“Where is God when you need Him?” Have you ever said that?

- Maybe you are in a circumstance beyond your control; maybe you got blindsided.
- Maybe you saw it coming and didn't know what to do.
- Maybe you've been doing your best, living full of faith and seeking God's righteousness, yet look what happened.
- Maybe you are in a mess of your own making.

Have you ever found yourself saying: “what I need is a miracle?”

Open the book of Exodus. The people of Israel have reason to ask the same question.

The Egyptians “put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor... they made their lives bitter with hard labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their hard labor the Egyptians used them ruthlessly.”

Exodus 1:11, 14

It is believed that the great pyramids of Egypt were built with slave labor.

Pharaoh felt threatened by their numbers and wanted every Hebrew baby boy killed at birth.

Where is God when you need him?

Moses was hidden in a basket in the Nile River at three months and was found and raised by Pharaoh's daughter.

“She named him Moses, saying, ‘I drew him out of the water.’”

Exodus 1:10

Coincidence: when God chooses to remain anonymous.

Where was God when they needed him?

He was already there, at work in the middle of their adversity.

God is not far from you either.

Our extremity is God's opportunity.

When we come to the end of ourselves, God can show himself.



As an adult, Moses was a fugitive on the run for his life after taking the law into his own hands. He fled to the desert from his life of privilege.

One day he sees “..flames of fire from within a bush... but though the bush was on fire it did not burn up.” “I will go over and see this strange sight - why the bush does not burn up.”

Exodus 3:2-3

“When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, ‘Moses! Moses!’ And Moses said, ‘Here I am.’”

Exodus 3:4

“‘Do not come any closer,’ God said. ‘Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.’ Then he said, ‘I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.’”

Exodus 3:5-6

Moses goes from being a baby boy drawn out of the water of death to an older, more mature man being drawn in via fire – the fire of God’s presence.

God draws us out by desperate situations to draw us in by divine encounter.

Later the Jewish people walked through the Red Sea as the waters parted and were led through the desert by a pillar of fire and pillar of cloud.

“I am the Lord, and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians ...”

Exodus 6:6 NIV

“I will bring you into the land I swore to give Abraham, Isaac and Jacob.”

Exodus 6:8 NLT

This is God’s way. He draws us out to draw us in.

Are you in an extreme of some kind right now? At your extremity in some way?
Does it seem God is nowhere to be found? Don't believe it.

Are you feeling the waters of your Nile threatening to take you down? Look for God's fire in the bush. Go over, take off your sandals, look and listen.

Count on this: God, though He may seem anonymous, is working on a plan.



God told Abraham 700 years before Moses' time: "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated for four hundred years."

Genesis 15:13

God was watching the nations and would be holding them accountable for the inhumanities and injustices they had been committing.

When the time for the day of justice came, He would punish the nation that made His people slaves, and bring them out.

God was there ahead of them and now wanted to draw them into His 'even greater will'. He wants that for you, too.

God's working on a plan – it may not fit your schedule or timetable, but God's not absent.

You've been waiting. You've been hurting. You've been holding on.
This is not the time to give up. It's time for holding on.

"Let us not get tired of doing what is right. For after a while we shall reap a harvest of blessing, if we don't get discouraged and if we don't give up."

Galatians 6:9 TLB

He can deliver you out of your situation, your addiction, and your captivity to sin. He wants to draw you into the fullness of His plan.

God draws us out by desperate situations to draw us in by divine encounter.

- What would a miracle of salvation look like in your life?
- Where is God meeting you today?
- Are you willing to turn aside from what you are doing and get a closer look?
- Are you willing to let God's fire light a new path for you?

