

## Exodus 1:1–7

### *The God Whose Grace Defeats Sin and Death*

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**Main idea:** We will die, and those whom the Lord has much used in our lives will die. But the Lord and His plan for salvation will continue and succeed.

<sup>1</sup> Now these are the names of the children of Israel who came to Egypt; each man and his household came with Jacob: <sup>2</sup> Reuben, Simeon, Levi, and Judah; <sup>3</sup> Issachar, Zebulun, and Benjamin; <sup>4</sup> Dan, Naphtali, Gad, and Asher. <sup>5</sup> All those who were descendants of Jacob were seventy persons (for Joseph was in Egypt already). <sup>6</sup> And Joseph died, all his brothers, and all that generation. <sup>7</sup> But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them.

**Introduction:** “And” these are the names of the children of Israel. This is the continuation of the story of Genesis.

#### 1. The problem that persists

- a. “And he died”—echoes of Genesis 5
- b. Death needs to be overcome, so the guilt and effects of sin must be dealt with. But who will do it?
- c. The woman’s seed. But not Noah. Abraham’s seed. But none of them so far.
- d. All of them used by God, but it depends on none of them.
- e. You seek to be used by God; good! But do not think as if it depends upon you, either for yourselves or for others. We mustn’t depend upon our ability to resist death or sin. Yes, we ought to be good stewards, and to reflect Christ’s redemptive glory as much as we may in this life. But we will struggle against sin all this life, and eventually we will die.

#### 2. The passing that deflates and discourages

- a. Joseph died. All his brothers. All that generation.
- b. Sometimes God has especially used someone, so that when they leave the scene there is the danger of great discouragement.
- c. Moses. Uzziah. Even Jesus, in a significant way. APPLY TO LORD’S SUPPER
- a. Do NOT be dependent upon those whom God mightily uses in your life (pastor, husband, father, mother, etc.). Yes, we ought to recognize and honor them, both in our interactions and also before God in gratitude to Him. Seeing how God has been pleased to use such individuals, it is even good for us to seek to be much used of Him, and to seek from Him that our children would be much used of Him. But, let our dependence be upon God Himself, so that when a much-used man is taken from us, or when there does not appear to be one of such quality among us, we will yet have our great and gracious God, and our hope will rest securely upon Him!

#### 3. The plan that overcomes

- a. Echoes of Genesis 1:28. Were fruitful (and increased abundantly!), multiplied (and grew exceedingly mighty!), and filled the earth.
- b. That which would become a problem for the subsequent Pharaoh is for us a reminder that God’s plan is still in full effect.
- c. God is still about His work of filling the creation with image-bearers of the Creator. And it is even greater now than it was before, for it is a process not only of creation but of redemption.
- d. The Creator Himself has become creature, so that we may be conformed to His image, Who is Himself the exact image of God, being in eternal nature and person God. APPLY TO BAPTISM.

#### Conclusion

We will die, and those whom the Lord has much used in our lives will die. But the Lord and His plan for salvation will continue and succeed.

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**(The following is a machine-generated transcription.** Please be aware of—and patient with—transcribing errors. If there is something confusing or obviously erroneous, you are invited to listen to the audio recording referenced above)

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Turn in our copies of his word to exodus chapter 1. Makes it is chapter 1 our portion for the preaching this morning will be verses 1

through 7 by God's help, so let us ask for that help. Let's pray.

Our Father in heaven. We are amazed that we may come on earth. Still sinners such as we are. Still the set with weakness from our mortal flesh. Which is already declining in decaying. And will do so unto complete corruption when we die. And so we come. Only through the worthiness of Jesus.

Entirely dependent upon the health of your spirit. And we ask that especially in this matter now of hearing your word preached you would help us.

Help the servant whom you have called. Grant that your spirit would attend him. That the word might be spoken. Accurately. Plainly. And boldly. And grant to us all who hear. To receive your word as what it really is not merely the words of men. But the word of God.

We know that our sin testifies against us on earth. As the blood of Abel cried out. But we thank you for the blood of Jesus which speaks better. And that you have given your son not only to be our king and our priest. But also our prophet who speaks from heaven.

And so we pray Holy Spirit that you would so work. That we would hear him. And that the word which you send out would not return to you void. That would accomplish today in this reading in this preaching and hearing. That for which you send it. Granted to God we ask and Jesus name amen, please rise.

We'll hear the word of God read. Exodus chapter 1 verses 1 through 7, these are the words of God. Now these are the names of the children of Israel. Who came to Egypt. Each man and his household came with Jacob. Ruben Simeon. Levi and Judah. Issachar. Zebulun. Dan. Asher. Benjamin.

Dan. Asher. All those who were descendants of Jacob were 70 persons. For Joseph was in Egypt already. And Joseph died. For his brothers. And all that generation.

But the children of Israel. Were fruitful and increased abundantly. Multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty. And the land was filled with them. Amen the sense this reading of God's written words, please be seated.

There's a trick that those who have written digital books sometimes play on unsuspecting homeschool families who are looking for good chapter books and that is if they've written a particularly well-received series and they would like to drum up sales for that series they will make a volume free but it's never the first volume.

It's the second or the third. Exodus presents it that itself that way to us this morning, although the word of God praise. God is freely given. The book of Exodus begins with the word and it's appended to the first verb which is the first word of the book it's the continuation of a story.

It makes you hungry foreign in large part dependent upon that which is come before the end. You realize when you start to read it you were jumping into a series already in progress. You can James translates it now but it's and these are the names of the children of Israel and then there's some discussion and then verse seven but the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty and the land was filled with them.

This is the continuation of the story that began in Genesis the history that began in Genesis which because it began in Genesis you and I know this is the continuation of. Our history. And the phrase children of Israel is very important here because we are all children of Adam already and Adam sinned and all of us in him and Adam died.

And all of us. In him and yet before God had even pronounced the curse on the woman the struggle that would enter her marriage the difficulty and pain that would come with bearing wicked children before God had pronounced the curse on the ground for the man's sake. He pronounced a curse on the serpent.

And he mentioned the seed of the woman the offspring of the woman the child of the woman who had crushed the serpent's head and we had been looking for that one. And then he marries his focus in chapter 12 of Genesis to Abraham the one in whom all the families of the earth would be blessed.

And then he repeats the promise in different words to Isaac and to Jacob this Jacob in verse 1. These are the names of the children of Israel who came to Egypt each man and his household came with Jacob. And so we're still looking for the child. We're still looking for that seed that offspring.

We're still looking for the one who is going to crush the serpent's head and we're still looking for the one in whom all the families of the earth, not just this family, but the one who would come from this family in whom your family. Your family is one of those families of the earth would be blessed.

And we're looking more urgently because in the heart of our text this morning, we find the problem that persists. The problem that persists. For all that God has done so far in this family for all the good that he is doing in the line of the redeemed the ones who call upon the name of Yahweh the ones who are hoping in the seed of the woman who is going to crush the serpent said.

They still die. There's a problem that persists not just in Exodus chapter 1, it's a problem that persists for us here this morning. Because we too will die. So problem that persists and there's not just the problem that persists but there's a passing that can deflate and discourage. So we heard last week in the passage immediately preceding.

By possibly. It's just scroll size that makes Genesis separate from Exodus but in the passage immediately preceding we heard last week about the 53 years of peace. That came from Jacob's death until Joseph's death and really Joseph had been providing for them for the 17 years that preceded. And so you have seventy years of relative peace and prosperity.

It's actually something if you go back through the history of the patriarchs back to Abraham, it was unprecedented. How long they had enjoyed stability and peace and prosperity as a family. And so there's a passing that can deflate and discourage when one through whom the Lord has blessed his people or one through whom the Lord has blessed a family or one through whom the Lord has blessed a nation for a very long time as finally and sometimes suddenly taken from them and there can be great discouragement.

If, The people who are under that ministry or that leadership or that headship and have been so blessed for so long. Suddenly come under different headship and they have been resting too much in that particular person that the Lord was using. So we'll see you the first place the problem that persists will see in the second place that the passing that deflates and discourages and then we'll see in the third place the plan that overcomes something that knowing this to be a continuation of the book of Genesis and knowing how Genesis has begun an Eden but ended in a coffin in Egypt and now Exodus is going to begin with deaths in Egypt and end around a tabernacle where God has made his dwelling.

Place with man, if we know the connection to Genesis and the kind of parallel mirror image that is that is going on here and you are paying careful attention. I'll read for seven again and perhaps even some of the children before we get to the third point of the sermon can get just from the text.

What is the plan that overcomes but the children of Israel were fruitful? And increased abundantly multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty and the earth for it is the same word. And the earth was filled with them and so we'll see that one of the reasons that the Holy Spirit has given us the persisting of the problem and the deflating and discouragement that comes with the passing of that generation is so that he can set before us the plan that is still overcoming the plan that overcomes the first the problem.

That persists have a list of names we've had several of those throughout the book of Genesis as we've gone through them and have paid careful attention. I think we have discovered that there is has been a theologically and spiritually helpful purpose in each of those lists and here we have a helpful list of names it's interesting that they're being called now that children of Israel this is a name that is first given to the people of God when they enter Egypt there.

A couple places earlier in Genesis where talks about the children of Israel but it's actually talking about them in the future so when Esau has the 12 kings and says these 12 kings the Edomites had before the children of Israel had any king but the people of God are not actually called the children of Israel until they enter Egypt it occurred the first time in Genesis and in chapter 46 and then we heard it in chapter 50 and now we hear it here.

The children of Israel who came to Egypt each man and his household came with and as we have noted several times now what a mercy that God keeps hiling to highlighting to us that although Israel is Israel by faith he is still Jacob in his flesh and they have come with Jacob and Ruben Simeon Levi Judah is a car.

Zebulon, Benjamin Dan, Natalie God Asher. Joseph. And you and I just rattle those often I don't mean as much to us as they might. If you happen to be a Jew, And you happen to know from which one of these tribes you had come from. Some of us read lists of names this way we look up and every once in a while have someone who's very disappointed to find out how comparatively recent our cemetery is to the age of the church and how few people are buried because they're hoping that we'll have a register where they will find a name from which they have come.

And so there's the problem that persists because what are all these names and these ancestors doing they're all dying. It's like Genesis chapter 5 here, we are with the children of Israel here's the family through him is going to come Jesus who crosses the serpent's head here is the family through whom is going to come Jesus who is that seed of Abraham through whom believing in him Abraham believing in his own offspring.

Abraham would be the father of both Jewish believers in Jesus and Gentile. Believers in Jesus because the main thing is to believe in Jesus here is the covenant line the covenant family the church on earth that God has set up art from all of the rest of the world, but we've seen that before.

In Genesis chapter 4, he had Cain enabled and of course came murdered able and then finally at the end of the end of the chapter of the the line of the murder of the line of what we would have to in the context of called the seed of the serpent seems to be doing very well there doing well economic.

Ally and technologically and agriculturally and even in the arts. And yet what about the godly and then Genesis 4 verse 25 and Adam knew his wife again and she bore a son and named him Seth the appointed one for God has appointed another seed for me instead of able whom Cain kill and as for Seth to him also a son was born and he named him Enosh and then men began to call on the name of Yahweh, perhaps began to be called by the name of Yahweh and this is the book of the genealogy of Adam Adam lived 130 years and

we got a son in his own likeness after.

Image named himself and after he but outside the days of Adam were 800 years and he had sons and daughters so all the days that Adam lived were 930 years and he died. And that becomes the refrain accepting Enoch who walked with God after he became the father of Methuselah and will try to restrain ourselves from re preaching all of Genesis 5.

Because it's so wonderful in the face of that death and that death and that death and that death and he died and he died and he died in Genesis 5 and we've had all this progress in the history of redemption from Genesis 5, but for you from Genesis 5 to Exodus chapter 1, but they're scared dying.

The sin problem has not been solved the guilt problem has not been solved the death problem has not been solved. God promised to Abraham and Genesis 15 then it would be. But the one for him God bleed Abraham believed God and it was credited to him as righteousness has not come yet it is the problem that persists.

And say he lists the 11 and he lists Jacob and he refers to the 70 but what is he doing in verses 1 through 5 as he does this? He's telling us that the Genesis 5 problems still happening to all of them. You get for Joseph was in Egypt already and will come to that in a moment in the passing that deflates and discourages especially.

With even this Joseph died. And all his brothers. There go the other 11. And all that generation. There go the other 70.

Death needs to be overcome. Who will do it God said the woman seed would do it you remember Lamech the good Lamech when he was naming Noah hoping that his son would be the one through whom would come rest and in a sense he does end up being one through whom rest comes because the rest of humanity is destroyed.

Nowhere is preserved he finds grace to the Christ can come through him and his family. You see all of these men are used by God. Noah, Abraham, even Joseph the Christ won't come through Joseph but the preservation of the Christ's family came through Joseph. All of them are used all of these are used mightily by God.

But the destruction of sin and death depends upon none of them. You and I we. We don't want to live just under the sun. We as the the men of the church from very small to very old getting smaller. I guess at that point we've been we just finished studying for a couple of years the book of ecclesiastes together.

We don't want to live as those who are merely under the sun. We want to live as those who've been given our lives as a stewardship from God and to do it independent live in dependence upon him and leave to him the results. Want to eat and drink and do our work and love our lives.

And we want God to use us for good. But we have learned as we learn here because we will die. Not to think as if the good that is coming to others from our life. Depends upon us. It's very easy thing to fall into. You're the older the minister of a church and you you have all of this instruction in the Bible for how the Lord operates.

His church. What he defines worship as well. He uses to give Himself to His people that. He has commanded for the discipleship of the church and you don't want to swear from many of those things but you can in your devotion to those things shift in a way of thinking can't you as if it depends on how carefully you follow the instructions?

And then we who are fathers and mothers often do the same thing, don't we? We've been convinced of particular things about how the Lord brings our children to faith and how the Lord grows our children in faith. We choose a certain way of life at a certain way of schooling so that we can first have God's word in our hearts and then have it on our lips and then we speak it with our children when we rise up and when we lay down when we go when we come in we want His word to be the operating passphrase of the house it put it over the Doorpost we want it to control how we see and perceive everything and so we bind it as a frontlet between our eyes and and we as if it's bound to our hands and how we want his word to control everything that we do.

We know the rod and the reproof work together that there's discipline and instruction training and admonition. And Zoe incorporate incorporate into our parenting all that God has given us to do but there's a danger. Because we are going to die. And we may not have seventy good years or fifty three good years.

Or five more days. And there's a way of approaching it that forgets that the reason we do those things is because it doesn't depend upon us who God is using us. How many believers their greatest fear and death is not what will happen to them after death? It is not even as it often is for some is not when it will feel like to die with the greatest fears will come of those they leave behind.

And that can often be an indication to us. That we're thinking too much of it as if it depends on us rather than rejoicing in the fact that it depends upon the God who's defeated sin and death in the Lord Jesus Christ in the place that we are and gave us the calling that we have and feel his word with instruction.

And so we will be guarded by from pride or despair if we remember that this is a problem that persists. We too in some respect until the day of Jesus Christ are in the middle of the story. And if there was exodus one through seven written about us at some point.

It will say after the Lord had used you for a little while. You died.

And so we mustn't depend upon our own ability to resist sin or our own bringing in the kingdom as it were we flowing our kingdom come and we obey all the instructions that God has given by which he brings the kingdom. You and I don't bring the kingdom that's why we pray thy kingdom come we're instruments by whom it comes.

And there may be ups and great downs. America may one be they be as spiritually barren as North Africa because at one point far more Christian than America has ever been. And yet we serve him whose kingdom cannot fail and we don't do it as if it depends upon us.

We do it as those who are depending upon and obeying fearlessly. Him who will succeed? Yes, we must be good stewards and we must rejoice that Jesus Christ would be shown to be king of kings and Lord of lords the last couple of sermons in Philippians how his being the savior brings him that glory and it's therefore because.

For him to get that glory that we work out our own salvation with fear and trembling so that he will be proclaimed as the one whose name is above every other name we serve and we serve vigorously and we serve joyfully for reasons that cannot be taken from us.

But we must do so as those who know that we may die. And that historically short-term which may mean centuries. All that we think we have accomplished in our lifetime may unravel. And yet what the Lord was accomplishing cannot unravel. There is the problem that persists and there's the passing then that deflates and discourages.

All his brothers died all that generation died, but the big one is Joseph why? Because some 53 years before this passage Joseph had said am I in the place of God?

Now, therefore. But as you as for you you meant it you meant evil against me, but God meant it for good in order to bring it about as it is to stay to save many of people alive. Now therefore do not be afraid. I will provide for you and your little ones.

And he comforted them and he spoke kindly to them and then he kept doing that for fifty three years Golden age for them. Even though they were in Egypt the of course. Commands his. Coffin remained there for the reasons we heard and last week's portion. Joseph was greatly used of God for the preservation and prospering of his family.

We've seen this several times in Scripture. Moses for all the grief they gave him. Avoided they give him grief. It's easy to read quickly through that portion of Scripture and. Forget that that's 40 years. Of basically the same misery that they put Moses through. When the Lord is taking Moses read at the end of Deuteronomy, and then you read the beginning of Joshua chapter 1, what do you read over and over and over again?

You know stuff that gets stenciled on locker room walls, so that football teams may misapply it to their hearts content. Be strong and courageous. Be strong very courageous. Why? Because Moses my servant is going to die in Deuteronomy or Moses, my servant is dead. Joshua chapter 1. The first time I took a call to.

Ok a different call. I was leaving my first church. I did something that last week that I had never done. Which is preach a text that was out of series. And preached Joshua chapter 1 which in retrospect was a little too big for what was happening there young 20-nothing pastor of being taken from them.

Just a reminder them. That that man and his ministering is being taken from them, but the one who called him and the one who ministered through them through him cannot be taken from them. This congregation in particular some of you remain who were here when the Lord took Charles.

The Lord had done a great work through Charles. Massive not just numerical but spiritual renovation of the congregation. And it's a great blow. When God takes someone through whom he has done a great work for a long time to his people that's what's behind. Isaiah chapter 6 when he says in a year that king use iodide.

And you and I are that's just one of those Hebrew king names but if you had sat under more than or lived under more than half a century of godly and strong leadership of your king it wouldn't be just another one of those Hebrew king names and if you had been so grateful and so focused on how God had used Asia.

And had not been very mindful of God. You might be thinking of.

We don't even realize that in our church speak when we say the Lord has taken as I we already have the answer. And so the scripture says in the year that King is I died. I saw Yahweh. On his throne. High and lifted up. One king is in a grave that the king of kings never leaves the throne.

And so there's a passing that can deflate. Our Lord knew this very well, didn't he? Especially in the gospel of John. Has pretty amazing you you read the other gospels and there's a lot that focuses on the the lead up to the cross. But you're only about halfway through John and you're already into the last week just over halfway through the gospel.

And there's so much space and holy ink and effort and focus of our Lord spent on preparing his disciples to do without him. So that

they won't be devastated when he returns to the father. In fact, although he's trying to prepare them for his death and the synoptics focus on that more.

John really is trying focusing on how Jesus is trying to prepare them for his ascension. For his departure to his father. And how extraordinary a gift this third person of the Godhead is going to be. That Jesus would even say it's to your advantage that I leave. Because if I don't then.

I won't pour him out, who is the other helper? Who is going to be alongside you in the way that I have been. And so with Moses or with his I or with Jesus himself or. With Joseph here, you see that God knows that in our weakness we can be overly dismayed when an age of prosperity from good leadership in the home or in the church or in the nation.

Comes to a close. Sometimes it's worse in a nation when there's not just one individual who dies. But an entire form of leadership that dies at the hands of hundreds and thousands of individuals. Because you can see it coming and you can as the old phrase goes borrow trouble.

And yet God says to us here. That there is a passing that can deflate and discourage, but there is a plan that overcomes. Yeah. I don't think it's wrong to desire the appearing of Jesus. Because the scripture describes Christians and a couple of places as those who have loved his appearing.

I don't think it's wrong. To desire to see the face of Jesus. It's one of the reasons why you refuse pictures of him because substitutes of your God man who has redeemed you are not acceptable to you in the place of him himself and you are looking forward to the actual face of Jesus Christ.

And Jesus has given you and I which we're actually going to enjoy in just a few minutes. His supper. Which he originally gave to his disciples because he knew how discouraged they would be by his departure.

You think of what it must have been for them who remembered that last week and who remembered all those talks and who remember the sorrow that Jesus could see on their faces. Now, you are sad because I say that I am going away. And how one of his great answers to that sorrow was to eat the bread and hear this is my body, which is given for you.

And to know that whenever they ate that bread that sacrament again for the rest of their lives on earth, they're redeemer, who is bodily in heaven. Is communicating to them that by his spirit whom he has sent he is still within and he even communicates the benefits of his physical body.

Crucified and resurrected. He even communicates those benefits to them at that table.

There's a passing that can deflate and discourage. Now Jesus is with us always in the supper testifies to that, but your pastor won't be. Your husband won't be. Dear ladies who are married or looking to be married someday. He's an instrument that God has appointed for the washing of water with his word to love you as Christ loved the church to be one of the the great things that your Redeemer has appointed for your care.

But your Redeemer doesn't depend upon him. He only uses him. And there are many who have always been single or in God's providence of return to singleness. They must be dependent upon the Lord who use. Not the one whom he used. Children. One of the primary commandments that you seek to obey in your life as honor your father and your mother.

It's the first place that God has given you to learn submission. Is to submit to him and her if the Lord has given you both over whom he has placed over you. And as they teach you the word like we saw on the Philippian jailer's house and the truth the word was spoken to them over and over again because they were in the house of one who had believed and they received the sign because they were in the house of one who believed and they rejoice because they were in the house of one who had believed.

And there's just the one there and at 16. Yet there is a danger. In seeing that mom or that dad for who's sake and through whom God has done you so much good for literally your whole life to this point of you still have them. That you would come to depend upon them spiritually.

Whom the Lord might take from you in a moment. Rather than depending upon him who gave them to you. And who used them for you? And who if even in his? Unfiguretable. I was going to say inscrutable but nobody knows that word. Even in his unfigureable providence might take them from you your mom and your dad.

But he himself cannot be taken from you. The Lord Jesus cannot be taken from you. The Holy Spirit cannot be taken from you. As you honor your father and mother and thank God for what he has done in your life for their sake and through them. Yet depend upon the God who does it?

Lest in his providence, they pass and you be. Unnecessarily to deflated and discouraged. Seeing how God has been pleased to use other individuals. It's even good for us to seek much to be used of him and many of us who are in that season of parenting do so with the hope that our children will be much used.

And yet isn't it strange how our flesh can mess so much up? That we can apply to our children a pressure over responsibility that belongs only to God. That we can talk to them as if the future of the church depends upon them when instrumentally we pray that they will be the next generation of those who lift up God's name in purity and worship that he has commanded in his word and those who tell the gospel and believe it and obey his commands.

And yet if we communicate that to them that it depends upon them, we will be setting them up. Perhaps to succeed. But to be miserable in the midst of it and then even after they succeed. God using them. That they're passing would then deflate those. Who came behind them.

Let our dependents be upon God himself. So that when a much used man has taken from us or when there does not appear to be one of such quality among us this is the one and abatement of this that I was thinking. The ones that I would have been devastated to lose.

They're all hundreds of years old and we hang out when I crack open their books. And often improve in the book of thinking God, why don't we have a man like this? Or two thousand of them. So that if they expelled the faithful ministers thousands of puppets would be emptied men who believed and preached and taught like this pastor like this.

And then the Holy Spirit comes in Exodus chapter 1 verses 1 through 7 and says, what does it matter to you if you have a man like this?

The passing that can deflect and discourage.

And the problem that persists in the passing the deflates and discourages they of course are the backdrop for the main thing leaving the passage the plan that overcomes did you figure it out yet that the children of Israel will fit full and increased abundantly multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty and filled the earth and the earth was filled with them.

You've gotten it by now haven't you Genesis 1:28 be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth you see the Holy Spirit is using language here that is saying that the purpose of man has not been lost by sin and has not been lost by the fall, it has not been lost by death, it has not been lost by the loss of Joseph.

Because God who has created man to fill his creation with his own image is still unplanned.

To not only create but to redeem you see that which is going to be a problem for the subsequent pharaoh right we read Exodus chapter 1 verses 1 through 7 and if you get 2 kind of laser focused into the local context and you're not reading the word of God as the word of God and the context of scripture as a whole you say, oh the children of Israel fruitful increased abundantly multiplying good exceedingly mighty the land was filled with them that's going to be a problem for Pharaoh and that's not going to go out for Israel.

All right, that's how we usually read excess one verse seven. When you see that the language is really Genesis one verse 28. Or Matthew 28 verses 18 through 20. That God is still about his work of filling the creation with image bears of the creator and then he does so not just by creating them but by redeeming them in his son who is his exact image.

When that Jesus is going to comment all authority in heaven and earth is going to be given to him so that not only at the table does he testify to you that he is still with you by his spirit and to depend upon him. But in your baptism he puts a sign and seal upon you that says the Genesis 1:28 plan to fill the earth with image bears is being completed accomplished in the earth with renewed image bearers through faith in Jesus Christ, the become his disciples and who received his life by his spirit to receive a tournament by his blood and who are there by enabled by the Holy Spirit applying to them the life of Jesus Christ.

Totally all the things that he has commanded. And so he says as you go into all the nations, don't forget, we're still on Genesis 1:28 the plan is being accomplished. The Holy Spirit comes to us in Exodus 1 verse 7 and says the problem persists these men are dying and there's a passing that threatens to deflate and discourage even Joseph from whom these 70 years of prosperity has been taken from them and you know, what's about to happen to the children of Israel in the coming verses in the coming years after Joseph has gone but the plan is still overcoming.

And he says what I am doing on a macro scale in the history of redemption. God is doing here on a microscale. In the Israelite population. And he uses extra words, doesn't he to? Emphasize that this is greater not worse. The children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly multiplied.

And the land was filled with them. You see God didn't just start bearing his holy arm. When the Nile got turned to blood. He frustrated all your Christian family by telling them there's 11 plagues. The first thing Land of Egypt got filled with was Israelites. They were everywhere.

And they were everywhere as a picture of what God intends to do. And tends to do even not just for this world this world isn't worthy. But a new heavens and new earth and which righteousness dwells and in which there is an innumerable multitude. Of those whom he redeemed by the Jesus Christ, who would come from this family?

Of the children of Israel. We will die. And perhaps before we do some whom the Lord has much used in our lives will die. But the Lord and His plan for salvation. Will outlive them and it will outlive us. He is the God whose grace overcomes sin. And death.

Let's pray.

Our Father is. We cry out for a season. Have reformation and revival in your churches. We do so soberly. Realizing that. As a man or a nation or a church sows. Social he reaps. If you don't bring reformation and revival of God if you don't read the heavens and come down and great power by your spirit.

To do a work that is unlike anything that has been seen in this nation for a couple centuries now. That we will come in to lean times. Where what we see around us. And in that which had recently passed threatens to be very deflating and discouraging. And so we pray for the work of your Holy Spirit to take this portion of your word that you have given us by that spirit and that you who caused it to be written would now come and write it on each of our hearts and our children's hearts.

Convince us gladness strengthen us. That you are causing your people by your gospel to be fruitful and to multiply. And to fill and you heavens in a new earth.

Make us to live in joy and confidence and courage that comes from being on the winning side. Even if there should arise a government that is determined to destroy us by affliction.

Thank you for giving us this portion of your word. When your province at this time. Keep blessing it to us