

**3ABN SABBATH SCHOOL PANEL**  
**003 - LESSON – Monday - July 14, 2025**

**ROUGH START**

Though Moses must have known, even from the beginning, that what the Lord had tasked him with was not going to be easy (hence his attempts to get out of it), he probably had no idea of what was coming.

**Exodus 5:3-23 (NKJV) “(3) So they said, “The God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please, let us go three days’ journey into the desert and sacrifice to the LORD our God, lest He fall upon us with pestilence or with the sword.” (4) Then the king of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why do you take the people from their work? Get back to your labor.” (5) And Pharaoh said, “Look, the people of the land are many now, and you make them rest from their labor!” (6) So the same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their officers, saying, (7) “You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves. (8) And you shall lay on them the quota of bricks which they made before. You shall not reduce it. For they are idle; therefore they cry out, saying, “Let us go and sacrifice to our God.’ (9) Let more work be laid on the men, that they may labor in it, and let them not regard false words.” (10) And the taskmasters of the people and their officers went out and spoke to the people, saying, “Thus says Pharaoh: ‘I will not give you straw. (11) Go, get yourselves straw where you can find it; yet none of your work will be reduced.’ ” (12) So the people were scattered abroad throughout all the land of Egypt to gather stubble instead of straw. (13) And the taskmasters forced them to hurry, saying, “Fulfill your work, your daily quota, as when there was straw.” (14) Also the officers of the children of Israel, whom Pharaoh’s taskmasters had set over them, were beaten and were asked, “Why have you not fulfilled your task in making brick both yesterday and today, as before?” (15) Then the officers of the children of Israel came and cried out to Pharaoh, saying, “Why are you dealing thus with your servants? (16) There is no straw given to your servants, and they say to us, “Make brick!’ And indeed your servants are beaten, but the fault is in your own people.” (17) But he said, “You are idle! Idle! Therefore you say, ‘Let us go and sacrifice to the LORD.’ (18) Therefore go now and work; for no straw shall be given you, yet you shall deliver the quota of bricks.” (19) And the officers of the children of Israel saw that they were in trouble after it was said, “You shall not reduce any bricks from your daily quota.” (20) Then, as they came out from Pharaoh, they met Moses and Aaron who stood there to meet them. (21) And they said to them, “Let the LORD look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us.” (22) So Moses returned to the LORD and said, “Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people? Why is it You have sent me? (23) For since I came to Pharaoh to speak in Your name, he has done evil to this people; neither have You delivered Your people at all.””**

## What were the immediate results of Moses and Aaron's first recorded encounter with Pharaoh?

1. Pharaoh was concerned Moses restored the day of rest to Israel (**Exodus 5:4-5**)
2. Pharaoh demanded the Israelites continue to make their quota of bricks. (**Ex. 5:6-7**)
3. The "Taskmasters" reduced their straw but demanded the same results.
4. Instead of straw the Israelites gathered stubble and could not meet the quota
5. The leaders in Israel accused Moses and Aaron of bring trouble on them

Read Exodus 5:21 and then put yourself in the place of these men as they confronted Moses and Aaron. Why would they say what they did?

**Exodus 5:21 (NKJV) "And they said to them, "Let the LORD look on you and judge, because you have made us abhorrent in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants, to put a sword in their hand to kill us.""**

It's not that hard to see why they would have been upset with Moses ("**Let the Lord look on you and judge,**" they said). They thought Moses was coming to free them from the Egyptians, not to make their lives under the Egyptians even harder. Thus, besides dealing with the Egyptians, Moses and Aaron had to deal with their own people, as well.

### POINT:

1. Sometimes God allows difficulty to test whether we can trust Him in the circumstances confronting us.
2. In difficult situations we **don't focus on how we look to other people**, rather **focus on how we represent God**.

### Remaining relevant to God in times of difficulty:

1. **Earthly difficulty cannot compare to eternal glory : Romans 8:18 (NKJV) "For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us."**
2. **Don't look at trials as permanent: 1 Peter 4:12 (NKJV) "Beloved, do not think it strange concerning the fiery trial which is to try you, as though some strange thing happened to you;"**
3. **Learn to reveal the presence of God in trials: 2 Corinthians 4:8-10 (NKJV) "(8) We are hard-pressed on every side, yet not crushed; we are perplexed, but not in despair; (9) persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed— (10) always carrying about in the body the dying of the Lord Jesus, that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our body."**

4. **Nothing difficult is permanent: John 16:33 (NKJV) “These things I have spoken to you, that in Me you may have peace. In the world you will have tribulation; but be of good cheer, I have overcome the world.”**