

## Sermon Notes

### *Exodus – The Revealing of God’s Glory and His Design for the Chosen*

“Now is the Time to Return to Egypt” – Exodus 4:18-31

#### I. Introduction

##### A. Burning Bush

1. Dialog has ended and action is warranted.

##### B. Text division.

1. Moses departs with his father-in-law’s blessing – Ex. 4:18.
2. The journey to Egypt including event – Ex. 4:19-28.
3. Initial meeting with Israel’s elders – Ex. 4:29-31.

##### C. Reading of the text – Exodus 4:18-31.

#### II. Exposition

##### A. Verse 18

1. “If they are still alive” and “Go in peace”
  - a. Both are Hebrew idioms

##### B. Verse 19

1. All who sought to kill you are dead.
2. Moses’ life as divided into increments of 40 years.
  - a. 40 years in Egypt – Acts 7:23.
  - b. 40 years in Midian – Deut. 29:5; 31:2; 34:7.
  - c. 40 years leading the people in the wilderness.
3. See chart for likely Egyptian Pharaoh that Moses would have to confront.

##### C. Verse 20

1. Signs and wonders are for Hebrews and Egyptians.
2. Note God hardening Pharaoh’s heart.
  - a. Key feature to Chapter’s 4-14.
  - b. Three categories of texts referring to hardening of Pharaoh’s heart.
    1. Ex. 8:15 \_\_\_\_\_

2. Ex. 7:13 \_\_\_\_\_

3. Ex. 4:21 \_\_\_\_\_

- c. The sovereignty of God is once again on the marquee.
  1. Yahweh hardens Pharaoh’s heart to demonstrate that only the God of the Hebrews is sovereign of the universe – John Currid.

#### E. Verses 4:21-25

##### 1. “Thus says Yahweh.”

- a. Found in the Egyptian *Book of the Dead*.

##### 2. “Israel is my Son,” verse 22.

- a. God, in an eye for an eye way, will kill Pharaoh’s own son as he had slain thousands of Israelites.

##### 3. Nahum Sarna.

##### 4. Verses 24-25

- a. Most puzzling verses in the book?
- b. Most expositors view “kill him” as a reference to Moses, but his name is not found in the text. (Ryken, MacKay, Kaiser, all support this view.)
- c. However, the reference to “kill him” may be referring to Moses’ first born son. (Currid, Cassuto).

##### 5. “Let him alone” – verse 26 – “release”

##### 6. Tenth Plague – Exodus 12:13.

- a. There is a distinction between the first born of Yahweh and the first born of Pharaoh (Moses’ first born son is Gershon and not Eliezer.)

#### F. Verses 28-31

1. The people believed – listened and obeyed.

#### III. Points for Reflection.

- A. We must always respect our elders who are faithful members as Moses respected his father-in-law.
- B. Everyone today is seeking a sign. The sign is the cross.
- C. Israel is collectively known as God’s son while in the New Testament we are all known as His son.