

08022020 spiritual warfare ....we are in it our part prayer, the word , obedience and God's part power is the only means to overcome it...

I had another vision the other day...the world traveling on a broad road headed toward destruction ...along with many of God's kids walking with them...

*NLT 1 King 4:1 Now the Holy Spirit tells us clearly that in the last times some will turn away from the true faith; they will follow deceptive spirits and teachings that come from demons.<sup>2</sup> These people are hypocrites and liars, and their consciences are dead.*

- some of Gods kids following along following along with the same deceptions...believing the false teachings... but looking back to the cross occasionally making us hypocrites and liar we start believing what they believe.....but then something started happening, these believers get their eyes opened and start turning and walking back to the cross and praying for the against the demonic deceptive spirits and demon teaching and breaking weakening their power over those heading toward destruction ...then some people start looking back to see where they God's kids are going and then some starting following them as the powers grip on them is being weakened... their prayers working

God's kids need to put back on their proper identify

*NLT Eph 6:17 Put on salvation as your helmet, and take the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. <sup>18</sup> Pray in the Spirit at all times and on every occasion. Stay alert and be persistent in your prayers for all believers everywhere*

*Why? Eph 6:12 For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.*

And this is exemplified in the book of Exodus!! As we move forward in the book of Exodus...something to consider in how God moves ...we are now in chapter 7and 8 and still no exodus...no leaving of the bondage of the Egyptians...in fact the Hebrews are in worse condition then they were before... **Moses has gone to Pharaoh to demand that he release the people for three days...and nada and**

their work has doubled...so far so bad...while God assures him everything is moving according to plan...in fact God affirms what he is going to do... keep going at it! the powers holding the Egyptians and Hebrews must be overcome ...it is a battle! The strong hand of God begins to move to accomplish his will.... The I wills of God verse the I wills of the enemy...the battle between the power of God and the power of the demons over Egypt...

Then God's promises seven "I wills" to Israel.

*NLT EX 6: 6* “Therefore, say to the people of Israel: ‘I am the LORD. I will free you from your oppression and will rescue you from your slavery in Egypt. I will redeem you with a powerful arm and great acts of judgment. <sup>7</sup> I will claim you as my own people, and I will be your God. Then you will know that I am the LORD your God who has freed you from your oppression in Egypt. <sup>8</sup> I will bring you into the land I swore to give to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. I will give it to you as your very own possession. I am the LORD!”

and we also know the enemy has a plan...

- **The five I will statements of Satan in Isaiah 14:13-14.**

*ESV ISA 14: 12 12* “How you are fallen from heaven, O Day Star, son of Dawn! How you are cut down to the ground, you who laid the nations low! <sup>13</sup> You said in your heart, ‘I will ascend to heaven; above the stars of God I will set my throne on high; I will sit on the mount of assembly in the far reaches of the north; <sup>14</sup> I will ascend above the heights of the clouds; I will make myself like the Most High.’ and be like the Most High.

***and Paul the Apostle tells us...the same is true in our generation***

*ESV 1 Cor 8:5* For although there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as indeed there are many “gods” and many “lords”—<sup>6</sup> yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

**So the battle goes to a new level...the first time Moses went to Pharaoh he went humbly simply said what the Lord told him...a three day journey to worship God...not he is to return with boldness and power...it is a battle of**

**the wills! Let the battle begin....every generation fights their own battles...it is always a battle of the will...here is Moses:**

*NLT Ex 7:7 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Pay close attention to this. I will make you seem like God to Pharaoh, and your brother, Aaron, will be your prophet. <sup>2</sup> Tell Aaron everything I command you, and Aaron must command Pharaoh to let the people of Israel leave his country.*

- **I will make you seem like a god...that is, he was to act in this business as God's representative, to act and speak in His name and to perform things beyond the ordinary course of nature, he will make his demand in a tone and manner which no earthly monarch or court ever witnessed. Moses power will overcome all Pharaoh's resistance...that is God like...**
- **Moses will be silent like God giving direction to his prophet Aaron who will utter the words of God.....**

*Ex 7:3 But I will make Pharaoh's heart stubborn so I can multiply my miraculous signs and wonders in the land of Egypt. <sup>4</sup> Even then Pharaoh will refuse to listen to you. So I will bring down my fist on Egypt. Then I will rescue my forces—my people, the Israelites—from the land of Egypt with great acts of judgment. <sup>5</sup> When I raise my powerful hand and bring out the Israelites, the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD.”*

- **He will lock pharaoh into the battle with no retreat...for pharaoh must be destroyed...the Egyptians will know whose God is greater...and the israelites will know then they will walk out free.**
- **God makes his heart stubborn...and Pharaoh is stubborn in his own heart...**
- **The succession of terrible judgments with which the country was about to be scourged would fully demonstrate the supremacy of Israel's God.**

*Ex 7:6 Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded them. <sup>7</sup> Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh.*

- **and the men I will use are 80 and 83...not exactly intimidating... BOTH are OLD AND and Moses STUTTERS ..why is this even mentioned? IT WILL BE BY THE POWER OF GOD AND God GETS THE GLORY! ...not our own abilities or even the virility of age...or talents**

- **God is methodical...start with against those empowered directly by the enemy... the sorcers and magicians and wisemen..**

*7:8 Then the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, <sup>9</sup> “Pharaoh will demand, ‘Show me a miracle.’ When he does this, say to Aaron, ‘Take your staff and throw it down in front of Pharaoh, and it will become a serpent.’” <sup>10</sup> So Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and did what the LORD had commanded them. Aaron threw down his staff before Pharaoh and his officials, and it became a serpent! <sup>11</sup> Then Pharaoh called in his own wise men and sorcerers, and these Egyptian magicians did the same thing with their magic. <sup>12</sup> They threw down their staffs, which also became serpents! But then Aaron’s staff swallowed up their staffs. <sup>13</sup> Pharaoh’s heart, however, remained hard. He still refused to listen, just as the LORD had predicted.*

- **So we see something right off the bat... the wise men were the pharaoh's counselors...The “**miracles**” were reproduced by the Sorcerers...were those who practiced witchcraft... who possess occult knowledge... and practices magic arts ...they cast spells use secret potions... Magicians...were psychics...those who receives information from spirits**
- **This is more than just a contest between Moses and the magicians, it is God challenging the gods of Egypt, behind which is Satan the serpent and his demonic assistants.**
- *Which jumping ahead to:to the last plague...the Lord says*

*Exod. 12:12 On that night I will pass through the land of Egypt and strike down every firstborn son and firstborn male animal in the land of Egypt. I will execute judgment against all the gods of Egypt, for I am the LORD!*

- **what is awesome is what the magicians and sorcerers were not prepared for, when their serpents were eaten...they lost their staffs as well...which to them was their magic wands...their symbols of power were gone... a complete victory for Moses and Aaron!**
- ***which is exactly what the Lord is going to do...Listen...to overcome evil in the natural the supernatural evil behind it must be overcome!***

- **So Moses and Aaron leave... victorious personally but no relief for the people... a victory over the gods of the magicians and sorcerers...was the first step in weakening the demonic hold on the Egyptians a enemies power of bondage over the Israelites...**

*EX 7:14 Then the LORD said to Moses, “Pharaoh’s heart is stubborn, and he still refuses to let the people go. <sup>15</sup> So go to Pharaoh in the morning as he goes down to the river. Stand on the bank of the Nile and meet him there. Be sure to take along the staff that turned into a snake. <sup>16</sup> Then announce to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has sent me to tell you, “Let my people go, so they can worship me in the wilderness.” Until now, you have refused to listen to him. <sup>17</sup> So this is what the LORD says: “I will show you that I am the LORD.” Look! I will strike the water of the Nile with this staff in my hand, and the river will turn to blood. <sup>18</sup> The fish in it will die, and the river will stink. The Egyptians will not be able to drink any water from the Nile.’”*

- The Nile is virtually the “life blood” of Egypt. Without the silt provided during its times of overflow and the water with which it constantly sustained life, Egypt would be almost uninhabitable. As Egypt would be as desolate as the deserts on either side.
- “I will show you that I am the LORD” (ver:17).
- Egyptian theology teaches The Nile was the bloodstream of **Osiris**, the most powerful God of Egypt, who was reborn each year when the river flooded making the land farmable, Osiris controled the afterlife, fertility and farming productivity. Other gods or demons inhabitrd the Nile also **Apis**, was the god of the Nile living in and on the bloodstream of Osiris, **Isis** his wife, the goddess of the Nile, and **Khnum**, the guardian of the Nile.
- The Egyptians fully recognized this fact, and in thanksgiving for the blessings of the Nile, hymns were written. The first plague, turning the Nile to blood, was a judgment against the gods of the Nile...
- Egyptian theology teaches these gods inhabit the Nile **Apis**, was the god of the Nile, **Isis**, goddess of the Nile, and **Khnum**, guardian of the Nile. The Nile was also believed to be the bloodstream of **Osiris**, who was reborn each year when the river flooded and was the most powerful God of Egypt...who controled the afterlife and fertility and farming productivity.

- Turning the Nile to blood, was a judgment against the gods of the Nile...
- Pharaoh was told, “By this you will know that I am the LORD” (Exodus 7:17). and he is about to see it!

*Ex 7:19 Then the LORD said to Moses: “Tell Aaron, ‘Take your staff and raise your hand over the waters of Egypt—all its rivers, canals, ponds, and all the reservoirs. Turn all the water to blood. Everywhere in Egypt the water will turn to blood, even the water stored in wooden bowls and stone pots.’”<sup>20</sup> So Moses and Aaron did just as the LORD commanded them. As Pharaoh and all of his officials watched, Aaron raised his staff and struck the water of the Nile. Suddenly, the whole river turned to blood!<sup>21</sup> The fish in the river died, and the water became so foul that the Egyptians couldn’t drink it. There was blood everywhere throughout the land of Egypt.*

- The Nile, which formed the basis of daily life and the national economy, was devastated, as millions of fish died in the river and the water was unusable.

*EX 7:22 But again the magicians of Egypt used their magic, and they, too, turned water into blood. So Pharaoh’s heart remained hard. He refused to listen to Moses and Aaron, just as the LORD had predicted.<sup>23</sup> Pharaoh returned to his palace and put the whole thing out of his mind.*

- The magicians were able to take some water and by incantations also make it blood.... and this impressed pharaoh enough that he dismissed what Aaron did...
- However the enemy was limited in what he could perform...the enemy mimicked destruction but had no power to RESTORE... Little or no pure water could be procured, and therefore their imitation must have been on a small scale --the only drinkable water available being dug among the sands.
- they had No power to turn it back into potable water, life giving water

*Ex 7:24 Then all the Egyptians dug along the riverbank to find drinking water, for they couldn’t drink the water from the Nile.<sup>25</sup> Seven days passed from the time the LORD struck the Nile.*

**It was horrible... The duration of the first plague for a whole week must have satisfied all that it was produced not by any accidental causes, but by the God of Moses and Aaron., however, it produced no good effect in the natural yet! but the spiritual forces were weakened and shown to be submissive to Moses God!**

- **This is the reality we need to understand Moses is onely two plagues into the ten...he did not know there would be ten...but what makes him special is he was in it to win it...**
- **freedom from bondage is costly and time consuming...one must be deligent and not give up when some relief comes...the Lord said it was going to be a battle and it is!**
- **But something changes in this next battle... the magicians of Egypt were unable to produce these gnats, even though they tried. ...they are weakening!**
- ***the length of the battle is what the the length of the battle is...the point is victory....if it is one and done...yeah if it is the rest of our lives than so be it!***
- **We fight till we overcome**

*2 Cor 10:3 For though we walk in the flesh, we are not waging war according to the flesh. <sup>4</sup> For the weapons of our warfare are not of the flesh but have divine power to destroy strongholds.*

*end*

*Eph 6:10 A final word: Be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. <sup>11</sup> Put on all of God's armor so that you will be able to stand firm against all strategies of the devil. <sup>12</sup> For we are not fighting against flesh-and-blood enemies, but against evil rulers and authorities of the unseen world, against mighty powers in this dark world, and against evil spirits in the heavenly places.*

- **what weapons did he use? his position as God's ambassador... ( (salvation, ) the word of God...and prayer...same weapons we possess**