

# The Calm Before The Storm

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**“When Pharaoh does not listen to you, then I will lay My hand on Egypt and bring out My hosts, My people the sons of Israel, from the land of Egypt by great judgments. The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the sons of Israel from their midst.”**  
**~Exodus 7:4-5 (NASB)**

## 1) Following God In The Midst Of Chaos

- A) Fresh off the depressing rejection of his fellow countrymen (Exodus 6:9), the Lord speaks to Moses, telling him it is now time to go back to Pharaoh and tell him to “let the sons of Israel go out of his land” (6:10-11).
- B) Moses’ response is predictably disbelieving and incredulous (6:12). Moses based his perception of success for the future on his past experiences, rather than on the plan God had explained.
- C) Following God should always be based on God’s Word, and not simply based on our (hard to understand) experiences!

## 2) A “Recap” itulation Of Where We’ve Been So Far...

- A) Moses’ objection to God is not completely ignored (well, kind of, but we’ll get back to it at the end of this chapter), but a ginormous change is about to happen in how God deals with Pharaoh and Israel, so a quick re-cap is in order.
- B) Because we are coming to major transition in the book, there is a quick summary of God’s calling to Moses and Aaron (6:13), and a genealogical list\* of names (6:14-6:25) which focus on the sons of Levi (the line of Moses, and importantly, Aaron).
- C) The primary focus of the genealogy is to legitimize the line of Aaron and Moses (6:26-27), with a focus on Aaron (note how Aaron is listed first, a rare occurrence, in 6:20) as an intermediary between Moses and the people (priestly role).
- D) As God’s original calling to Moses (“speak to Pharaoh”) is summarized and Aaron’s role is further bolstered (6:29-7:2), God notes that Moses will be like “God” to Pharaoh, with Aaron as his “prophet” (7:1).
- E) In a very creative manner, God answers Moses’ question after his depressing interaction with his Israeli brethren (“how then will Pharaoh listen to me...,” 6:12). In fact, Moses will not be heard, but God will be heard. Moses merely needs to be faithful, nothing more. God will do what Moses cannot. God will conquer Pharaoh and his gods.

\* Genealogies speak to the strength, success, and vigor of a people, often highlighting specific families and lines of descendency which have significance for the immediate story. If you follow the genealogy of Exodus 6:14-25 closely, you will find it follows the progression of sons from Genesis 49 and Exodus 1 (Reuben, Simeon, Levi...). However, under closer inspection, you will find a particular focus on the line of Levi (the line of descendency of Moses and Aaron). By connecting the line back to Genesis, a tradition and authenticity is established. God’s sovereign plan is emphasized (God has been at work the whole time). Finally, it lays a foundation for the eventual elevation of Levi’s line as a priestly line which will represent the people to God, and vice-versa, God to the people – much like Aaron’s role with his brother, Moses. This genealogy would accomplish all these things for the original Jewish reader, and for us (the careful readers), who are spiritual descendents of “father Abraham” in Jesus Christ (Romans 4:16-18).