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The book of Exodus is the second book of Moses, this book speaks of the departure of Israel from Egypt which is the dominant historical facts which is embedded as the title of this book.

When you examine the chapter of Ex 18, one would see that it speaks of the relationship between Moses and Jethro. Furthermore, we will dig deep to understand Jethro's character, the advice that he gave, and see what Moses was doing wrong, along with the effects it had on him, and things that I can adapt to my life.

One would question who is Jethro? Jethro is the priest of the Midian (Ex.18:1a). He is also the father-in-law of Moses. According to Ex 18: 9-12, Jethro is identified as a "priest of Midian" rather than a priest of earthly gods. Priest in that time was not associated with any god. In the text Jethro did not show any association to any earthly god. The character of Jethro is one that demonstrates the kind of relationship he had with Elohim (God). I believe that Jethro's character in the text described his strong declaration of his faith and understanding of who God was that Moses was testifying of to him. I believe that Jethro was gifted with wisdom, knowledge, and understanding. This he used to effectively educated Moses of how to go about leading the people in the way that God wants him to lead and not to rely on his own understanding. As the scripture states in Prov 3: 5-6, Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding. In all thy ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct thy paths. For me, I believe

that Jethro was divinely led by God to teach Moses the art of leadership, of delegation, and not to become a person that is a one-man army.

Not only was Jethro's character impeccable, he was a man that gave good advice to Moses. Many times men do not want to take advice from their father-in-law, in this case I believe that Moses respected him. He was the one who allowed Moses to be married to his daughter. Many times for a person to be a good leader they have to be a good follower. In this case, Moses had the utmost respect for his father-in-law. Because of this, he would listen to him and try to say to him in order for him to be a better person. I believe that the advice that Jethro was giving to Moses was to teach the people of Israel how to lead the people in the right and proper way, and they should be an example, by demonstrating the laws, living by the laws, and not just teaching them the laws of the land. In Ex 18:24-26, Jethro's advice to Moses was to set up a social order with himself being at the top and that his selected men would handle the public matters that did not require Moses to handle, and they could not handle the case then they would in turn forward it to him so that he would bring it before God.

Therefore, Moses would not handle public cases his selected men would. Due to his approach to being a good leader would need to follow the advice of father-in-law. But Moses' whole thing was that he had to carry all the burden of the people upon himself, and he did not need any help from anyone. That kind of approach to the whole leadership role was not the best way of being a good leader. Being a good leader does not mean that he had to micro-manage everything. I believe that in Moses' case he needed to possess skills on how to build and foster relationships between persons that are of like-mindedness.

Although Moses was micro-managing everything. He still did not possess good leadership qualities. Things got overwhelming for him to handle so things started to become heavy for one person to handle. I believe that God sent Jethro to show Moses how to become an effective leader.

Being a successful leader, one must possess good leadership skills. In order for this to happen, I must be able to take counsel from someone who has been down that path before. I also learn that I should not rely on my own strength. I must be able to foster and build good relationships. I must possess humility and be able to delegate responsibilities to persons that are capable of carrying out the task at hand.

In Conclusion, one must be able to give counsel, be able to identify strengths and weaknesses of the person that you are training and be able to gain knowledge from the person who has done this job before you.

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