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BIB 102/Old Testament OC

March 2, 2023

Exodus 18

The summarized events in this chapter are about Jethro Moses' father-in-law who was also the priest of the Midian had heard all that God did for Moses in bringing the people of Egypt. Therefore, Jethro set out to deliver his daughter, Moses' wife whose name was Zipporah and their two sons back to Moses. During that visit Jethro Moses father-in-law came to him in the wilderness where Moses was encamped and he said to Moses that he was bringing him his wife and her two sons. Moses went out to meet them and they had a conversation and greeted one another and asked how each other was doing. Moses began to tell Jethro what the Lord has done to Pharaoh so his people could be freed from the clutches of Egypt, he spoke about all the things that the Lord has done. We know that the Lord had to conquer Pharaoh and in the end taking the life of his son, turning the waters into blood, also allowing the staph Moses carried to turn to a snake and ate the two snakes that Pharaoh used to try to intimidate Moses. The Lord had done so much through Moses to free Israel people also leading them to freedom. Jethro was happy to hear of this in what God had done and he praised and blessed the Lord. Then he asked Moses why are the people standing before him all day and he said that they seek advice from the Lord. Jethro gave Moses good advice to assign others to help him because it would weigh him down in trying to judge all the people on his own. Moses followed the advice of his father-in-law and dispensed the assignments to others and let them judge the people and Moses judged the harder issues. Jethro also told Moses to teach the statutes and the laws and to show them the way for them to walk and do the work that must do. Also, the leaders he select must fear God and be men of truth and they will be the ones to judge the people at all time. So, Moses did as his father-in-law asked and Jethro left to go back to his home.

I can learn about Jethro character is that he was a God fearing man. The scripture says he was a priest in Midian and from what I can gather he was an upright man who may have been eloquent in stature. A man that people can respect and very knowledgeable in organizational skills. And he seems to have leadership ability and maybe a voice that commands attention that people would love to hear him speak.

The advice Jethro gave Moses was to assign others to help him out because the burden of all the people would weigh him down and it would be too much for him to carry. He told him that those he selected had to be of a certain caliber, I believe they also had to be God fearing men, had to be good listeners that can help the people resolve their conflicts and problems etc.

I believe in what Moses was doing that was wrong was trying to be there for everyone. I don't think he was trying to be their god but I think he was doing his best in trying to please God. He judged all the people and their matters all by himself. The scripture says that Jethro found Moses camped out in the wilderness. This leads me to believe that he was putting a distance between him and the people because it was wearing him out and caused him to be exhausted.

What I have learned from this chapter that I can apply to my life is that it takes a team and a body to do the works of the Lord. You can't do all things by yourself, sometimes you have to ask for help and maybe instructions to allow the job to get done efficiently. Also in the structure of the church the pastor or the leadership pass out or give assignments to help the church out. But also, the delegation has to be of a certain standard and character because this matters if the person can be trustworthy and truthful. There has to be a level of trust and understanding of what the assignment consists of and would the person be on the same page.