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### **Jethro's Wisdom**

In the beginning of the chapter Jethro is coming to Moses in the wilderness at the mountain of God with his wife and two sons. Moses meets Jethro and shares with him all the Lord has done. Jethro rejoices, gives thanks to God and honors God with a burnt offering. It was the next day, Moses had to judge the people in the morning till the evening. Jethro saw what he was doing and gave Moses advice that it's not good for him and that he should set rulers in place to help carry the burden. Moses then applies the advice and does as Jethro counseled him to do. Then Jethro leaves and goes to his land.

Jethro is very thankful and appreciative towards God because of all the things he has done and also a man who believes in honor. In Ex. 18:12 it says "Then Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took a burnt offering and other sacrifices to offer to God. And Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law before God." This scripture showed the honor that Jethro had towards God. I believe that Jethro is wise not because he is old but because of the wisdom he poured out to Moses. Jethro is an observer and strategist as well.

Jethro sees the next day that Moses is giving judgment to people with difficulty. But Moses is doing this from the morning to the evening and I can be tiresome for just a single person to do. So Jethro said that what he is doing is not good because he can wear himself out. Jethro advises

him to select men that fulfill the requirements for this task and set them as rulers. He said to allow them to judge. If it is a big issue then the ruler shall bring those people to Moses. But every small situation they can handle themselves as the rulers. Jethro gives this counsel so that it may be easier on Moses and it would not become burdensome for Moses solely. This also becomes a burden to the rulers as well.

Moses was giving judgment from sunup to sundown to people alone. If Moses would have continued to do this assignment alone it would have been very taxing to his body, his mind, his health and he would not have time to cater to his family. Something that I have learned from reading this passage of scripture is that we cannot do things on our own because it will burn us out. Another thing I have learned is that it is important to listen to sound wisdom and counsel because if we do not we may end up somewhere we don't want to be. Finally, I have learnt that doing the wheel of God is not a self thing, it is a team thing. You need a team to help build and get the job done.