

I. We are both hearers and speakers of the word.

- A. Separable roles in this passage (Israel or Pharaoh; Moses and Aaron)
- B. God's people are prophets, priests, and kings (1 Peter REF)
- C. We receive God's word
- D. We speak God's word (Acts 8; 1 Peter 3:15)

II. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood.

- A. Our temptation: play Israelites and Egyptians
- B. Every living human is, on some level, both an Israelite and an Egyptian (Acts 12; 17)
- C. Grace and justice meet in the cross of Jesus Christ
- D. Our struggle is not against flesh and blood (Ephesians 6:12)

III. Hear God's word about how the Gospel should be communicated.

- A. It's easy to miss this, but Moses *did not* speak to Pharaoh as God told him to ...
- B. The result: Pharaoh grinds down the Hebrews even more.
- C. If God can be polite to the likes of Pharaoh, you can be humble and polite too!

IV. Hear God's warnings that we will suffer.

- A. God warned Israel through Moses and Aaron that Pharaoh would harden his heart and not let the people go. (3:19; 4:21,30)
- B. We must not be shocked when it happens. (Matthew 5:11-12; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-16; 3:1-7; 1 Peter 1:6-7; 2:20-21; 3:14-16; 1 Timothy 3:12)
- C. Jesus warned not only that his people would suffer for following him, but that many would not last. (Luke 8:5-18)
- D. Why this resistance? The message of God's justice and grace challenges the world.
- E. The aim of persecution (by the persecutor): distract us from God's word (5:8)
- F. Why don't we suffer *more* than we do?

V. "But the Lord said"

- A. God's people are not impressive, and they do not speak very impressively.
- B. It is not God's people that you have to worry about.
- C. Followers of Jesus Christ: pay attention to God's message to you!