## **Covenant is Forever**

## Shalom

Our study for this week comes from *Shemot*, the Hebrew word for '*Names*'. The English Bible uses the word 'Exodus' as the name of this second book of the Torah, and the portion we are considering is found in chapters 1:1 to 6:1. *The* record of the names of the sons of Israel, who came into Egypt during the famine, and Joseph, who had been in Egypt for thirteen years and had been placed there by God to provide deliverance to Israel and his entire family during the great famine.

Now these are the names <u>(sh'mot)</u> of Bnei-Yisrael who came into Egypt with Jacob, each man with his family: (Exodus 1:1 TLV)

Names are used to call God's appointed destiny on the lives of people. The power of words is central in scriptural understanding, and names are words that carry power. You will recall that the name 'Isaac' which means laughter, was given to Abraham's child of promise, for his birth brought great joy to his parents, and prophetic promise to all people. His offspring brought forth the promised Messiah, Yeshua, Who turned our mourning into laughter.

When God changed Abram's name to Abraham, He used his new name to empower him to powerfully speak his destiny every time his name was called. In fact, every time someone called his name, the destiny God had planned for him was spoken. **Hebrew letters and words form pictures in the imagination of those who study and have revelation of them.** People who speak English hear, 'Abraham', but to a Hebrew speaker, the title, "Father of many nations", was being called.

Because our natural minds are so limited, we may read name after name in scripture and forget that each name describes a person, the child of someone, part of a family who, in turn, became father or mother of a family; each person known by, and valuable and precious, to God.

I want you to notice something God spoke in this portion.

God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Avraham, Yitz'chak and Ya'akov. God saw the people of Isra'el, and God acknowledged them. (Exodus 2:24-25 CJB)

That day ADONAI made a covenant with Avram: "I have given this land to your descendants—from the Vadi of Egypt to the great river, the Euphrates River—" (Genesis 15:18 CJB)

ADONAI said, "Should I hide from Avraham what I am about to do, inasmuch as Avraham is sure to become a great and strong nation, and all the nations of the earth will be blessed by him? For I have made Myself known to him, so that he will give orders to his children and to his household after him to keep the way of ADONAI and to do what is right and just, so that ADONAI may bring about for Avraham what He has promised him." (Genesis 18:17-19 CJB)

God confirmed His covenant to Isaac and to Jacob in Genesis 26 and Genesis 28.

But now, thus says Adonai— the One Who created you, O Jacob, the One Who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you, I have called you by name, you are Mine." (Isaiah 43:1 TLV)

Pay attention to how personally God considers His covenants and how He relates to everyone involved in them, including the children and children's children throughout the generations. He not only called Abraham by name, He also calls all Abraham's seed by name; He calls you by name, and He calls your children by name, because of His covenant. Nearly 400 years had passed from the time God covenanted with Abram in Genesis 15, and yet He heard the groanings of his offspring in Egypt. His covenant remains in force forever.

Some of us have children and grandchildren who have taken wrong turns in their lives and appear oblivious to the love of God that is calling them back. Here is great hope from the scripture and much reason for laughter. His covenant love is still reaching out to each one. Maintain your confession of faith, for He is faithful Who has called us. He will bring it to pass! In the Messiah, we are all the seed of Abraham. He knows you and yours intimately. He knows your name.

Remembering His covenant, Terry

Don't pass up opportunities God gives us for growth. Anointed words from Him remove burdens and destroy yokes. Read, listen, and watch His Word to us on <a href="www.lwcfgl.org">www.lwcfgl.org</a>. Tune in to <a href="www.lwcfgl.org">lwcfgl</a> on Facebook, YouTube, and Rumble.