

# **“Throw Down”**

## **Exodus 5-12, Unlocking the Old Testament**

### **June 28, 2009**

**Exodus 5:1-9** Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, ‘Let my people go, so that they may celebrate a festival to me in the wilderness.’”<sup>1</sup> But Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord, that I should heed him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord, and I will not let Israel go.”<sup>2</sup> Then they said, “The God of the Hebrews has revealed himself to us; let us go a three days’ journey into the wilderness to sacrifice to the Lord our God, or he will fall upon us with pestilence or sword.”<sup>3</sup> But the king of Egypt said to them, “Moses and Aaron, why are you taking the people away from their work? Get to your labors!”<sup>4</sup> Pharaoh continued, “Now they are more numerous than the people of the land and yet you want them to stop working!”<sup>5</sup> That same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people, as well as their supervisors,<sup>6</sup> “You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as before; let them go and gather straw for themselves.”<sup>7</sup> But you shall require of them the same quantity of bricks as they have made previously; do not diminish it, for they are lazy; that is why they cry, ‘Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.’<sup>8</sup> Let heavier work be laid on them; then they will labor at it and pay no attention to deceptive words.”

**Exodus 7:1-7** The Lord said to Moses, “See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet.”<sup>1</sup> You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh to let the Israelites go out of his land.<sup>2</sup> But I will harden Pharaoh’s heart, and I will multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt.<sup>3</sup> When Pharaoh does not listen to you, I will lay my hand upon Egypt and bring my people the Israelites, company by company, out of the land of Egypt by great acts of judgment.<sup>4</sup> The Egyptians shall know that I am the Lord, when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring the Israelites out from among them.”<sup>5</sup> Moses and Aaron did so; they did just as the Lord commanded them.<sup>6</sup> Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three when they spoke to Pharaoh.

**1. In the plagues Yahweh is challenging pagan gods.**

**2. God will use the necessary means to show His superiority**