

- How do we live when days of darkness come?
- 4 voices/conclusions come out of the events of this chapter

### 1. Pharaoh - The Voice of Power

- Egyptians believed Pharaoh was a god - this is a clash of the Gods
- Pharaoh tries three methods to limit the growing nation of Israel
- v7, 12, 20 – they keep on growing in spite/because of the oppression
- v17 – thwarted by the midwives – “they feared God”
- v23 - Enlists help of Nile god but (2:6) thwarted by his own daughter
- Thwarted at every turn, by some power working behind the scenes

**Pharaoh – “There is a power much greater than me”**

### 2. Satan – The Voice of Evil

- Evil doesn't simply come from inside people, but outside also
- Bible speaks of a dark evil being behind all human evil - Satan
- Gen 3, Rev 12 – Satan wants to destroy the promised child before it gets him
- Bible marked by attacks on children - Cain/Abel, Egypt, Bethlehem
- Satan's two great aims: to destroy people, to destroy his destroyer
- He too is thwarted (and mocked) at every turn

**Satan – “There is a God who is determined to rescue people for himself”**

### 3. Israelites – The Voice of the Hurting

- Where is God? Why is he silent? No answers, just promises kept
- Promised they'd go to Egypt (Gen 46:3), for 400 years, as slaves (Gen 15:13,14), become a great nation (Gen 15:5, 17:6), and leave (Gen 15:14)
- We live by faith in his promises, not by sight.
- God is faithful amidst the silence. Hang on to his promises

**Israel – “You can trust God's faithfulness amidst the dark silences”**

### 4. The Voice of Hope – Jochebed (Moses' mother)

- Was Jochebed's hope based on her circumstances turning out nicely?
- God doesn't promise that he will avert every tragedy for the Christian
- She was still a slave. Her hope lies in a rescue through the miracle child

**Jochebed – “Place your hope in God's rescuer, not in your circumstances being changed”**

- God's solution to suffering isn't simply to mop up the problems, but to step into the suffering so that he can bring an end to it.
- In Jesus, God comes and suffers so that he can deal with root of evil, both in us and outside of us. This is where our hope lies.

# Milford RPC

www.milfordrpc.org

Sabbath 17th January 2010

## Notices

- |                      |   |     |
|----------------------|---|-----|
| Sun                  | Evening service at Day Centre - Prayer time for wider church  |     |
| Wed                  | Pre-Communion   | 8pm |
| Sab 24 <sup>th</sup> | Communion at morning service, Thanksgiving service in the evening   |     |
| 5-7 Feb              | Adult Conference - Portrush<br>Theme - A Fragile Stone - Lessons from the life of Peter - Rev Gareth Burke<br>Application forms available |     |

Please speak to Anne (Messenger) or Joyce (Covenanter Witness) if you would like to receive either of these magazines

If you would like to bible reading notes speak to Mark about 'Let's worship God' (Airdrie RP Church). Notes can also be freely downloaded from [www.airdrierpcs.org/pubs.php](http://www.airdrierpcs.org/pubs.php)

## getting to know the WIDER CHURCH

- Congregation: Kilraughts  
Location: Near Ballymoney, Co Antrim  
Presbytery: Northern  
Pastor: David Fallows, married to Jennifer with 4 children  
Stuart, Rachel, Ross & Erin  
Attendance: about 80



### Prayer points:

- Give thanks for the work Debbie Pinkerton did with missionaries in Sudan and give thanks that she has returned safely.
- Pray that the session may have wisdom as they make plans for 2010.
- Give thanks for 40 young people who attend the youth groups and 30 children and their parents who attend Parents' and Toddlers. Praise God for the opportunities this provides to share the Gospel.

Next week's passage: Exodus 2

Opening Psalm: 62:5-9

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