

EARLY DIFFICULTIES IN GOD'S CALL

Introduction: After we align our _____ with God's and choose to fulfill His calling, it does not mean that the pathway will be smooth and free from problems.

- I. Opposition from _____ (Exodus 5:1-18)
 - A. Pharaoh's first objection was that he did not have to _____ a God he did not know.
 - B. "Ignorance and contempt of God are at the bottom of all the _____ that is in the world" (McGee).
 - C. The lost do not know Him or have a high _____ of Him and therefore do not submit to His authority.
 - D. He _____ said he would not obey God.
 - E. "In a short time Pharaoh would become acquainted with the God of Israel in a terrible way, and he would let the Israelites _____" (McGee).
 - F. It is God's will for His children to have the _____ to worship Him (1 Tim. 2:1-3).
 - G. When we set out to do God's will, things may get _____ before they get better.
- II. Opposition from _____ (Exodus 5:19-23)
 - A. The most _____ opposition is when it is from within.
 - B. The leaders are often _____ when things do not go well.
 - C. We must take all of our _____ to the Lord instead of fighting back at those who criticize us.
 - D. Opposition does not mean we are _____ in the ministry.
 - E. There will always be those who are not _____ with our actions (Gal. 1:10).
- III. Encouragement from _____ (Exodus 6:1-13; 7:1-13)
 - A. In our trials, the Lord will always be at our _____ (Acts 18:10).
 - B. Our focus needs to be directed towards the _____ of God.
 - C. This was God's _____ and He was going to perform all of it—Moses was just along for the ride (Phil. 1:6).
 - D. God's _____ is sufficient to answer all objections (Mt. 28:18).

Conclusion: "And out of the whole story there comes to us this lesson: we must never suppose that the difficulties which confront us indicate that we are not on God's path and doing his work" (Meyer).