

Intro:

Main Point of Text: Pharaoh tries to slow the Israelites' growth by enacting slave labor; but God grows them through it.

Sermon Point: *You will come forth as gold.*

Move 1: As God's people, you will face affliction often.

Vss. 11, 13-14. Harshness/severity emphasized by repetition. Comes after time of plenty: vs. 8. And fairly quickly: from Joseph's death to Moses' birth: 64 years.

Move 2: You have a terrible adversary who wants to control you as his people.

Vss. 9-10. Pharaoh crafty. Concerned about mass emigration/economy and how to sustain:

- Psalm 105:23-25; Acts 7:17-19.

Vs. 8: Pharaoh wants them as *his* subjects. He thinks he is god. He doesn't know Joseph; next one won't know Moses' God (Ex. 5:2). Not trying to kill, but keep. Wants to own them and be their god.

Move 3: God turns all your affliction upon Satan while using it to grow you.

Pharaoh has reason to be concerned. Last week: Israelites nearing number of Egyptians:

- Uses what usually works to control a people: What seems impossible happens: Vs. 12. Foiled again!
- What Pharaoh tries to keep from happening with his evil plan will be exactly what God does according to His eternal plan: Ex. 15.

Church's greatest growth: facing martyrdom, fighting heresy, pushing the wheels of reformation.

- 1 Peter 1:6-7; Zechariah 13:9
- Job 23:8-10: *Behold, I go forward, but he is not there; and backward, but I cannot perceive him: On the left hand, where he doth work, but I cannot behold him: he hideth himself on the right hand, that I cannot see him: But he knoweth the way that I take: when he hath tried me, I shall come forth as gold.* (Job 23:8-10)

Conclusion:

You will come forth as gold.