

SPIRITUAL TASK – THE ENSLAVEMENT OF TRUTH (Exodus 1)

by the Rev. David Roth at the New Church of Valley

Story The Children of Israel were invited and honored guests when they first went down into Egypt. As time passed the reason for them being there was forgotten and the new Pharaoh committed them to slavery and set taskmasters over them. Their bondage was rigorous and their lives bitter.

Meaning Dwelling in Egypt represents scientific and natural learning, and pursuing human intelligence. It is important to spend time in Egypt—everyone did (Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Jesus). However, there is a point where it comes time to move on—to move beyond merely learning and trusting in our own intelligence and to begin applying our knowledge to life and to begin pursuing higher, spiritual ideals. Pain and disorder arise from our not moving forward, and becoming dependant on ourselves instead of the Lord. We remain enslaved in our bad habits by false reasoning and toil to create brick after brick of lies to support our dysfunctional lifestyle.

Task This week take an honest look at who you are working for. Are you building cities for Pharaoh (generating lies to cover up selfish behavior) or cities for the Lord (learning and acquiring truths with the goal of putting them to use in your life)? Spend time learning a few new truths this week. Then try tearing down a few of the self-justification walls that you may have built over the last year. See if you feel more free inside.