

Text: Psalm 105:23-25; Genesis 15:5; Exodus 1

## **“HE INCREASED HIS PEOPLE GREATLY”**

### **(I) GOD’S PROMISE OF BLESSING OF COUNTLESS DESCENDANTS**

#### **1. Promise given to Abraham**

- a) His descendants would be as numerous as the stars
- b) This word was given to Abraham when he was still childless

#### **2. Abraham believed that God would keep His promise**

- a) Even though he was childless (**Genesis 17**)
- b) Even when he had only one son called Isaac (**Genesis 21**)
- c) Even when he was asked to offer Isaac as a sacrifice (**Genesis 22**)
- d) His faith in God was accounted to him as righteousness (**Genesis 15:6**)

### **(II) THE FULFILMENT OF GOD’S PROMISE**

*“He increased His people greatly” Psalm 105:24*

#### **1. Number of people who went to Egypt**

70 people (**Genesis 46:7; Exodus 1:5**)

#### **2. Four hundred years later**

*“But the children of Israel were fruitful and increased abundantly, multiplied and grew exceedingly mighty; and the land was filled with them.” Exodus 1:7*

### **(III) OPPOSITION FACED**

#### **1. Pharaoh opposed Israel**

- a) Began to tyrannize the children of Israel
- b) He enslaved them
- c) They were cruelly treated

## **2. Pharaoh's objectives**

- a) Control of the nation through slavery
- b) Control of the population of Israel through hardship
- c) Cruel orders to slay all male babies

## **3. All his plans and policies failed**

### **(IV) GOD'S PLAN AND POWER WERE AT WORK**

- 1. God's plan would be fulfilled**
- 2. His power would ensure the fulfilment of His plan**

### **(V) OUR CHALLENGE**

- 1. To believe in God's power to keep us**
- 2. To hold fast to our faith when we face hardship**
- 3. To believe in His word even more deeply**