

Targum Jonathan - Exodus 5

- 1 And after this Mosheh and Aharon went in unto Pharoh, and said, Thus saith the Lord, the God of Israel: Release My people, that they may make unto Me a festival in the wilderness.
- 2 And Pharoh said, The name of the Lord is not made known to me, that I should receive His word to release Israel. I have not found written in the Book of the Angels the name of the Lord. Of Him I am not afraid, neither will I release Israel.
- 3 And they said, The Name of the God of the Jehudaeae is invoked by (or upon) us. We will go, then, to proceed three days into the desert, and offer the sacrifices of a festival before the Lord God, that death and slaughter befall us not.
- 4 And the king of Mizraim said to Mosheh and Aharon, Why do you make the people cease from their labours? Go to your work.
- 5 And Pharoh said, Behold, this people of the land are many, whom you would stop from their service.
- 6 And Pharoh that day commanded the officers of the people and their exactors, saying,
- 7 You shall no more give straw to the people to cast bricks as heretofore; let them go and collect straw for themselves;
- 8 but the (same) number of bricks which they have heretofore made ye shall lay upon them, and not diminish from it, because they are idle; therefore they clamour, saying, Let us go to offer the sacrifice of a festival before our God.
- 9 Make their work strenuous upon the men, that they may be occupied with it, and not be setting their hopes upon lying words.
- 10 And the officers and exactors of the people went forth, and said to the people, Thus saith Pharoh, I will not give you straw;
- 11 you must go and take straw wherever you can find it; for your work will not in anywise be diminished.
- 12 And the people were scattered abroad in all the land of Mizraim to gather stubble for the straw.
- 13 But the officers were pressing, saying, Fulfil your work day by day, as you did when the straw was given you.
- 14 And the exactors whom Pharoh set over them as officers beat the sons of Israel, saying, Why have not you fulfilled your appointment, to cast (the same number of) bricks as heretofore, today as yesterday?
- 15 And the foremen came, and cried before Pharoh, saying, Why hast thou dealt thus with thy servants?
- 16 Thou hast not given thy servants the straw, and (yet) say they to us, Make the bricks; and, behold, they beat thy servants, and the guilty treatment of thy people is strong, but it goeth up!
- 17 But he said, You are idle, idle: therefore you are saying, Let us go and over the sacrifice of a festival before our God.
- 18 And now, go, work; but the straw shall not be given you, yet the number of the bricks you shall produce.
- 19 And the foremen of the sons of Israel saw that they were in evil, (in his) saying, Ye are not to withhold the assignment of your bricks from day to day.
- 20 And they met Mosheh and Aharon, who stood before them when they came out from the presence of Pharoh,
- 21 and they said to them, Our affliction is manifest before the Lord, but our punishment is from you who have made our smell offensive before Pharoh and his servants; for you have occasioned a sword to be put into their hand to kill us.
- 22 And Mosheh returned before the Lord, and said, O Lord, why hast Thou done evil to this people, and wherefore hast Thou sent me?
- 23 From the hour that I went in unto Pharoh to speak in Thy name, this people hath suffered evil, and delivering Thou hast not delivered them.

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