

# Exodus 18:6

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And he said unto Moses, I thy father in law Jethro am come unto thee, and thy wife, and her two sons with her.

## Analysis

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**And he said unto Moses, I thy father in law Jethro am come unto thee, and thy wife, and her two sons with her**—Jethro's announcement emphasizes relational structure: he identifies himself as father-in-law, then lists family members coming. This formal announcement shows respect for Moses' leadership position—Jethro doesn't presume on relationship but identifies himself properly. The phrase 'am come unto thee' (בָּא אֶלְיךָ, ba eleikha) indicates intentional seeking, not casual visit. Bringing 'thy wife and her two sons' reunites Moses' fractured household, showing Jethro's wisdom in timing—he waits until after exodus victories before restoring family. This models wisdom in discerning when to introduce personal matters versus letting leaders focus on mission.

## Historical Context

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This formal announcement likely came through a messenger before Jethro's actual arrival, giving Moses time to prepare proper reception for his father-in-law and family.

## Related Passages

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**Psalm 19:1** — Heavens declare God's glory

**Colossians 1:16** — All things created through Christ

## Study Questions

1. What does Jethro's formal announcement teach about respecting leadership even in family relationships?
2. How does timing of family reunion (after victories) show wisdom in supporting leaders?

## Interlinear Text

בְּ אֶל יְהוָה מֶלֶךְ אֶתְּנָה אָמָר	And he said	H413	unto Moses	H4872	אָנָּה מֶלֶךְ הָעָם	H589	I thy father in law	H2859	חֶתְנָה אָנָּה מֶלֶךְ	H3503	Jethro	H935	בְּ אֶתְּנָה אָמָר
בְּנָה בְּנָתָךְ שָׁתָּה וְשָׁנָה אֶל יְהוָה	unto thee and thy wife	H413	unto thee and thy wife	H802	וְשָׁנָה וְשָׁתָּה בְּנָתָךְ בְּנָה אֶל יְהוָה	H8147	and her two sons	H1121	עַמְּךָ בְּנֵי יִהְוָה	H5973			

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