

# Exodus 6:1

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

Then the LORD said unto Moses, Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh: for with a strong hand shall he let them go, and with a strong hand shall he drive them out of his land.

## Analysis

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God's response 'Now shalt thou see what I will do to Pharaoh' marks a turning point. The phrase 'with a strong hand' (בְּיָד חֲזָקָה, beyad chazaqah) introduces the paradox: the same 'strengthening' that hardens Pharaoh's heart will also drive him to release Israel. The doubling 'thrust them out... drive them out' emphasizes Pharaoh's complete reversal.

## Historical Context

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The 'strong hand' motif appears throughout Exodus, referring sometimes to Pharaoh's stubbornness and sometimes to God's power. Ancient Near Eastern warfare often ended with victors 'driving out' defeated populations.

## Related Passages

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**John 15:13** — Greatest form of love

**1 John 4:8** — God is love

## Study Questions

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1. How does God's timing ('now') speak to your current season of waiting?

2. What does this passage teach about God working through opposition rather than removing it?

## Interlinear Text

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וַיֹּאמֶר	יְהוָה	אֶל	מֹשֶׁה	עַתָּה	תִּרְאֶה	אֲשֶׁר
said	Then the LORD	H413	unto Moses	H6258	Now shalt thou see	H834
H559	H3068		H4872		H7200	
אֲשֶׁר	לִפְרֹעֶה	כִּי	וְבַד	חֲזָקָה	יִשְׁלַח	
what I will do	to Pharaoh	H3588	hand	and with a strong	shall he let them go	
H6213	H6547		H3027	H2389	H7971	
וְבַד	חֲזָקָה	יִגְרֹשׁ	מֵאֶרְצוֹ			
hand	and with a strong	shall he drive them out	of his land			
H3027	H2389	H1644	H776			

## Additional Cross-References

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**Psalms 136:12** (Parallel theme): With a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm: for his mercy endureth for ever.

**Exodus 12:39** (Parallel theme): And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual.

**Exodus 12:31** (References Lord): And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said.

**Exodus 12:33** (Parallel theme): And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.

**Exodus 11:1** (References Lord): And the LORD said unto Moses, Yet will I bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether.

**Deuteronomy 32:39** (Parallel theme): See now that I, even I, am he, and there is no god with me: I kill, and I make alive; I wound, and I heal: neither is there any that can deliver out of my hand.

**Isaiah 63:12** (References Moses): That led them by the right hand of Moses with his glorious arm, dividing the water before them, to make himself an everlasting name?

**Psalms 12:5** (References Lord): For the oppression of the poor, for the sighing of the needy, now will I arise, saith the LORD; I will set him in safety from him that puffeth at him.

**Psalms 89:13** (Parallel theme): Thou hast a mighty arm: strong is thy hand, and high is thy right hand.

**Exodus 13:3** (References Lord): And Moses said unto the people, Remember this day, in which ye came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage; for by strength of hand the LORD brought you out from this place: there shall no leavened bread be eaten.