

## Exodus 18

**Read Exodus 18:1-12:** Jethro, or Reul is Moses father in law. He is a priest in Midian. Was he a priest of Jehovah God, or some idol? Verse 11 says that Jethro now knows that Jehovah is greater than all gods. It implies that this Exodus display brought this new revelations to him. Perhaps he was an *open channel*, like Baalam. That is not a good thing, but now, at least he is on track. Jethro sets up a sacrifice to God in which all of the elders of Israel participate in. It is good to be a seeker of God. Why is only Jethro sacrificing to God. He is not even a Hebrew. There are 3 million Hebrews, and it takes a Gentile to sacrifice to God?

Jethro had been taking care of Moses' wife and kids during the crossing of the Red Sea. Now he brings Moses' family back together.

**Read Exodus 18:13-27:** Outsiders can be a blessing. Jethro observed Moses trying to hear all of the cases of Hebrew people who were squabbling or had property issues or other issues. Surely, the relocated massive group all had many gripes and issues. That is way too much for one man to handle. Jethro instructs Moses to set up elders and judges over small matters and bigger matters, like a court system...leaving him as the supreme court.

It is interesting that he was teaching God's laws to the people. God's laws had not yet been given. The only few laws were given in the garden of Eden, to Noah and to Abraham.

We have to make sure that our zeal to help and lead does not result in a Messiah Complex. We cannot become everybody's daddy. It is unhealthy for us, and it will shortchange them. One reason that mankind is limited is that it forces more people into the ministry to help.