

Why does God allow sin to continue?

This weeks reading is from Parashat Yitro (*Shemot / Exodus 18:1-20:23*), the Scripture portion this week tells us that Yitro (Moshe's father in law) arrived bringing Moshe's wife Zipporah and his two sons, Gershom and Eleazar (*18:1-3*). Moshe told Yitro everything the Lord had done and Yitro said *וַיֹּאמֶר יִתְרוֹ בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר הִצִּיל אֶת-הָעָם מִיַּד-מִצְרַיִם: 18:10 So Jethro said, 'Blessed be the Lord who delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of Pharaoh, and who delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. (NASB)* Moshe's father in law praised the Name of the Lord, and then they make an offering to the Lord and sit down to eat before God (*18:12*). The next day, Yitro saw all that Moshe was doing for the people and recommended that Moshe select leaders from the people as judges so that only the heavy matters Moshe would judge (*18:13-26*). In the third month leaving Egypt, the people arrive at the wilderness of Sinai (*18:26-19:1*). Lord told Moshe, have the people consecrate themselves because in three days the Lord will come down to speak with them (*19:7-16*). The Lord warned not to break through and gaze so they would not die (*19:24-25*) and God called Moshe and Aharon to come up on the mountain. The reading this week concludes with the Lord giving Moshe and the people His ten commandments (*Shemot / Exodus 20:1-19*).

כתבי הקודש / The Holy Scriptures	
<p style="text-align: center;">ספר שמות פרק יח</p> <p style="text-align: center;">ח וַיְסַפֵּר מֹשֶׁה לְחֹתְנָו אֵת כָּל-אֲשֶׁר עָשָׂה יְהוָה לְפָרְעֹה וּלְמִצְרַיִם עַל אֹדֶת יִשְׂרָאֵל אֵת כָּל-הַתְּלָאָה אֲשֶׁר מָצְאָתֶם בְּדֶרֶךְ וַיִּצְלַם יְהוָה: ט וַיַּחֲדֵ יִתְרוֹ עַל כָּל-הַטּוֹבָה אֲשֶׁר-עָשָׂה יְהוָה לְיִשְׂרָאֵל אֲשֶׁר הִצִּילֹו מִיַּד מִצְרַיִם: י וַיֹּאמֶר יִתְרוֹ בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר הִצִּיל אֶת-הָעָם מִיַּד מִצְרַיִם וּמִיַּד פְּרָעֹה אֲשֶׁר הִצִּיל אֶת-הָעָם מִתַּחַת יַד-מִצְרַיִם: יא עַתָּה יָדַעְתִּי כִּי-גָדוֹל יְהוָה מִכָּל-הָאֱלֹהִים כִּי בְדַבָּר אֲשֶׁר זָדוּ עָלֵיהֶם: יב וַיִּקַּח יִתְרוֹ חֹתֵן מֹשֶׁה עֹלָה וּזְבָחִים לְאֱלֹהִים וַיָּבֵא אֹהֶרֶן וְכָל זִקְנֵי יִשְׂרָאֵל לְאָכַל-לֶחֶם עִם-חֹתֵן מֹשֶׁה לִפְנֵי הָאֱלֹהִים:</p>	<p>Shemot / Exodus 18:8-12</p> <p><i>18:8 Moses told his father-in-law all that the Lord had done to Pharaoh and to the Egyptians for Israel's sake, all the hardship that had befallen them on the journey, and how the Lord had delivered them. 18:9 Jethro rejoiced over all the goodness which the Lord had done to Israel, in delivering them from the hand of the Egyptians. 18:10 So Jethro said, 'Blessed be the Lord who delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians and from the hand of Pharaoh, and who delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. 18:11 'Now I know that the Lord is greater than all the gods; indeed, it was proven when they dealt proudly against the people.' 18:12 Then Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, took a burnt offering and sacrifices for God, and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat a meal with Moses' father-in-law before God. (NASB)</i></p>

The Scriptures say that Moshe told Yitro all the hardships that had befallen them on the journey and all the Lord had done for Israel's sake. Thinking on the land of slavery and God's deliverance, do you ever wondered why God allows sin in this world? Have you ever asked the Lord to keep you from sin and you turn around and sin again after asking for help? Yitro heard of the hardships of Israel, all of the sin of Egypt, and all the Lord had done for Moshe in the deliverance of Israel from bondage. Hearing these things Yitro gave praise to the Lord saying *בְּרוּךְ יְהוָה אֲשֶׁר הִצִּיל אֶתְכֶם מִיַּד מִצְרַיִם "Blessed is the Lord that delivered you from the hand of the Egyptians"* (*18:10*). Follow the sequence of events here, Yitro arrived (*18:1-3*), Moshe told him of all God had done (*18:8*), Yitro praised God (*18:10*), then they offered Sacrifices to the Lord and sit down to have a meal together at peace (*18:12*). Because of what God had done, Yitro said *עַתָּה יָדַעְתִּי כִּי-גָדוֹל יְהוָה מִכָּל-הָאֱלֹהִים "Now I know that God is greater than all other gods."* The Apostle Paul said the Torah is a tutor or teacher in *Galatians 3:24* *ὡστε ὁ νόμος παιδαγωγὸς ἡμῶν γέγονεν εἰς Χριστόν, ἵνα ἐκ πίστεως δικαιωθῶμεν: 3:24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor to lead us to Christ, so that we may be justified by faith. (NASB)* What is the Torah teaching us here about our lives and sin? God is greater than all things. The reason the Lord allows sin, and failure in our lives is so that we come to Him (God) on our knees as humble servants and not on our feet in the pride of life. Today, we hear (read) of all the Lord has done for us, we come to the Lord God Almighty in the Messiah (*in the offering for atonement He has provided*) and because of these things we are able to live at peace with God and with others. The Scriptures this week teach us to rely upon the Lord for everything, even in our day-to-day lives for help from sin. God's deliverance was not based upon Israel, it was based upon Himself and in Him keeping His promises! The Lord can and will deliver you from sin in Yeshua the Messiah but you have to wholly rely upon Him!