

## **SPIRITUAL TASK – ISRAEL ENSLAVED BY PHARAOH** (Exodus 1)

*by the Rev. David Roth at the New Church of Boulder Valley*

**Story** The Children of Israel were enslaved by Pharaoh.

**Meaning** The story of the call of Samuel is a simple reminder. It is a reminder that we need to work on having that innocent response to the truth. That immediate willingness to leave what we are doing and obey what the Lord has shown us to be true. We don't ponder, reflect and wonder, we simply do the truth taught. We are reminded in Swedenborg's Writings that we are engaged in spiritual warfare, and that we need to be militant—responding quickly, precisely, and without question—like a soldier.

**Task** This week try: What are the taskmasters in your life? Can you list them? Which habits or thought patterns prevent happiness in your life? Pick one of these habits and decide not to do it for one day. Can you feel its power? How can you adjust your life to live without it? Where do you find direction for your life? This week, find a Bible, or other spiritual material, and begin to read portions of it each day. Do new thoughts begin to lead you?