

SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn. 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Rom. 15:4 For whatsoever things were **written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**

Tonight, we continue studying one of the most unique men in the Word of God – Moses. Moses is mentioned in 784 verses in the Bible – 705 times in the Old Testament and 79 in the New Testament. Known as “*the Emancipator*” and “*the Lawgiver*” of Israel, he was also a scholar, soldier, statesman, and saint. He was sent back after death to meet with the Lord Jesus on the Mount of Transfiguration and, I believe, will be one of the two witnesses during the Tribulation Period.

Last week we began with details of his life that led up to his birth, Ex. 1:1-14. When Moses was born, it was during a horrible time for the children of Israel in Egypt. Pharaoh ordered the murdering of innocent babies, little boys in particular.

Ex. 1:15 And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one *was* Shiphrah, and the name of the other Puah:

16 And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see *them* upon the stools; **if it *be* a son, then ye shall kill him:** but if it *be* a daughter, then she shall live.

17 **But the midwives feared God,** and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

18 And the king of Egypt called for the midwives, and said unto them, Why have ye done this thing, and have saved the men children alive?

19 And the midwives said unto Pharaoh, Because the Hebrew women *are* not as the Egyptian women; for they *are* lively, and are delivered ere the midwives come in unto them.

20 Therefore **God dealt well with the midwives**: and the people multiplied, and waxed very mighty.

21 And it came to pass, **because the midwives feared God**, that he made them houses.

22 And Pharaoh charged all his people, saying, **Every son that is born ye shall cast into the river**, and every daughter ye shall save alive.

- ❖ In the midst of such a horrible time in Egypt for the children of Israel, many Israelites still feared God more than fearing Pharaoh, including the midwives (1:21) and Moses' parents. Moses' life began with an act of faith by the midwives and his parents:
- ❖ Shiphrah and Puah were prudent, not prevaricators.

Ex. 1:17 **But the midwives feared God**, and did not as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the men children alive.

Prov. 22:3 A prudent *man* foreseeeth the evil, and hideth himself: but the simple pass on, and are punished.
(Prov. 27:12)

❖ Believers should obey the laws of man until the laws defy God and His Word.

Acts 5:29 Then Peter and the *other* apostles answered and said, **We ought to obey God rather than men.**

❖ Moses' parents, Amram and Jochebed, feared God more than they feared Pharaoh.

Heb. 11:23 **By faith Moses**, when he was born, **was hid three months of his parents**, because they saw *he was* a proper child; and **they were not afraid of the king's commandment.**

Tonight we will focus upon Moses' mother, Jochebed. There is no doubt about her power of influence on the life of Moses.

"The Hand That Rocks the Cradle Is the Hand That Rules the World"

(A poem by William Ross Wallace that praises motherhood as the preeminent force for change in the world.)

<https://importantindia.com/22665/the-hand-that-rocks-the-cradle-rules-the-world-origin-meaning-expansion/>

Original Word: יֹכֶבֶד **Transliteration:** Yokebed

Definition: "the LORD is glory", Jochebed, the mother of Moses

<https://biblehub.com/hebrew/3115.htm>

I. JOCHEBED HAD MOSES

Ex. 6:20 And Amram took him Jochebed his father's sister to wife; **and she bare him Aaron and Moses:** and the years of the life of Amram *were* an hundred and thirty and seven years.

Num. 26:59 And the name of Amram's wife *was* **Jochebed**, the daughter of Levi, whom *her mother* bare to Levi in Egypt: and **she bare unto Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister.**

- ❖ In the midst of slavery, a beautiful baby named Moses was born to two Levites.
- ❖ Jochebed had two older children, Aaron and Miriam, who would also become leaders during the Exodus.
- ❖ Amram and Jochebed were godly influences for all three of their children.

II. JOCHEBED HID MOSES

Ex. 2:1 And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took *to wife* a daughter of Levi.

2 And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he *was a goodly child*, **she hid him** three months.

- ❖ Though she is unnamed here, we know her name is Jochebed. (See Ex. 6:20 and Num. 26:59)
- ❖ In spite of Pharaoh's orders to kill the male babies, Amram and Jochebed protected Moses.

❖ Amram and Jochebed exhibited the fear of the Lord over fear of Pharaoh.

Heb. 11:23 **By faith Moses**, when he was born, **was hid three months of his parents**, because they saw *he was* a proper child; and **they were not afraid of the king's commandment.**

❖ The fear of the Lord affects the lives of true believers:

Job 28:28 And unto man he said, **Behold, the fear of the Lord, that *is* wisdom**; and to depart from evil *is* understanding.

Psa. 111:10 **The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of wisdom**: a good understanding have all they that do *his commandments*: his praise endureth for ever.

Prov. 1:7 **The fear of the LORD *is* the beginning of knowledge**: *but* fools despise wisdom and instruction.

Prov. 8:13 **The fear of the LORD is to hate evil:** pride, and arrogancy, and the evil way, and the froward mouth, do I hate.

Prov. 9:10 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom:** and the knowledge of the holy *is* understanding.

Prov. 14:26 In the fear of the LORD *is* strong confidence: and his children shall have a place of refuge.

27 The fear of the LORD *is* a fountain of life, to depart from the snares of death.

Prov. 15:16 **Better is little with the fear of the LORD** than great treasure and trouble therewith.

Prov. 16:6 By mercy and truth iniquity is purged: and **by the fear of the LORD *men depart from evil.***

Prov. 23:17 Let not thine heart envy sinners: but ***be thou in the fear of the LORD all the day long.***

Acts 9:31 Then had the churches rest throughout all Judaea and Galilee and Samaria, and were edified; and **walking in the fear of the Lord**, and in the comfort of the Holy Ghost, were multiplied.

❖ As the churches grew, so did Moses under the guidance of his parents.

III. JOCHEBED HELD MOSES



<https://www.pinterest.com/pin/271271577541293284/>

Ex. 2:3 And when **she could not longer hide him, she** took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and **she** laid *it* in the flags by the river's brink.

4 And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

5 And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash *herself* at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

6 And when she had opened *it*, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This *is one* of the Hebrews' children.

7 Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

9 And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and **nurse it for me**, and I will give *thee* thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

10 And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.



<https://seedsofffaith.cph.org/2015/09/29/old-testament-2-lesson-5-the-birth-of-moses/>

- ❖ Jochebed devised a plan, by faith, for Moses' survival.
- ❖ Miriam exhibited her own faith in following her mother's plan.
- ❖ Jochebed's faith was rewarded with the return of Moses plus being paid to care for him.
- ❖ Amram and Jochebed were privileged to instill godly character into Moses that would influence him, and history, for the rest of his life.

Summary

- ❖ Consider the children of Israel included in the narrative up to this point in history:
 - Who were Shiphrah and Puah?
 - Who were Amram and Jochebed?
 - They were “ordinary people.”
- ❖ Ordinary people, living ordinary lives, must learn to walk by faith during ordinary times.
- ❖ Walking by faith, daily, is the preparation to face extraordinary challenges of life.
- ❖ Faith is tested in the mediocrity of life.

The triumph of a life of faith is wrapped within the mediocrity of life. Often, many years of mundane nuances precede a major test of the believer's faith. Unwittingly, believers overlook the many years of mediocrity of those heroes in Hebrews 11. They embraced life with simplistic faithfulness before they accomplished some great feat of faith. The believer's life should consist of daily obedience in submissive pursuit to please God, living in the center of His will.

Heb. 11:6 But **without faith it is impossible to please him**: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and *that* he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him.

Conclusion

One hundred years ago F.W. Boreham made this observation, "A century ago [in 1809] men were following, with bated breath, the march of Napoleon, and waiting with feverish impatience for the latest news of the wars. And all the while, in their own homes, babies were being born. But who could think about babies? Everybody was thinking about battles. . .

"In one year between Trafalgar and Waterloo, there stole into the world a host of heroes!

William Ewert Gladstone was born at Liverpool and became Prime Minister of the UK.

Alfred Lord Tennyson was born at the Somersby rectory and became Poet Laureate.

Edgar Allen Poe was born in Boston, and became a well-known poet.

Oliver Wendell Holmes, born in Massachusetts, was a physician, humorist, and poet.

Abraham Lincoln, born in Kentucky and became the 16th President of the United States.

Cyrus McCormick, born in Virginia and inventor of the mechanical reaper.

Louis Braille, French educator who developed a system of printing and writing, called Braille, that is extensively used by the blind.

Kit Carson, born in Kentucky, was an American frontiersman, trapper, soldier and Indian agent who made important contributions to the westward expansion of the United States.

Music was enriched by Felix Mendelssohn, born at Hamburg, Germany, in 1809.

"But nobody thought of babies. Everybody was thinking of battles. Yet which of the battles of 1809 mattered more than the babies of 1809? We fancy that God can only manage His world by big battalions when all the while He is doing it by beautiful babies. When a wrong wants righting, or a work wants doing, or a truth wants preaching, or a continent wants opening, God sends a baby into the world to do it."
(F. W. Boreham, Mountains in the Mist: Some Australian Reveries [1919], 166-67, 170)

<https://www.facebook.com/fw boreham/posts/this-might-just-be-the-most-quoted-and-most-shared-saying-of-f-w-boreham/10155187591526387/>

Prov. 22:6 **Train up a child in the way he should go:**
and when he is old, he will not depart from it.