

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.

Last week we considered the *Preservation* and the *Preparation* of Moses.

I. THE PRESERVATION OF MOSES

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.**

❖ Faith was a characteristic of Moses' parents.

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

II. THE PREPARATION OF MOSES

In Ex. 2:5-9, Pharaoh's daughter discovered Moses and followed Miriam's suggestion that Jochebed become his nurse. After being weaned, Moses was taken to Pharaoh's daughter.

Ex. 2:10 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.

- ❖ The rapid growth of Moses took place under the tutelage of the royal court. Last week we looked at the historical accounts of Josephus and Philo regarding Moses' early life.

Moses had an early foundation developed by parents who walked by faith. When taken to Pharaoh's daughter, Moses had the wonderful opportunity to grow up with everything needed to prepare him for the life God has chosen for him. In his youth, Moses had the best educational training, military training, and political training to live a prosperous Egyptian life. During this time period, God was working on Moses' heart, leading him to consider "his brethren."

III. THE PROLIFERATION OF MOSES

Acts 7:22 And **Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.**

- ❖ As Moses was excelling as an Egyptian leader, the time came when God put it into his heart “to visit his brethren the children of Israel.”

Ex. 2:11 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that **he went out unto his brethren**, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren.

- ❖ Why did Moses check out “his brethren?” Stephen gave testimony to the same event.

Acts 7:23 And when he was full forty years old, **it came into his heart to visit his brethren** the children of Israel.

- ❖ Moses knew of his Hebrew heritage, and God put it “into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel.”

Phil. 2:13 For **it is God which worketh in you** both to will and to do of *his* good pleasure.

IV. THE PROBLEM FOR MOSES

- ❖ The narrative jumps from Moses being a baby, cared for by his mother, to being grown as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter.

❖ Moses, now forty years old, identified with “his brethren:”

Ex. 2:11 And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that **he went out unto his brethren**, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting **an Hebrew, one of his brethren**.

Acts 7:23 And when he was full forty years old, **it came into his heart to visit his brethren** the children of Israel.

- ❖ Moses encountered several problems. Before the problem of the confrontation with the Egyptian that was “smiting and Hebrew,” Moses wrestled with his conscience about God’s calling and performing His will.
- ❖ Moses owed his life to Pharaoh’s daughter, and lived in a privileged environment throughout his first forty years of life.
- ❖ Moses made a choice to identify with God and God’s people as he “refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter.”

Heb. 11:24 **By faith** Moses, **when he was come to years**, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

❖ The issue of identification demands a decision that is accompanied by ramifications.

Heb. 11:25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction **with the people of God**, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

❖ Consider the options for Moses:

- live like royalty, or live like slaves;
- identify with the Egyptians, or identify “with the people of God;”
- “enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season,” or “suffer affliction;”
- place value upon “the treasures of Egypt,” or esteem “the reproach of Christ greater riches;”

- ❖ Moses chose to turn his back on the worldliness of Egypt and turn toward God and His reward for service.
- ❖ Moses' decision is an excellent example of repentance:

Acts 3:19 **Repent** ye therefore, and **be converted**, that your sins may be blotted out, when the times of refreshing shall come from the presence of the Lord;

1 Thess. 1:9 For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and **how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;**

❖ Turning TO God includes turning FROM the world and selfishness:

Gal. 5:24 And **they that are Christ's have crucified the flesh** with the affections and lusts.

1 Jn. 5:4 For **whatsoever is born of God overcometh the world: and this is the victory that overcometh the world, even our faith.**

❖ The example of Jesus as a child was to “be about my Father’s business.”

Luke 2:49 And he said unto them, How is it that ye sought me? **wist ye not that I must be about my Father's business?**
50 And they understood not the saying which he spake unto them.

- ❖ Moses knew, at forty years of age, that he had to separate for the world, unto God.
- ❖ The prodigal son had to leave the far country before he can go to the Father.
- ❖ “All flowers are not of the same hue, nor are they equally fragrant; yet every variety differs radically for weeds!” – A.W. Pink
- ❖ Moses was a wonderful type of Christ as seen in Heb. 11:25-26 in comparison with 2 Cor. 8:9:

2 Cor. 8:9 For ye know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that ye through his poverty might be rich.

❖ The Apostle Paul knew and practiced the same principle of priorities:

Phil. 3:7 But **what things were gain to me, those I counted loss for Christ.**

8 Yea doubtless, and **I count all things *but* loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them *but* dung, that I may win Christ,**

9 And be found in him, not having mine own righteousness, which is of the law, but that which is through the faith of Christ, the righteousness which is of God by faith:

10 **That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;**

11 If by any means I might attain unto the resurrection of the dead.

12 Not as though I had already attained, either were already perfect: but **I follow after, if that I may apprehend that for which also I am apprehended of Christ Jesus.**

13 Brethren, I count not myself to have apprehended: but *this* one thing *I do*, **forgetting those things which are behind, and reaching forth unto those things which are before,**

14 **I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.**

Summary

- ❖ Moses lived a life of pleasure in Egypt, but chose to identify with God and His people.
- ❖ Moses valued the reproach of Christ greater than his own satisfaction and comfort.
- ❖ Moses, by faith, “had respect unto the recompence of the reward.”

Conclusion

2 Cor. 4:16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward *man* is renewed day by day.

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding *and* eternal weight of glory;

18 While **we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen:** for the things which are seen *are* temporal; but the things which are not seen *are* eternal.