

Moses
Hebrews 11:23-29

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. 24) By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; 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. 27) By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. 28) Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. 29) By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

Introduction:

1. This section began in Hebrews 10:19-12:29
2. We are looking in Hebrews 11 where we see shining examples of faith.
 - a. In the 1st three verses of chapter 11, we have saw
 - i. What faith is
 - ii. That by faith the elders received a good report
 - iii. That by faith we come to understand that God created all there is out of nothing.
 - b. Beginning with verse four down through verse 22, we have saw the faith of Abel, Enoch, Abraham, Sarah, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph, and tonight we begin with the faith of Moses.
3. To see the faith of Moses, we must begin with Moses' parents in Exodus chapter 2.

VIII. The faith of Moses' parents

Note: Scripture

- i. Exodus 2:1-4
 - 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. 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.
 - ii. Hebrews 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.

Note: The Amplified begins with “prompted” by faith...

A. Let us examine the actions of their faith

1. They hid their son for three months (v2)
2. Jochebed the mother of Moses is the one mentioned as hiding her son, but I cannot help but believe that Amram was a part of the scheme to hide their baby, which took faith.
3. It is a wonderful thing when two can agree on earth to get a response from the Father in heaven, and this can have a great impact upon their children
4. Here we see Moses as being a type of Christ where like Christ, the king desires to destroy him
5. Consider this thought
 - a. By faith, Joseph told them that they would be delivered from Egypt.
 - b. For them to be delivered, there had to be a deliverer
 - c. There is a tradition that a prophecy was given of a baby boy being born who would deliver them from Egyptian bondage.
 - d. Therefore, because of this prophecy, Pharaoh decreed that all baby boys born were to be slain, just like Herod did many years later at the birth of Jesus

Note: Satanic forces and the world does not want us to have a Deliverer, for they want to keep us in bondage and slaver, but Jesus came to set us free. Just as Moses was born to deliver Israel from Egypt so Christ could be born to Israel for the purpose of delivering all mankind from sin.

- e. Also consider that there were not that many years between the death of Joseph and the birth of Moses, so the prophecy of Joseph of a deliverer would be fresh in their minds.
 - i. One source said 59 years
 - ii. Reese's Chronological Bible records it at about 57 to 63 years
 - iii. Dickson's New Analytical Bible puts it at 62 years

f. Dake says that they had a word from God which built their faith (Romans 10:17) to act in faith (Hebrews 11:23)

B. Consider the “Why” of their actions

1. Exodus 2:2...They “saw he was a goodly child.”

a. Niv...He was a fine child

b. Nlt...He was a special baby

c. Ce...He was a beautiful child,

d. Amp...She saw that he was [exceedingly] beautiful,

2. Acts 7:20...Exceedingly fair...Kjv

a. Niv...He was no ordinary child...Niv

b. The reference on 7:20 in the Niv says “fair in the sight of God.”

c. Nlt...a beautiful child in God’s eyes

d. Amp...Exceedingly beautiful in God’s sight.

3. Hebrews 11:23... they saw he was a proper child

a. Niv...They saw he was no ordinary child,

b. Nlt... They saw that God had given them an unusual child

4. There is more to their actions than just the reaction to a beautiful baby, for I feel that they felt something from God that inspired them to gaze upon this child to see him to be more than just another baby.

5. There was something about this baby to impress his mother, and I think his parents to see that he was born to great things, perhaps to be their deliverer.

C. Their faith overrode their fear

1. Exodus 1:22...They were not afraid of the king's commandment.

a. Nlt... they were not afraid to disobey the king’s command.

b. Amp... they were not overawed *and* terrified by the king’s decree.

2. The demonic forces were trying to wipe out the promise to Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph by destroying all male babies, and thus halt the birth of the Messiah.
3. There are times that we act by faith even though it places our livelihood and even our lives in jeopardy
4. It takes faith to overcome fear
5. Faith is a preservative as we submit ourselves to the will and power of God.
6. Consider

1st. She “hid him three months.”

2nd. When she no longer hide him, she made an ark of bulrushes, placed the child inside, and laid it in the flags by the river's brink.

3rd. She place Miriam close by to see what would happen

4th. She waited

- a. Have you noticed that the longer the battle, the more antagonistic fear is
- b. Fear just hangs in there as we struggle through the battle
- c. There are times that we do just like Moses' parents, Moses' mother, we do all we can do, and then we “wait”
 - i. Isaiah 40:29-31...

1) Kjv...

29) He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. 30) Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: 31) But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

2) Niv...

29) He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak. 30) Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; 31) but those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.

3) Nlt...

29) He gives power to the weak and strength to the powerless. 30) Even youths will become weak and tired, and young men will fall in exhaustion. 31) But those who trust in the Lord will find new strength. They will soar high on wings like eagles. They will run and not grow weary. They will walk and not faint.

ii. Waiting involves patience and hope which involves “trust” which requires faith. Trust that God is going to do something. Trust that our strength will be renewed. So, when we have done all we can do, we wait in prayer and in praise.

iii. Luke 21:19... In your patience possess ye your souls.

iv. James 1:2-3...

2) My brethren, count it all joy when ye fall into divers temptations; 3) Knowing this, that the trying of your faith worketh patience. 4) But let patience have her perfect work, that ye may be perfect and entire, wanting nothing.

v. Romans 5:3...Tribulation worketh patience;

vi. Luke 8:15...

But that on the good ground are they, which in an honest and good heart, having heard the word, keep it, and bring forth fruit with patience.

Note: Those whose hearts are good ground will hear the Word, receive and keep the word, and there will be fruit produced with patience. Miracles happen when people patiently wait upon the Lord.

XII. The faith of Moses

Note Hebrews 11:24-26

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

Note: There is a constant battle taking place within us. Love of the world or love of God is the battle we fight, and we fight this constantly. This is illustrated in 1st John 2:15-

15) Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. 16) For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. 17) And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

- i. Adam and Eve fought this battle and lost
- ii. Lot fought the battle and lost
- iii. Abel, Enoch, Noah, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph fought the same battle and won, and their lives testify to us as they cry out to you and I that we can “overcome this world” by loving our Savior.

A. Moses by faith conquered the world

Note: How about you and I? Have we conquered the world, or is the world conquering us?

- i. Think about it?
 - ii. Are you allowing God to have first place, or are you withholding part of yourself?
 - iii. Whatever is keeping you from being all God wants you to be falls under the category of loving the world more than you love God.
- 1st. He refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter (v24)

Note: She had adopted him as her son

- i. This meant that Moses could have been the next Pharaoh
- ii. It is traditionally thought that Moses had became a great general in the Egyptian army leading them to victory over the Ethiopians to the south of Egypt and in the area of the Upper Nile River.
 - a. This must have been a great battle, for it is said that Pharaoh's daughter was his only child and she herself was childless, except for adopting Moses
 - i. She had raises Moses as her son
 - ii. He could have been the next Pharaoh and in that position have helped Israel

Note: Why would not this have worked?

- iii. Moses owed his life to Pharaoh’s daughter, yet he refused to be called her son
- b. Moses faith made him triumphant over the test
 - i. If he was identified as Pharaoh’s daughter’s son, then he would not have been identified as a son of Abraham
 - ii. Greater honor was being known as a son of Abraham the father of the faithful

iii. He refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter because then it would look like he was renouncing God and his relation to Israel which was his true and lasting heritage

2nd. Moses chose rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season (v25)

Note: Moses chose to be identified with the people of God here on earth

- i. This choice was a choice that involved choosing to suffer for God
- ii. Moses chose to have his portion with God in eternity rather than enjoy all the sinful pleasures of Pharaoh's court
- iii. Like Moses, we need to understand that there are pleasure in sin, but those pleasures only last for a season, for a time, while the things of God last for eternity
- iv. Indulging in the pleasures of sin for a season can bring hardship here and eternal destruction, while enjoying the things of God brings peace and happiness here with joy like a river and the hope and confidence of eternal bliss in God's presence.
- v. Moses by faith conquered the temptation of worldly pleasure just as he conquered the temptation to worldly position and recognition
 - a. The pleasures of sin are and will be short, and will end in speedy repentance or speedy destruction
 - b. The pleasures of this world are too often the pleasures of sin, and when we cannot enjoy the pleasures of the world without forsaking God and his people, then they are sin.

Note: A true believer will despise and turn from the worldly things regardless of how much the flesh wants to indulge

- c. Suffering is to be chosen rather than sin, which is what Moses chose.
- d. Suffering is easier when we suffer with God's people for we encourage one another and we realize that a greater reward is coming when the suffering is over

3rd. Moses considered the reproaches of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt

Note Hebrews 11:26...

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

- a. Moses placed the reproaches of Christ on one scale, which is the worst of religion
- b. Moses than put on the other scale the best of the world which was the treasures of Egypt
- c. As he weighted these two together, he decided in his opinion and judgment being directed by faith that the worst of religion outweighed the pleasures of the world and were far more beneficial than all that the world could give
- d. Moses considered the rewards, and after consideration, he had respect unto the recompence (compensation) of the reward.

Note: We have always had to make a choice, but our choice to follow Christ in today's society seems to be going to the place where there will be real hardship for those who declare that they are the Children of God.

- i. Friends, family, and neighbors are reporting those who go to church in states that have closed churches.
- ii. Cars are towed, fines are given, and people are being blackballed because they dare to go to a house of worship.
- iii. Go to Walmart, grocery store, liquor store, to the beach, but do not dare to go to church, for that is a violation of some governors and mayors standing orders, which shows where we are heading in this country, which brings us to a place where we have to choose "whom we will serve."
- iv. Remember that Christ was reproached for us, so do not be ashamed of being reproached for Him, for Jesus said these words in Mark 8:38

Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed, when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.

B. Moses made his choice "when he had come to years (v24)

1. Moses was at the age of forty when he made his choice to follow God
2. He saw all the world had to offer, but there was something within him that drew him to the people of God
3. Perhaps he had experience acclaim and recognition, yet he chose to be identified as a descendant of Abraham and one of the children of Israel
4. In his maturity, he chose to follow God's direction

5. He denied his inheritance on earth to gain the inheritance of glory

C. Moses' decision was supported and strengthened by his faith as we see in v26, where the writer says that "He had respect unto the recompense of reward"

Note: The reward was leaving Egypt and going to Canaan under the direction of God, but even more so was leaving this world to be with our Lord in the new World God has prepared for His own.

1. Heaven is a fantastic reward surpassing anything and everything this world has to offer

Note: Heaven is wonderful, but the cost for mankind's entrance into heaven was high as Jesus purchased by His blood our access to heaven.

2. Today, we as believers should have a great respect for the recompense (compensation) of reward that God has for us

a. Therefore, we should become acquainted with what God has for us

b. Therefore, we should be in approval of what God has for us

c. Therefore, we should live in a daily, delightful expectation of the reward God has for us.

d. As we are reminded of what God has for us, it becomes an encouragement to stay the course until we finish our race

D. Moses made his choice, and then he forsook Egypt

Note v27...

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

1. Moses' faith led him to forsake Egypt and all its power and pleasure, and to lead others out of Egypt

a. Moses' faith led him to be considered a criminal by the Egyptians after he killed the Egyptian who was beating an Israelite slave.

i. Pharaoh thought to have Moses captured and killed

ii. Look at Exodus 2:14-15

14) And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou

killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known. 15) Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well.

- b. Moses faith led him to be the commander and ruler in Israel after God used him to humble Pharaoh and make him willing to let Israel go.

2. Moses faith

- a. Lifted him above the fear of the king's wrath, and so should our faith
- b. Enabled him to not be dismayed when Pharaoh was knocking on his door, but instead in Exodus 14:13, Moses said to Israel, "fear not."

Note: Those who leave Egypt which is a type of this world must expect the wrath of the world, but we should not fear what man can do for we are under the hand of God who can restrain the anger of those against us, even causing them to give us praise as we stand steadfast for Christ.

3. Notice that Moses' faith caused him to "endure as seeing Him that was invisible."

Note: Moses with great invincible courage faced the danger and endured the fatigue of his responsibility for God's grace was abounding toward him.

- a. Our God is an invisible God to our natural senses
- b. We see our God by faith which assures us of His existence, His care, and of His powerful presence with us.
- c. Moses seeing the invisible God by faith was able to cause the Egyptians to come face to face with God, and you and I as believers are able to demonstrate others of the realness of God while our faith enables us to endure to the end regardless of what may happen.

E. Through Faith, Moses kept the Passover and sprinkling of blood (v28)

Note v28...

Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

Note: The full accounting of this story is found in Exodus 12:13-23

1. Consider this about Moses' faith which led to action

- a. All Israel kept the Passover, but by faith, Moses' delivered God's word to them

- b. God instituted it and by faith Moses caused the Passover to be kept
 - c. On the night of the 1st Passover, the 1st born of everything owned by those who did not cover the doorpost of their houses with blood died.
 - d. By faith Moses taught Israel how to be safe while God brought judgment upon Egypt
 - e. By faith, Moses instituted the Passover to be a yearly even to remind them of Egypt and to prepare them for Christ Who would be the ultimate sacrifice at Passover.
 - f. Through faith, Moses led Israel to observe the 1st Passover while being ready to travel, for they would have to leave Egypt immediately
 - g. The observance of this Passover was the beginning of the entrance to their Promised Land
2. Consider what this 1st Passover represented
- 1st. Christ is the Lamb our Passover sacrificed for us.
 - 2nd. The blood of Christ must be sprinkled, applied to our hearts and lives for our Salvation
 - 3rd. The Passover, Christ's blood is only effective to those who accept Him and become the chosen people of God.
 - 4th. We are not saved because we earn or because we deserve it, or because of who we are, but we obtain salvation through the blood of Jesus Christ and His imputed righteousness in our lives
 - 5th. When Christ blood is applied, we receive Him by faith
 - 6th. When we by faith have Christ in our lives, then sin becomes bitter to us, so we detest and reject all sin for we are now under the blood of Christ
 - 7th. By faith, we are no longer citizens of this world, but citizens of heaven who enjoy special privileges from our Lord as we serve here as ambassadors of heaven
 - 8th. We should never forget God's abounding grace toward us to give us abundant life even while here on earth

XIII. Moses' faith at the Red sea

Note: The full story of the events at the Red Sea are found in Exodus 14 and 15

Note Hebrews 11:29

By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

A. Israel passes safely through the Red Sea

Note: Israel is preserved and kept safe at the Red Sea while God provide their only means of escape from Pharaoh by taking them through the Sea.

1. Israel was in great danger from Pharaoh's army, and they were trapped between the Pharaoh and the Red Sea with steep mountains on either side
2. God gloriously delivered them as He parted the waters and they by faith led by Moses of faith passed through the Red Sea on dry land

Note: The grace of faith will help us through all the dangers we meet with in our way to heaven.

B. Egypt is destroyed

1. The Egyptians presumptuously tried to follow Israel through the Red Sea
2. The Egyptians hearts were hard and their spiritual eyesight was blinded, so they attempted to overrun the Israelites who were under the hand and protection of God
3. The Egyptian army was destroyed to bother these Israelites no more, for when God judges He will overcome, and we must understand that ultimately, we destroy ourselves because we reject Christ to continue to live our own life our own way.