

"The Walk of Faith"

Part 18

11:1-40

Introduction: In our study of Old Testament people who lived by faith within Hebrews 11 we have now come to the person of Moses.

I. The Examples of Faith

Part 15

A. The Faith of Moses

There is so much to consider when it comes to a study of the life of Moses. He was the greatest leader which the Nation of Israel had in their history. Tonight in our study we shall begin a study to look into Moses' life. Last week in our study we looked at the faith of Moses' parents and how they did not fear the king's commandment. It was the faith of Amram and Jochebed which God used to preserve the life of baby Moses. They had great faith and they also put into action a plan to save their son. Through their faith and their planning God worked the events out so that Moses was raised by his parents.

Exodus 2:5-10

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 women 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.*

We do not know at what age Moses was given to the daughter of Pharaoh all we know is the Bible says, "The child grew and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter". We can be sure that Moses was weaned and even somewhat independent when he was given to Pharaoh's daughter. He was taken and he was schooled in the Egyptian culture.

Acts 7:21-22

²¹ *And when he was cast out, Pharaoh's daughter took him up, and nourished him for her own son.*

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

Moses was a very intelligent man. He was learned in Egyptian wisdom and he was skilled in applying what he had been taught. It is believed by many that Moses was being groomed to be the next Pharaoh. The sky was the limit for Moses while he was considered to be "the son of Pharaoh's daughter".

Notice Hebrews 11:24-25

There is much to consider within these 2 verses.

First of all we are told here that when Moses "**was come to years**" he REFUSED to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

The question which came to my mind was, "How old was Moses when he made this choice?" The Bible does not say but we may be able to get an idea in the book of Acts.

Acts 7:22-25

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

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

²⁴ *And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian:*

²⁵ *For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not.*

Here in the book of Acts we see that when Moses was 40 years old he visited his brethren and we can see that at this time Moses believed that God would use him to deliver the Nation of Israel from Egypt. This is most likely the time which the writer of Hebrews is referring to and if that be the case there is something within this that we need to see.

We are told here that "**it came into his heart**" to visit his brethren. The point I want you to see is that God was moving in the heart of Moses and God placed within his heart a burden.

Application:

I want to take a moment here and point out a spiritual Truth that is very important for all of us to know. When God has a mission for you and I He will make His will known to us by placing a burden or a desire within our hearts. Let me show you another example of this.

Nehemiah 1:1-4

The words of Nehemiah the son of Hachaliah. And it came to pass in the month Chisleu, in the twentieth year, as I was in Shushan the palace,

² *That Hanani, one of my brethren, came, he and certain men of Judah; and I asked them concerning the Jews that had escaped, which were left of the captivity, and concerning Jerusalem.*

³ *And they said unto me, The remnant that are left of the captivity there in the province are in great affliction and reproach: the wall of Jerusalem also is broken down, and the gates thereof are burned with fire.*

⁴ *And it came to pass, when I heard these words, that I sat down and wept, and mourned certain days, and fasted, and prayed before the God of heaven,*

Here we see that when Nehemiah heard the report from Jerusalem his heart was greatly burdened and it did not stop there. Months later Nehemiah was sent by King Artaxerxes to Jerusalem. Let me show you what Nehemiah recorded in chapter 2.

Nehemiah 2:11-12

¹¹ *So I came to Jerusalem, and was there three days.*

¹² *And I arose in the night, I and some few men with me; neither told I any man what my God had put in my heart to do at Jerusalem: neither was there any beast with me, save the beast that I rode upon.*

God had placed a desire within the heart of Nehemiah. Now let us get back to Moses. God had given him a burden and a desire to lead the Nation of Israel.

So it was at this time that Moses was at a crossroads and he needed to make a decision.

Notice Hebrews 11:24-25 again.

Moses made a choice to leave the comforts of the palace and to enter into a life of affliction with the people of Israel. The Spirit of God was pulling him away from the palace and the flesh was pulling him toward the palace. Let me tell you how easy it would have been to stay at the palace. The flesh would have whispered in Moses' heart and said, "You know, God could really use a man like me in the palace of the king. Think of how many people I can reach if I remain in the palace and serve the Lord there." Moses did not give into the temptation of the flesh. Moses made the choice to NOT be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

This was a tremendous step of faith! To step away from the palace was to step away from a life of comfort and to join up with the people of Israel was to step into a life of affliction. There is a word in Hebrews 11:24 that really shines light upon the situation. It is the word "REFUSED". Let me show you the definition from Vines.

"to deny, to deny someone, to deny one's self, to disregard his own interests"

There are several New Testament verses which come to mind when I consider Moses. Moses was truly a man who was willing to be a DISCIPLE of the Lord. Notice the words of Jesus;

Luke 14:26-33

²⁶ *If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple.*

²⁷ *And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple.*

²⁸ *For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?*

²⁹ *Lest haply, after he hath laid the foundation, and is not able to finish it, all that behold it begin to mock him,*

³⁰ *Saying, This man began to build, and was not able to finish.*

³¹ *Or what king, going to make war against another king, sitteth not down first, and consulteth whether he be able with ten thousand to meet him that cometh against him with twenty thousand?*

³² *Or else, while the other is yet a great way off, he sendeth an ambassage, and desireth conditions of peace.*

³³ *So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all that he hath, he cannot be my disciple.*

Matthew 16:24

²⁴ *Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me.*

Let me get you back to Moses again. He was a man of great faith. Who trusted God with his life and he was willing to follow God wherever God desired for him to go. Moses placed very little value upon the "stuff" of this world. He could have stayed in the palace and there he would have had it all but it would only last for a season.

Notice Hebrews 11:25 again.

To stay at the palace for Moses was to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season. Moses was not interested in the temporal but he was focused upon the eternal. Moses may have spoken the same words which Paul recorded in 2 Corinthians 4.

2 Corinthians 4:17-18

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.*

The Truth of 2 Corinthians 4:18 is seen in the next verse of Hebrews.

Notice Hebrews 11:26

Now the Holy Spirit takes us deeper into the mind and the heart of Moses. He we see that he "esteemed" (this means to hold up high above everything else), the REPROACH of CHRIST greater riches than the treasures in Egypt. Let me tell you what the writer is saying here.

Moses believed that living for the cause of the Messiah (Jesus Christ), even though it meant a life of suffering was a far greater in value than living for the treasures in Egypt. In other words Moses believed it was better to suffer for the cause of the Messiah for 120 years than it was to live a life of comfort and ease while enjoying the sinful pleasures of Egypt for 120 years.

Notice Hebrews 11:26 again.

Moses had respect unto the recompence of reward. This means that Moses believed that God's reward of working for the cause of the Messiah was far greater than all the riches of Egypt. This reminds me of Paul's words in Philippians.

Philippians 3:7-10

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;*

Conclusion:

As we wrap this up tonight let me give you something else to consider. Since Moses was raised in the palace where did his knowledge of the God, God's promises, the Messiah and the eternal reward of God come from?

Let us remember that his parents raised him for several years.

Exodus 2:10a

¹⁰ *And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son....*

If you have ever wondered about how important it is to instill the Truth of God's Word into your child then you need to look no further than Moses.

Proverbs 22:6

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

We will close tonight with some verses from Psalm 78.

Psalm 78:1-8

Give ear, O my people, to my law: incline your ears to the words of my mouth.

² I will open my mouth in a parable: I will utter dark sayings of old:

³ Which we have heard and known, and our fathers have told us.

⁴ We will not hide them from their children, shewing to the generation to come the praises of the LORD, and his strength, and his wonderful works that he hath done.

⁵ For he established a testimony in Jacob, and appointed a law in Israel, which he commanded our fathers, that they should make them known to their children:

⁶ That the generation to come might know them, even the children which should be born; who should arise and declare them to their children:

⁷ That they might set their hope in God, and not forget the works of God, but keep his commandments:

⁸ And might not be as their fathers, a stubborn and rebellious generation; a generation that set not their heart aright, and whose spirit was not stedfast with God.