

**"The First 40 Years of Moses' Life"**

**Part 4**

**Exodus 2**

**Introduction:** Last week in our study of the life of Moses we looked at what Moses refused when he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He refused 4 things which would be difficult for the average person to walk away from:

**1. He refused a position.**

It is believed that Moses was the next in line to be the successor of Pharaoh. When he chose to leave the palace, he turned down a very high and elevated position in the Egyptian kingdom.

**2. He refused popularity.**

**Acts 7:22**

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

**3. He refused pleasures.**

**Hebrews 11:24-25**

<sup>24</sup> *By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;*

<sup>25</sup> *Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*

**4. He refused possessions.**

**Hebrews 11:26**

<sup>25</sup> *Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*

<sup>26</sup> *Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward.*

Tonight, as we continue our study, I want to consider what moved Moses to make the decision to step away from the palace. This all took place when he was 40 years old and the refusals he made were not normal. So, where did all of this come from?

**I. Moses' Motivation**

**Hebrews 11:24**

<sup>24</sup> By **faith** Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

Moses was motivated by faith. He was not motivated by money, possessions, power or position. He had faith in God. By faith he believed that God had something far better for him than what Egypt had to offer.

A look at Hebrews 11 tells us how important faith is in the life of God's children.

**Hebrews 11:1, 6**

*Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.*

Faith is the foundation upon which we stand. The greater the faith the stronger the stand. Faith is also a major part of our testimony to the unsaved world. It is the EVIDENCE of that which is invisible to the unsaved world.

<sup>6</sup> *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.*

Here in this verse we see that it is faith which pleases God. God desires for us to walk by faith in our everyday lives trusting in Him and His promises.

Moses had faith as that of Abraham.

**Hebrews 11:8-10**

<sup>8</sup> *By faith Abraham, when he was called to go out into a place which he should after receive for an inheritance, obeyed; and he went out, not knowing whither he went.*

<sup>9</sup> *By faith he sojourned in the land of promise, as in a strange country, dwelling in tabernacles with Isaac and Jacob, the heirs with him of the same promise:*

<sup>10</sup> **For he looked for a city which hath foundations, whose builder and maker is God.**

Abraham looked for the eternal city and so did Moses. He believed that God had something greater to offer than the possessions and the pleasures of the palace. Let me show you what else the writer of Hebrews tells us.

**Hebrews 11:13-16**

<sup>13</sup> *These all died in faith, not having received the promises, but having seen them afar off, and were persuaded of them, and embraced them, and confessed that they were strangers and pilgrims on the earth.*

<sup>14</sup> *For they that say such things declare plainly that they seek a country.*

<sup>15</sup> *And truly, if they had been mindful of that country from whence they came out, they might have had opportunity to have returned.*

<sup>16</sup> *But now they desire a better country, that is, an heavenly: wherefore God is not ashamed to be called their God: for he hath prepared for them a city.*

**Application:**

Faith should also be that which motivates us in this world. Too many are motivated by the power, the possessions, the positions, and the pleasures of this world. We know that God has given to us ALL spiritual blessings. He has promised to us that we will be joint heirs with Jesus Christ and so all of heaven will be ours. Moses and Abraham and all the others of the Old Testament believed, and they did not have all the information which we have. They could not read what we read in Revelation 21 and 22.

**Revelation 21:1-3**

*And I saw a new heaven and a new earth: for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away; and there was no more sea.*

<sup>2</sup> *And I John saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.*

<sup>3</sup> *And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.*

We have so much more information, so how much more should we be motivated by faith?

**II. Moses' Roots**

When we step back, and we look at the faith of Moses we must question where it came from. He had been raised in a family that was certainly not God fearing. He was actually raised by a family that was under the control and influence of Satan as he stirred them to kill the baby boys in an attempt to stop the promise of Jesus Christ. He we surrounded by the false worship of the false gods of Egypt. We can be sure the palace was a very dark place, spiritually speaking. So where did his faith come from?

**Notice Exodus 2:7-10**

Here again we see that Moses was given back to his mother to nurse him. Then he was given to and adopted by Pharaoh's daughter as her son. So, Moses' mother probably raised him for the first five or six years. It was in those years that she would have taught him about who they were and how they had ended up in Egypt. She would have told him about the promises made to Abraham and to Jacob.

**Genesis 12:1-3**

*Now the LORD had said unto Abram, Get thee out of thy country, and from thy kindred, and from thy father's house, unto a land that I will shew thee:*

*<sup>2</sup> And I will make of thee a great nation, and I will bless thee, and make thy name great; and thou shalt be a blessing:*

*<sup>3</sup> And I will bless them that bless thee, and curse him that curseth thee: and in thee shall all families of the earth be blessed.*

**Genesis 15:13**

*<sup>13</sup> And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years;*

**Genesis 46:2-4**

*<sup>2</sup> And God spake unto Israel in the visions of the night, and said, Jacob, Jacob. And he said, Here am I.*

*<sup>3</sup> And he said, I am God, the God of thy father: fear not to go down into Egypt; for I will there make of thee a great nation:*

*<sup>4</sup> I will go down with thee into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: and Joseph shall put his hand upon thine eyes.*

These promises would have been handed down over the years and those who stayed separated from the corruption in Egypt would have held tightly to them. In the case of Moses his family held to the promises and they also passed them on to Moses in his early years. This entire situation brings to mind a verse.

**Proverbs 22:6**

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

Moses parents used the years they had with their son to teach and to train him about God and His promises. They were walking in obedience to a command which had not been given at this time.

**Deuteronomy 11:18-21**

*<sup>18</sup> Therefore shall ye lay up these my words in your heart and in your soul, and bind them for a sign upon your hand, that they may be as frontlets between your eyes.*

*<sup>19</sup> And ye shall teach them your children, speaking of them when thou sittest in thine house, and when thou walkest by the way, when thou liest down, and when thou risest up.*

*<sup>20</sup> And thou shalt write them upon the door posts of thine house, and upon thy gates:*

*<sup>21</sup> That your days may be multiplied, and the days of your children, in the land which the LORD sware unto your fathers to give them, as the days of heaven upon the earth.*

We will consider an application in a moment but first we need to look at another point.

**III. The Depth of His Roots**

Moses had his roots planted firmly in the Word of God when he was just a small boy and it certainly made a difference now that he was forty years old. But there is more to his roots.

**Hebrews 11:24-26**

*<sup>24</sup> By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;*

*<sup>25</sup> Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;*

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

Moses did not know what we know concerning Jesus Christ. But he did know that God promised that from the nation of Israel there would be born a Redeemer and his faith was in the coming Redeemer. He knew that to identify with Israel and the coming Redeemer would bring affliction, but he also knew that God's reward was far greater than what Egypt had to offer.

Moses' roots went far deeper than religion. It was not that he knew about God and His plan for the nation, but He knew about God and His promise of Jesus Christ. It was this knowledge that would keep him separated from the corruption of the palace.

**Application:**

What an encouragement here for all who give their time as parents, grandparents, Sunday school teachers or camp workers. Sometimes you spend days, weeks, and years teaching young people and never see any results. But this story of Moses should give you hope.

**Isaiah 55:10-11**

<sup>10</sup> *For as the rain cometh down, and the snow from heaven, and returneth not thither, but watereth the earth, and maketh it bring forth and bud, that it may give seed to the sower, and bread to the eater:*

<sup>11</sup> *So shall my word be that goeth forth out of my mouth: it shall not return unto me void, but it shall accomplish that which I please, and it shall prosper in the thing whereto I sent it.*

The point is, as we teach the Word of God, we really have no idea how it may change a life further down the road. Moses' parents spent those first few years pouring into the life of their young son and they may not have seen the results for many years. We do not see the results in Moses' life for forty years. So, we do not know what the results might be of our teaching God's Word will be years down the road.

Let me point out something else here that is very significant. Moses, at a young age was taken from his parents and placed in a spiritually dark palace that was full of demonic influence. There were two things which kept him safe and separated:

1. The Word of God which he had been taught.
2. The prayers of his parents.

Our children and our grand children live in a world far more corrupt than the palace at Egypt. Let us learn here that it is the Word of God that will protect their hearts.

Let us notice what the Psalmist wrote concern the Word of God:

**Psalm 119:97-105**

<sup>97</sup> *O how love I thy law! it is my meditation all the day.*

<sup>98</sup> *Thou through thy commandments hast made me wiser than mine enemies: for they are ever with me.*

<sup>99</sup> *I have more understanding than all my teachers: for thy testimonies are my meditation.*

<sup>100</sup> *I understand more than the ancients, because I keep thy precepts.*

<sup>101</sup> I have refrained my feet from every evil way, that I might keep thy word.

<sup>102</sup> I have not departed from thy judgments: for thou hast taught me.

<sup>103</sup> How sweet are thy words unto my taste! yea, sweeter than honey to my mouth!

<sup>104</sup> Through thy precepts I get understanding: therefore I hate every false way.

<sup>105</sup> Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

**Conclusion:**

**Acts 7:22**

<sup>22</sup> And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.

Moses learned much about the world while he was in the palace, but it was his education in God's Word that protected him from the dangers of Egypt.