

BIBLE QUESTIONS ANSWERED by DR. AYODEJI AWE

QUESTION 85-WHY DID GOD WANT TO KILL MOSES (EXODUS 4:24-26)?

ANSWER: Your question came out a passage that can unarguably be referred to as one of the most bizarre in all of scripture. The foremost edition, the KJ version expresses it thus: "*And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the LORD met him, and sought to kill him. Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet, and said, surely a bloody husband art thou to me. So he let him go: then she said: a bloody husband thou art, because of the circumcision*" (Exo.4:24-26). Other comparatives were not too divergent to blur the theme of the passage: it was plain and simple that God who had chosen Moses for an epic assignment comparable only to Christ's work at Calvary moved to take him out. Thank God He repented, but for the ensuing intervention by his wife Zipporah. Without stretching the preamble, let's proceed to probe why God would even decide to do this to the man that he loved, chose and anointed. We will squeeze seven reasons out of God's vault why he is justified to move into action, for we know that he cannot be wrong in all he does.

1. Moses was negligent in carrying out the instruction from God. The action of Zipporah that stopped the anger of God brought out the main cause of this episode. The heart of the matter is circumcision. We learnt that every male child numbered with Gods special people must be circumcised (Gen.17:10-14). It was a divine privilege from God to Abraham's lineage; a special physical marking that speaks of a distinctive spiritual privilege which is accessible only to those who are special to the Lord. Out of this special family would arise the savior of mankind Jesus Christ. But before the advent of Christ a mini savior: the deliverer of Israel would come early to execute divine deliverance to God's people who were enslaved in Egypt. Through him the mighty hand of God was to be revealed in signs and wonders showcasing that the only God, the maker of the end of the earth was at work. Moses was the man carved for this honorable assignment. He was special. Whatever reason Moses had not circumcised his son was considered not genuine to avert its non-compliance which is death. To whom much is given much is expected. Much honor is bestowed upon the man who would represent God in the high profile stage ahead of him and such a man must be astute enough to prioritize

and execute the will of God upon his mini family. If he is spared in this, how could he be trusted to handle the bigger family of God: the entire house of Israel?

2. To be significantly used of God you must need to pass the test of validation.

Before Jesus became the savior of mankind earning the name that is above every other name and at which every knee should bow, he passed the test of Calvary. No less will any other. Let us note that at the end of Moses' life he was credited with an unparalleled eulogy the type that no other man was and may ever be given. He was the only person who spoke with God face-to-face (Exo. 33:11, Num. 12:8, Deut. 34:12). Linking the beginning to the end which is never a problem for God since he is the Alpha and Omega, it would seem absolutely right that whosoever will be appared with such an honor must be one that won't take God or his words for granted. If there was a trace of that in the hatching then God wouldn't have any of it. Moses then was set to be dismissed.

3. Who you marry is very important. Your spouse will have a significant impact and sizable effects upon your life, therefore if marriage is still ahead of you seek God's help so you could choose right. One thing is certain: wisdom demands that you be not equally yoked with your spouse, especially because there are moments in your life that responses to the instruction from God the architect of your destiny will need to be rightly executed with the cooperation of your wife/husband whom the Lord put in place in your life for the same purpose (2Cor. 6:14). If a spouse sees or believes different, success is hampered. A close scrutiny of the account of these three verses indicates that Zipporah had dissented with Moses on the issue of family circumcision. This is not necessarily an outright indictment that Moses married a wrong woman in Zipporah, for we know that God defended him when his brother Aaron and his sister Miriam thought in that line. However, the reality is still staring at the heart of the matter: she was a Medianite, not familiar with the ways of Israel which were uniquely divine. Therefore, circumcising a child, to her might be an unnecessary 'bloodshed' and from human perspective, necessarily so. Come to think of it, who would ever have reasoned with God that without the shedding of blood there will not be the remission of sin? The reasoning of God and those without his camp are diametrically opposed, that's why God rules that if two will successfully take a walk of life, they need to agree (Amos 3:3). The differentials in theology and family ethos, at least at this point in time, almost ruined a powerful life in the making and so we are called to caution and reason at the point of choosing a mate. If there was a baggage, be astute to offload, possibly to avert a future accident that may be waiting to happen.

4. A strong family is a must for those who would be distinctively used of God.

Why? Because the principle of marriage is predicated on the addition of woman to an already created and assigned man as help mate specifically designed to pave the way for better success. Children are given to be made - "be fruitful and multiply" is the ordination that would spring up 'the heritage of the Lord and the fruit of the womb/reward' who eventually will one day be the conquering defenders of the mighty at the gates (cf. Gen. 1:28, Psa. 127:3-5). The result is that a strong and supportive family makes a man's God ordained purposes easier achieved. "Train a child in the way he should go and when he grows older he will not depart from it" is a relevant catechism (cf. Pro. 22:6). This is legacy-the mark of success of the anointed. Isaac validated the anointing and blessedness of Abraham, no wonder. Undeniable; but didn't we get the clue when God expressed his trust in Abraham- "for I know that Abraham will command his children and his household after him, and they shall keep the way of Jehovah..(Gen. 18:19). Eventually, not only was he great- a friend of God for life, but his family became the first fruits of the chosen through whom all families on earth would be blessed. In this account, no less was expected of Moses who himself was in the line to validate the generational blessing of Abraham. If his children would fill the blanks of their own generation in the lineage of God's special and chosen family, Moses ought to circumcise his son. In the context of today, we are mandated to expose our children to God early like Lois did Timothy, so they could be wise unto salvation early (2 Tim 1:5,3:15). We are exhorted to hinder them not to come to God's premises; he desires to have them close to him for greater life assignments.

LOOK FOR THE CONCLUSION NEXT MONTH.

For prayers, counseling, and to have your questions answered or opportunities for fellowship, contact us at:

BQA @ Our Saviors Church

Quail Run Community Center (Upper Room),

16748 Quail Park Dr, Missouri City Tx. 77489

*713/8947832 * 713/7761958 * jumie888@yahoo.com*