

God's Preparation of A Deliverer Exodus 2

Vs. 24 *"God heard their groaning, remembered His covenant, and took notice of His people."*

One of The Major Themes We Highlighted Exodus Week 1

God Reminding Israel That He is Their God & There Are No Other God's Before Him

This Morning: Exodus 2:1-22

Typologies

Various "Typologies" in the Bible. Motifs that repeat or point to a truth about God.

Moses's life will ultimately serve as a "Type of Christ"

He is not THE Messiah. Moses is NOT THE promised Lamb of God.

But he WILL Be God's Agent To Lead God's People

God Uses Imperfect Deliverers For His Story

Imperfect Deliverers Foreshadow or Point to God's Perfect Deliverer Jesus

Exodus 2 Outline

- I. God's Provision For Moses. Vs. 1-11
- II. God's Protection For Moses Vs. 11-15
- III. God's Preparation For Moses Vs. 16-22
- IV. God's Promise Vs. 23-25 (Next Week)

I. God's Provision For Moses Vs. 1-11a

Read Vs 1-11a

- Last week we saw how God used the acts of both the faithful and unfaithful for His plan
- Moses's parents faithfully and strategically place him in the Nile
- Pharaoh's daughter & Pharaoh himself would have had to ignore their own edict

2 Statements of Focus on In This First Section Are:

1. First Statement: Vs. 9 *"take this child and nurse him for me and I shall give you your wages....."*

- Not only was Moses's life spared, but His family was paid
- Here we have an Egyptian ignoring the edict of her father to kill this baby.
- In a complete contrast to all that is logical, God makes provision for Moses's life to be preserved and for his family to benefit financially.

Parallel to Jesus:

- Edict to Kill all the Boys 2 years and younger
 - Visit from the Magi with gifts and provisions
 - Flight to Egypt likely financed by the gifts
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- God gave Moses's parents provision while protecting him for God's greater plan.

2. Second Statement: Vs. 10-11a *"And the child grew, and she (Jochabed) brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. Vs. 11 "Now it came out in those days when Moses had grown up"*

- Moses became her son.
- Moses was raised in the house of the most powerful government in the world
- 40 years have passed in between these two statements

Read Acts 7:20-23

- Steven tells us that Moses was 40 when he went out to look upon his people
 - Steven reveals that Moses was *"educated in all the learning of the Egyptians"*.
 - He was a man of *"power in words and deeds"*.
 - Like Joseph, Moses became skilled in all the ways of Egypt & modern culture.
 - Moses learned about military strategies
 - Moses learned about languages
 - Moses learned about the arts
 - Moses learned about writing, mathematics, etc.
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- These skills will be critical when leading 1 million people out of Egypt.
 - These skills will be critical when God requires a census
 - These skills will be critical when Moses judges disputes between the people
 - God is provided Moses with authority and access to walk right into the palace later.

Similarly, God provides for us. Sometimes in the current season and often long before.

II. God's Protection of Moses Vs. 11b-15

Read 11b-15

- Notice that he says "*brethren*" twice.
- He indicates that he went out to see "*his brethren*". His own people. His heritage.
- He writes that he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his "*brethren*".

Vs. 11a Moses Is Placing an Emphasis On His Hebrew Heritage

- It's clear that he wants to distinguish that he was really a Hebrew.
- We will see him do this again in other places especially the lineage in Chapter 6

Read Acts 7:23

- Stephen tells us the thought to visit his people "*entered his mind.*"
- A more literal translation would render this as his heart.
"He felt compelled, or moved in his heart to go to see the affliction of the Hebrews."

Was This God Stirring Moses's Heart to Go Look Upon His Own People? Maybe?

- We can't say definitively. Text does not explicitly say God did this.
- I personally lean toward God pricking Moses's heart to begin investigating.
- Maybe this was something he did regularly. Maybe this was the first time?
- We can assume that he was aware of the conditions since he had authority and power.

All We Know Is That On This Particular Day:

1. **He Went to See The Hebrews.**
2. **He Witnessed Their Hard Labor, Their Hard Conditions**
3. **On This Day He Saw A Specific Event: An Egyptian Authority Beating A Hebrew**

On This Specific Day He Was Moved To Address An Injustice That Was Taking Place

Vs. 11b-12 Moses Sees This Egyptian Beating The Hebrew

- "*He turns this way & that way*"
- "*He saw that there was no one around*"
- "*He struck down the Egyptian*"
- "*He buried him in the sand*"

Can We Say That Moses Sinned? Bible Doesn't Tell Us This Was Sin

Bible Doesn't Really Condemn This Act Beyond Natural Consequences of Fleeing

- We don't know at what point Moses intervened
- We don't if the Hebrew's life was in danger of survival.
- All we know is that Moses's passion rose to a point where he understood the consequences of what he was about to do.
- He looked around knowing that if he were seen, this would have consequences.
 - Maybe the greatest consequence at this point will be his Hebrew heritage revealed.
 - Remember that this has likely been hidden and silenced for 40 years.

Even If This Was Not Outright Sin, & Simply Reasonable Protection, It Does Not Mean There Isn't A Practical Reminder for Us Today

James: *Quick to Obey, Slow to Speak, & Slow to Wrath or Anger*

Ephesians: *"do not to let our anger lead to sin."*

Jesus said *"Blessed are the meek for they shall inherited the Earth"*
(Power under restraint & control)

Illustration: Retaliation is the easiest foul for officials to spot.
Body language, posture, expressions.....and its predictable.

The Next Day

Vs. 13 *"Then he went out the next day, and behold, two Hebrews were fighting with each other; and he said to the offender "Why are you striking your companion?" (NET fellow Hebrew)*

Vs. 14 *"Who made you a prince or a judge over us?" Are you intending to kill me as you killed that Egyptian?"*

Read Acts 7:24-27

- Stephen tells us that Moses assumed His valiant act of killing the Egyptian would be recognized by his brethren as their deliverance, their rescue, their salvation.
 - Moses saw himself as their deliverer.
 - But they DID NOT see him that way.
 - Instead, they look at him and ask "Who are you?"
- They likely understood him to be Egyptian since that was the persona he lived under.
- He came and went from the palace and was known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

Now Moses Has Blown His Cover

Vs. 14b-15 *"Then Moses was afraid and said "Surely this matter has come known." When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh and settled in the land of Midian, and he sat down by a well."*

- This killing was likely a pretty high ranking Egyptian official.
- This killing has also revealed Moses as a Hebrew in Egyptian leadership.
- Moses's non Egyptian heritage was known.
- Now Moses's act becomes a decision to separate bios identities
- Moses must now flee and he's a rebel and refugee.
- God allows Moses to escape Pharaoh and safely flee to Midian
- Pharaoh does not seem to pursue Moses to Midian unlike his pursuit after the plagues.

God Protects Moses In A Couple Ways

1. God's protection by the Hebrews revealing they knew what happened.

- This put Moses on alert that his actions weren't done in total secrecy.
- It gave him a head start from Pharaoh.
- It notified Moses that he better start looking over his shoulder.

2. God's protection came in the form of safe passage to Midian

- This is about 150 mile Journey
 - It is rough terrain.
 - Not only did Pharaoh not detain Moses in Egypt, but didn't pursue him in Midian.
- God is graceful, God is merciful, and He protects us even from ourselves and our own actions sometimes.

III. God's Preparation of Moses Vs. 16-22

Read 16-22

Vs. 16-17 He Comes To Their Defense

- Moses finds himself by a well and sees these 7 shepherdesses coming to water their flocks
- About the same time other shepherds of the land begin harassing these women
- Moses stood up and came to the defense of these women.

Vs. 18-19 He Is Seen As A Deliverer & Even Waters The Flock for the Women

- **Vs. 18** *"why have you come back so soon?"*
 - This must have been a regular thing to be harassed
 - It probably delayed their watering on a regular basis
 - They probably had to wait until the shepherds left and they had freedom to the water
 - But on this day they came home early.
- Notice that they refer to Moses as their **"Deliverer"**
 - Isn't the ironic?
 - Moses is misunderstood by his own brethren. *"Who are you they asked?"*
 - *"Who made you ruler, or prince?"*
 - Here, the women are quick to recognize his valiant efforts.

Isn't This A Lot Like The Opposition Jesus Faced?

Matthew wrote: *"A prophet is not without honor except in his own country and in his own house"*

Mark said *"Because of their unbelief, Jesus didn't do miracles in Nazareth...."*

John tells us: *"Jesus came to his own and His own did not accept Him."*

Vs. 20 Like a Proper Father of Girls Jethro Says "Invite This Man Over For Dinner!!!"

Moses Begins to Dwell with Reuel & Takes Zipporah to Be His Wife & They Have a Son

- Moses names his oldest son Gershom meaning "stranger"
- Moses is at a unique intersection in his life.
 - He's not dwelling with his own people in Goshen
 - He's no longer in favor with Pharaoh or seen as apart of that family.
 - Here he is with a 3rd people group that is not his own.
 - Talk about a test of fortitude and resilience.
 - Have you ever felt alone like this.....like you didn't really fit in anywhere, or didn't belong
 - These are the moments when you discover who you are.

Moses Will Spend 40 Years in Midian Where God Will Prepare Him To Be His Deliverer

1. God Will Prepare Moses By Giving Him a Wife

- There is a certain kind of love that is learned during marriage.
- There is a certain kind of patience that is learned during marriage.

2. God Will Prepare Moses By Making Him A Father

- There is something about parenthood that changes your heart
- It changes your perspective on life.
- It gives us a glimpse of unconditional love
- Moses will need this when he leads God's people

3. God Will Prepare Moses By Making Him A Shepherd

- People are like sheep and often need leading.
- People wander and fall into traps
- Moses referred to the Israelites as being stiff-necked and stubborn

4. God Will Prepare Moses By Giving Him a Knowledge of the Land

- As a shepherd for 40 years he'll learn a lot about the wilderness and nature.

5. God Will Prepare Moses To Be A Priest to His People

- God has Moses in the presence of a father-in-law who is a priest.
- Name Reuel means "friend of God"
- There is a possibility that Reuel may have known Yahweh at some level.
- Priests typically intercede for people
- Moses will be called to intercede constantly for God's people

6. God Will Prepare Moses As a Judge

- Reuel / Jethro will return to Moses after Egypt and encourage him to delegate leadership tasks and appoint judges.
- Moses will need to rightly and justly judge God's people
- How do you deal with idolatry and a golden calf?

God Will Allow Moses 40 Years In Midian Preparing Him To Be The Deliverer of His People