

ZOOM NOTES

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Sunday Morning

BY FAITH MOSES – Hebrews 11:24

Deuteronomy 34:10 (KJV) “And there arose not a prophet since in Israel like unto Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face, 11 In all the signs and the wonders, which the LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt to Pharaoh, and to all his servants, and to all his land, 12 And in all that mighty hand, and in all the great terror which Moses shewed in the sight of all Israel.”

I. MOSES – THE EARLY YEARS.

- A. In the very first chapter of Exodus we find **Israel multiplying in captivity**, and the new **Pharaoh** who did not know Joseph **making a plan to oppress them** (Exodus 1).
 - 1. When Jacob’s family moved to be with Joseph in Egypt there were 70 (75) in all, but they multiplied quickly under God’s blessing.
 - 2. Because this new Pharaoh did not know what Joseph had done for the previous regime, he feared that the children of Israel would become too mighty and overcome the Egyptians.
 - 3. Therefore, the service being provided by the Israelites to the Egyptians became **slavery**, and difficult slavery at that.
 - 4. Even further, Pharaoh instructed the Hebrew midwives to have all of the **male infants killed at birth**.
 - 5. In this way, Pharaoh could perpetuate this slavery without fear of a serious uprising.
- B. **Moses is born** and grows under the care of the Egyptians (Exodus 2).
 - 1. Not obeying Pharaoh, **Moses is saved** from death by his sister.
 - 2. **Pharaoh’s daughter raises Moses**, but somehow (probably by the teaching of his mother who nursed him) Moses knew of his heritage and that he was to deliver his people (Acts 7:25).
 - 3. This understanding led him to **smiting an Egyptian**.
 - 4. Moses ended up fleeing to the wilderness where he met and married Zipporah and began a family. Israel’s captivity continues to worsen causing the **Israelites to cry out to God for deliverance**.
- C. After **40 years** in the wilderness, **Moses receives the call from God** to return to Egypt to deliver the people (Exodus 3-4).
 - 1. The time having come for God to lead His people from captivity, He appears to Moses in the form of a **burning bush** to call Him to leadership.
 - 2. God instructs Moses of the difficulty facing His people in Egypt and informs Moses that he will lead them out of captivity.
 - 3. **Moses makes excuses**, but God answers every one of them.
 - 4. Finally Moses does return to Egypt, meeting Aaron on the way, and the Israelites accepted Moses as their leader sent from God.
- D. Moses and Aaron confront Pharaoh for the first time and **challenge Pharaoh to let God’s people go** from captivity (Exodus 5).
 - 1. At this first confrontation, **Pharaoh** becomes angry, and not only refuses to let the people go, but **makes their labor more difficult** because of Moses’ call to release them.
 - 2. As a result of the increased difficulty of their slavery, Israel now rejects Moses, and Moses again wonders what is wrong with God’s plan.

- E. God reassures Moses and challenges him to go back before Pharaoh again (Exodus 6-7).
 - 1. This time when Moses and Aaron appear before Pharaoh they are **bringing miraculous signs** from God.
 - 2. **Aaron's rod** becomes a **serpent**, but Pharaoh's magicians also turn their rods into serpents, but **Aaron's rod swallows the rods of the magicians**.
 - 3. Pharaoh still refused to listen bringing the **first** plague upon Egypt: the **plague** of turning the **water to blood**.
- F. The plagues continue upon Pharaoh and all of Egypt because of Pharaoh's refusal to heed God's request (Exodus 8-10).
 - 1. The first plague did not convince Pharaoh and so a **second plague** came into effect: **frogs** upon the land.
 - 2. Then a **third plague (lice), and a fourth (flies), and a fifth (disease on the cattle), and a sixth (boils on man and beast), and a seventh (hail), and an eighth (locusts) and even a ninth (darkness)**.
 - 3. Even though God is revealing His power before Pharaoh (and the Israelites), it only makes Pharaoh even more determined to oppose God.
- G. The **final plague** is announced. Instructions are given to the Israelites to avoid the **death of the firstborn**, and the plague is brought to fruition (Exodus 11-12).
 - 1. This final plague will be the proverbial straw to break the camel's back, as **Pharaoh's child will die**, along with all other of the firstborn.
 - 2. There is a way for the Israelites to avoid this death of the firstborn. By following God's instructions of placing blood upon the doorposts of the house from a lamb without blemish, eating the lamb, and remaining in the house until morning, their firstborn would be spared.
 - 3. Following these instructions protect Israel from the tenth plague. Pharaoh is convinced that he cannot compete with God and he agrees to let the Israelites go.

II. **Hebrews 11:24 (KJV) "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter."**

- A. There is no indication that Moses would ever have ascended to the throne, but his position as the son of Pharaoh's daughter had its honor and privileges. Stephen tells us that Moses was mighty in words and deeds and was "learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians" (Acts 7:22). His position doubtless connected him with the elite in the state. "It furnished the opportunity of a life of ease and pleasure - such as they commonly delight in who reside at courts. And it doubtless opened before him the prospect of wealth - for there is no improbability in supposing that he would be the heir of the daughter of a rich monarch" (Barnes Notes).
- B. As learned as Moses was, it is likely that he was thoroughly educated about the history of the Hebrews that lived in the land. It is reasonable to believe that he was **fully aware of his Hebrew heritage**.
- C. Though he was now privileged, when he was forty years old, "it came into his heart" (Acts 7:23) to **refuse his position**. This refusal found manifestation when he saw one of his countrymen suffer wrong and defended him and avenged the one who was oppressed by smiting an Egyptian (Acts 7:24).

III. **Hebrews 11:25 (KJV) "Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."**

- A. In serving God there comes a time in life when we must **make a choice**. Our choices in life will bring us closer to God or will lead us away from God.
 - 1. Josh 24:15 (KJV) "And if it seem evil unto you to serve the LORD, choose you this day whom ye will serve; whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the flood, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land ye dwell: but as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD."

2. Josh 24:22 (KJV) "And Joshua said unto the people, Ye *are* witnesses against yourselves that ye have chosen you the LORD, to serve him. And they said, *We are* witnesses."
 3. Judg 5:8 (KJV) "They chose new gods; then *was* war in the gates: was there a shield or spear seen among forty thousand in Israel?"
 4. Judg 10:14 (KJV) "Go and cry unto the gods which ye have chosen; let them deliver you in the time of your tribulation."
- B. It is **God's part to call** us to salvation; It is **our part to answer** the call. The decision should not be made lightly. Weighing the consequences and **comparing what you will lose** with **what you will gain** makes the decision that much more convicting.
1. John 9:22 (KJV) "These *words* spake his parents, because they feared the Jews: for the Jews had agreed already, that if any man did confess that he was Christ, he should be put out of the synagogue."
 2. Phil 3:7-8 (KJV) "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."
- C. GOD HAS MADE IT CLEAR THAT **CHOOSING THE PLEASURES OF SIN IS CONDEMNED.**
1. I would hate to face God in the day of judgment to explain why I was so worldly when he has given us every admonition to put away our love for the world. God has made it clear that worldliness is condemned.
 2. When Jesus told Pilate that his kingdom was not of this world (John 18:36), Jesus spoke more than Pilate would ever understand. Christ's followers were not of this world in more than just the sense of not carrying weapons gaining territory; they were not of this world in their morals, judgments, hopes, and in the very fiber which makes them who they are as well. As Paul stated in Romans 12, we are not to be conformed to this world.
 3. God has made it clear that there is no compatibility between Him and those wishing to hang onto the temporal.
 - a. **James 4:4** - "Friendship of the world is enmity with God."
 - b. **Matthew 6:24** - "Ye cannot serve God and mammon."
 - c. **Romans 8:6** - "For to be carnally minded is death; but to be spiritually minded is life and peace."
 - d. **1 John 2:15** - "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."
 4. This incompatibility between God and the world is further evidenced by the understanding that the devil is "the god of this world" (2 Corinthians 4:4) and "the prince of this world" (John 12:31; 16:11).
- D. Many church members are **enjoying the pleasure of sin for a season** because it is easier to be worldly than it is to stand up for what is right. In so doing, they become indifferent to both righteousness and to sin. Indifference means, "looked upon as not mattering one way or the other; neutrality; of little consequence." This lukewarmness is not acceptable to the Lord and will be spued out of his mouth (Revelation 3:16).
- E. When are we going to awake to righteousness? When are we going to see that getting ourselves into so much debt is due primarily to worldliness? When are we going to see that thinking of the earthly before the eternal is being worldly? When are we going to understand that laying up our treasure on earth is but folly? When are we going to learn that sexual sins, covetousness, envyings, revellings and the like are all under the dominion of Satan the prince of this world? When are we going to stop flirting with this world? When are we going to stop "playing church"? When are we going to come to our senses and realize that they which commit such things are worthy of death, and stop having pleasure in them that do them? Why have we not rather mourned? (Philippians 3:18-19).
- F. Moses chose rather to **suffer affliction** with the people of God, than to **enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season**.