

PLAYING SECOND FIDDLE
EXO. 4:13-16 / 9-24-17 / PM

I. AARON'S LIFE.

A. Aaron's family history.

1. He was the oldest son of Amram and Jochebeb.
2. He belonged to the tribe of Levi.
3. His sister was Miriam.
4. Moses was his brother.
 - a. He was three years older than Moses.
 - b. He grew up not knowing Moses but later was reunited with him.
5. His wife was Elisheba and they had four sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar and Ithamar.

B. Aaron's Life.

1. He lived his first 83 years in Egyptian slavery.
2. He served as Moses' assistant—Ex. 4:13-16.
3. He served 40 years as Israel's first High Priest—Ex. 28:1.
4. He died at the age of 123 on Mt. Hor—Num. 33:38.

C. Aaron's Failures.

1. Golden Calf.
 - a. He crafted it---Ex. 32:1-4.
 - b. He made two absurd excuses—Ex. 32:21-24.
2. He objected to Moses' marriage to a non-Israelite—Num. 12:1
 - a. The real problem was jealousy of Moses—Num. 12:2.
 - b. Miriam was stricken with leprosy by God perhaps indicating she took the lead in criticizing Moses—Num. 12:9-10.

3. The Waters of Meribah.
 - a. Together the two brothers disobeyed God—Num. 20:10-11.
 - b. Both were prevented from entering the Promised Land—Num. 20:12.

II. LESSONS FROM AARON.

A. Negative lessons from Aaron.

1. He was easily influenced by others to do the wrong thing. All three of his major failures had this negative trait in common.
2. He reminds us that one moment of weakness can destroy a good reputation.
3. He blamed others for his failures.
4. He reminds us that sin has consequences—Num. 20:24.

B. Positive lessons from Aaron.

1. He loved his brother.
2. He humbly followed his brother's leadership—Ex. 17:8-13.
3. He reminds us that everyone stumbles in life but can be forgiven.