

First Baptist Church Merritt Island

The Faith of Moses, part 2

Hebrews 11:23-28

March 24th, 2019

Main Point

The life of Moses teaches us how to endure through the dry seasons of life and how to experience the deliverance only Jesus gives.

Getting Started

Read Exodus 2:11-22 in preparation for today's study which focuses on Moses' faith in God's ability to provide for him in his first wilderness experience.

'One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people. He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. When he went out the next day, behold, two Hebrews were struggling together. And he said to the man in the wrong, "Why do you strike your companion?" He answered, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid, and thought, "Surely the thing is known." When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and stayed in the land of Midian. And he sat down by a well. Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters, and they came and drew water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. The shepherds came and drove them away, but Moses stood up and saved them, and watered their flock. When they came home to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come home so soon today?" They said, "An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds and even drew water for us and watered the flock." He said to his daughters, "Then where is he? Why have you left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread." And Moses was content to dwell with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah. She gave birth to a son, and he called his name Gershom, for he said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land." '
Exodus 2:11-22

Observation

HAVE A VOLUNTEER READ HEBREWS 11:23-28

Why did Moses refuse to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter? Who did he choose to identify with instead? According to verse 25 what did he reject as a result of associating himself with the Jewish people?

According to verse 26, what did Moses choose? What did he renounce by making his choice as grown man? What reward was Moses was looking for? Read Hebrews 11:6. This verse refers to rewards that come as a result of seeking God.

Read verse 27. What country did Moses leave and why? How do we know that Moses did not leave Egypt out of fear but by faith? How did Moses endure in the wilderness? How could Moses see him who is invisible? What does this mean anyway?

Application

Moses left Egypt after it became known that he murdered an Egyptian. Moses was initially afraid when Pharaoh learned of what he had done. Rather than beg forgiveness from Pharaoh and pledge his allegiance to him, Moses left Egypt and went into the wilderness. Moses acted out of faith in God's ability to sustain him in the wilderness and from his refusal identify himself with the house of Pharaoh. Moses' faith overrode his fears. Exodus 2:11-22 tells the story of Moses leaving Egypt and how God provided for him in his first wilderness experience.

All of us experience fear. Allow God to transform your fears into faith! Trust in his ability to provide and guide in difficult circumstances. *What challenges to your faith do you now face? Where does fear oftentimes creep into your heart?* If possible, share these fears with your group members as appropriate. They will pray for you. Ask God to transform your fears into faith in his promises and character.

The Bible has a lot to say about how we deal with our fears. Here are a few passages that address our fears in light of God's presence and power.

'The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall, I fear? The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?'

Psalms 27:1

'fear not, for I am with you; be not dismayed, for I am your God; I will strengthen you, I will help you, I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.'

Isaiah 41:10

'for God gave us a spirit not of fear but of power and love and self-control. '

2 Timothy 1:7

Prayer

Dear God, please help me trust in you despite my fears. May Spirit-empowered faith overcome the fears that sometimes grip my heart. Please transform my fears into faith as I look to you and run to you. I praise you for the sustaining faith you give me to walk by faith and not by fear.

Commentary

11:23 The parents of Moses preserved his life in hope (Exodus 2:2 and Acts 7:20).

11:24-26 Moses refused the sinful privileges of Egypt, including those of being the son of Pharaoh's daughter. Instead he identified with God's people and thus sought God's reward (Ps. 16:11). As Christ truly suffered on behalf of the people of God, so too Moses,

who similarly suffered on behalf of the people is said to bear Christ's reproach. Hence, Moses serves as a model for believers to endure such reproach on behalf of knowing and following Jesus.

11:27 By faith he left Egypt refers to Moses' flight from Egypt into the wilderness. He could have presented himself to Pharaoh as his loyal subject and begged for forgiveness for murdering an Egyptian. He chose instead to leave Egypt and endure the wilderness by trusting that God would provide for him. He endured the wilderness for forty years, which prepared him to endure another forty years in the wilderness with the people of God.

11:28 By faith he kept the Passover. Moses celebrated Passover before seeing the deliverance it would bring (Exodus 12:1-32).

Adapted from www.smallgroup.com