

Birth and Preparation for Leadership

Exodus 2:1-12	Exodus 2:13-25
<p>1. And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. 2. And the woman conceived and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. 3. And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink. 4. And his sister stood afar off to wit what would be done to him. 5. And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it. 6. And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children. 7. Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee? 8. And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother. 9. And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it. 10. And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.</p> <p>11. And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren. 12. And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.</p>	<p>13. And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow? 14. And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known. 15. Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well. 16. Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. 17. And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them and watered their flock. 18. And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon to day? 19. And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock. 20. And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread. 21. And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter. 22. And she bare him a son, and he called his name Gershom: for he said, I have been a stranger in a strange land.</p> <p>23. And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage. 24. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. 25. And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.</p>

Moses name means drawn forth, taken out of the water. The man who was considered “God’s friend.” (Exodus 33:11) 11 **“And the Lord Spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.”**

Moses lived 120 years, and a period divided into three sections of forty years each:

- ✓ **The first forty years** - from birth until the flight into Midian. As Pharaoh’s son, Moses learned how to be **SOMEBODY**.
- ✓ **The second forty years** – from the flight into Midian to the Exodus. In desert place, learned how to become a **NOBODY**.
- ✓ **The third forty years** – from the Exodus to his own exodus. As leader of God’s hosts he learned that God was **EVERYBODY**. The One he could speak to face to face as a man speaks to his friends. The remarkable life of Moses can be viewed under three more aspects: oh
 - I. The moment he turned fully to God.
 - II. the moment when he absolutely broke with the world. The refusal and choice of **Hebrews 11: 24, 25**. must be carefully noted. It is not enough to refuse-we must choose. We must back up a **negative** with a **positive**. The moment when between himself and God there was the sprinkled blood, the blood of atonement. Further.

These subtopics highlight the key events and themes in Moses’ early life and preparation for leadership. Each section reveals important aspects of his character and God’s providence in preparing him for his future mission.

1. Birth and Early Life (Exodus 2:1-10)

- **Parents’ Faith and Courage:** Moses’ parents, from the tribe of Levi, hide him for three months to protect him from Pharaoh’s decree to kill Hebrew boys.
- **Moses in the Basket:** When they can no longer hide him, they place him in a basket and set it among the reeds by the Nile.
- **Discovery by Pharaoh’s Daughter:** Pharaoh’s daughter finds Moses, has compassion on him, and decides to raise him as her own.
- **Miriam’s Role:** Moses’ sister, Miriam, watches over him and suggests their mother as a nurse, allowing Moses to be cared for by his biological family during his early years.

2. Moses' Identification with His People (Exodus 2:11-15)

- **Moses' Compassion for the Hebrews:** As an adult, Moses witnesses the harsh treatment of his people and intervenes when he sees an Egyptian beating a Hebrew.
- **Murder of the Egyptian:** Moses kills the Egyptian and hides the body, showing his strong sense of justice but also his impulsiveness.
- **Rejection by the Hebrews:** The next day, Moses tries to mediate a dispute between two Hebrews, but they reject his authority, questioning his actions.
- **Flight to Midian:** Fearing for his life after Pharaoh learns of the murder, Moses flees to Midian.

3. Life in Midian (Exodus 2:16-22)

- **Meeting Jethro's Family:** Moses arrives in Midian and helps Jethro's daughters water their flock, leading to his introduction to Jethro (also called Reuel).
- **Marriage to Zipporah:** Moses marries Zipporah, one of Jethro's daughters, and starts a new life as a shepherd.
- **Birth of Gershom:** Moses and Zipporah have a son, Gershom, whose name reflects Moses' sense of being a foreigner in a strange land.

4. God's Awareness of Israel's Plight (Exodus 2:23-25)

- **Israel's Cry for Help:** The Israelites groan under their slavery and cry out to God for deliverance.
- **God's Covenant Remembered:** God hears their cries and remembers His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

God's Compassion: The passage emphasizes God's awareness and concern for His people's suffering, setting the stage for Moses' future role as their deliverer.