

Exodus 2

"For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways,"

- Exodus 1
 1. Israel birthed in Egypt
 2. Grow in Affliction
 3. Decree by Pharaoh to kill male children of Israel
 4. Mid-wives obey God letting children live

Exodus 1:22 So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive."

I. Deliverer Born: God's Providence/Protection/Provision

1 And a man of the house of Levi went and took as wife a daughter of Levi.
2 So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months.

Something about that boy!

- **Beautiful:** Good. Pleasant, Agreeable
- **E.g. as in creation** "God say that it was *good*" i.e. beautiful
- Hid from Pharaohs soldiers 3 months by faith in God

Hebrews 11:23 By **faith** Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.

3 But when [Moses mother] could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it...

- **No longer hide him:** Growing boy
- Waterproof Ark covered pitch/tar

Genesis 6:14 Make yourself an ark of gopherwood; make rooms in the ark, and cover it inside and outside with pitch [different word; lit "to make atonement for"]

- **Ark:** Deliverance and Salvation. Wood and Nails

3b...and laid [the ark] in the reeds by the river's bank. 4 And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.

- Sister [Miriam] curious

God is in control. Godly family trusting on providence of God

- **Moses parents:** Amram and Jochebed [Exodus 6:20]

Joshua 24:15 ...if it seems evil to you to serve the Lord, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods which your fathers served that were on the other side of the River, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you dwell. But as for me and my house, we will serve the Lord."

- Hannah left Samuel in the hands of the Lord

1 Samuel 1:27 [Hannah] For this child I prayed, and the Lord has granted me my petition which I asked of Him. 28 Therefore I also have lent him to the Lord; as long as he lives he shall be **lent to the Lord.**"

1 Samuel 7:15 ...Samuel judged Israel all the days of his life. 16 He went from year to year on a circuit to Bethel, Gilgal, and Mizpah, and judged Israel in all those places. 17 But he **always returned to Ramah**, for his home was there.

- Trusting God with our kids; His kids?

NOTE: Moses family could say they thru Moses in the river as Pharaoh commanded

5 Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river. And her maidens walked along the riverside; and when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it. 6 And when she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, **"This is one of the Hebrews' children."**

- Pharaoh's daughter knows Moses is Hebrew
- Disobeyed her father/Disobeyed Pharaoh/Used in God's plan:

1. Came to Bathe	God's Timing
2. Baby wept	God's Pinch
3. She had compassion	God instilled sympathy

- **God's Providence**

"The very hairs of your head are all numbered." God's wisdom and knowledge are so great, that he even knows the number of the hairs upon our head. His providence descends to the minute particles of dust in the summer gale; he numbers the gnats in the sunshine, and the fishes in the sea. While [Providence] certainly does control the massive [spheres] that shine in heaven, it does not blush to deal with the drop that [falls] from [our] eye. [Spurgeon]

7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?"

- **Pushing the envelope:** Can I call a "wet-nurse" from the Hebrews?

We are not to tempt the God of the universe...but He loves us to prove Him

Hebrews 4:16 Let us therefore come boldly to the throne of grace, that we may obtain mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

- **God wants us to prove Him:**
 1. War between Israel and Syria is imminent
 2. Elisha prophet goes to Joash King of Israel
 3. Open the window and shoot arrow to east and you will have victory

2 Kings 13:18 Then he said, "Take the arrows"; so he took them. And he said to the king of Israel, "Strike the ground"; so he struck three times, and stopped. 19 And the man of

God was angry with him, and said, "You should have struck five or six times; then you would have struck Syria till you had destroyed it! But now you will strike Syria only three times."

- **You should have had:**
 1. More faith
 2. More enthusiasm

We need more boldness trusting in God's bigness. **Moses family believed in a big God**

8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the maiden went and called the child's mother.⁹ Then Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him.

- **Moses mother called to Pharaoh's daughter**
 1. Please take the child to your home
 2. I will give you to nurse him and take care of him

Paid to take care of your own child...God's grace

10 And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, "Because I drew him out of the water."

- **After weaning:** Child is adopted by Pharaoh's daughter: He became her son
- Pharaoh's daughter names the child: **Moses "drawn"**

The ancient Jewish historian Josephus says Moses was heir to the throne of Egypt and that while a young man, Moses led the armies of Egypt in victorious battle against the Ethiopians.

Acts 7:22 "And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds."

1. Geography
2. History
3. Grammar
4. Writing
5. Literature
6. Philosophy
7. Music etc.

Since he was of the royal family, we expect that as Moses went anywhere, he went in a princely chariot and his guards cried out "bow the knee!" If he floated on the Nile, it was in a magnificent yacht, with musical accompaniment - he lived the royal life. We also know that Moses' Hebrew mother had an influence on his life, so he was certainly raised in the Hebrew heritage of his mother. [Guzic]

SUMMARY Moses Is Born

1. God's **Providence** seen in the birth of a deliverer

2. God's **Protection** seen the escape from Pharaoh's decree.
3. God's **Provision** seen in Moses mother nursing her own child in her own home

II. Moses Flees from Egypt: Zeal without Knowledge

11 Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.

- 40 Years old and groomed to be the next Pharaoh of Egypt

Act 7:23 "Now when he was **forty years old**, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel.

Moses now a man in Pharaoh's Palace juxtaposed to his Jewish brethren in bondage

- **Looked upon His brethren's burden:** To see, look at, inspect, perceive, consider

Galatians 6:1 Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. 2 Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ. 3 For if anyone thinks himself to be something, when he is nothing, he deceives himself.

- Moses did not think himself above others:

Numbers 12:3 (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)

- **Humility leads to Empathy:** The feeling that you understand and share another person's experiences and emotions : Ability to share someone else's feelings
- Jesus wept

12 So [Moses] looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

- Moses zealous to do something but acts apart from God

Romans 10:2 ... a zeal for God, but not according to knowledge.

Proverbs 19:2 ...it is not good for a soul to be without knowledge, And he sins who hastens with his feet.

13 And when he went out the second day, behold, two Hebrew men were fighting, and he said to the one who did the wrong, "Why are you striking your companion?" 14 Then he said, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" So Moses feared and said, "Surely this thing is known!"

Acts 7:25 "[Moses] supposed that his brethren would have understood that God would deliver them by his hand, but they did not understand.

- **Lack of discernment is dangerous**
 1. What is good/evil

2. When is the correct time? God's time?
3. What should I say? Not say?

What is God's plan? Maybe not anything like what we think is a no-brainer

Isaiah 55:8 "For My thoughts are not your thoughts, Nor are your ways My ways," says the Lord. 9 "For as the heavens are higher than the earth, So are My ways higher than your ways, And My thoughts than your thoughts."

- **Moses zeal without knowledge leads to confusion:** Instead of embracing Moses
 1. Moses **authority** questioned: "Who made you prince and judge?"
 2. Moses **motive** questioned: "Do you intend to kill me also?"
 3. Moses **mission** postponed "Surely this thing is known"

God's people not listening to God's voice or led by God's Spirit are as dangerous to God's purpose as any enemy of God could ever hope to be [NJC]

Proverbs 3:5 Trust in the Lord with all your heart, And lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, And He shall direct your paths.

NOTE: Moses as Joseph was and Jesus would be is rejected their first coming

15 When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well.

- Moses goes Southeast to Midian; today known as both Saudi Arabia and Egypt
- **Midian School of Hard Knocks:** Slides down the side of the well and sits

SUMMARY Moses Flees from Egypt: Zeal without Knowledge

- Premature attempt to fulfill his destiny
- Moses steps outside God's **perfect will**
- God continues to work within His **permissive will** to accomplish His plan
- **School is now in session!**

III. Moses at Seminary

16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. And they came and drew water, and they filled the troughs to water their father's flock. 17 Then the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.

- **Priest of Midian and Seven daughters**
 1. Descendants of Abraham [Genesis 25]
 2. True priest worshiping the true God
 3. Providence leading Moses

Moses delivers the girls from shepherds; it's a start

1 Timothy 3:6 [An Elder must not be a] novice, lest being puffed up with pride he fall into the same condemnation as the devil. 7 Moreover he must have a good testimony among those who are outside, lest he fall into reproach and the snare of the devil.

1 Timothy 3:10 ...let [Deacons] first be tested; then let them serve as deacons, being found blameless.

- **School of Life:** No fast track
 1. Spiritual Discernment
 2. Leadership Skills
 3. Godliness

Moses had no idea of it at the time, but he was too big for God to use. Moses tried to do the Lord's work in man's wisdom and power. It wouldn't work. After 40 years of seemingly perfect preparation, Moses had another 40 years of *seemingly* meaningless waiting to perfect God's preparation. [Guzic]

- But it was not a time of waiting or wasting but of training in humility/perseverance

Proverbs 24:16 ...though the righteous fall seven times, they rise again

- Moses accepts his humble position delivering seven girls before delivering a nation

James 4:10 Humble yourselves in the sight of the Lord, and He will lift you up.

Psalms 147:6 The Lord lifts up the humble; He casts the wicked down to the ground.

Luke 14:7 [Jesus] told a parable to those who were invited, when He noted how they chose the best places, saying to them: 8 "When you are invited by anyone to a wedding feast, do not sit down in the best place, lest one more honorable than you be invited by him; 9 and he who invited you and him come and say to you, 'Give place to this man,' and then you begin with shame to take the lowest place. 10 But when you are invited, go and sit down in the lowest place, so that when he who invited you comes he may say to you, 'Friend, go up higher.' Then you will have glory in the presence of those who sit at the table with you. 11 For whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and he who humbles himself will be exalted."

- **Moses could have:**
 1. Given up
 2. Gotten mad
 3. Gone astray
- Instead Moses humbled himself and pressed on...

18 When they came to Reuel their father, he said, "How is it that you have come so soon today?" 19 And they said, "An Egyptian delivered us from the hand of the shepherds, and he also drew enough water for us and watered the flock." 20 So he said to his daughters, "And where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread." 21 Then **Moses was content to live with the man...**

- Reuel asks Moses to stay in his modest home
- Moses was **content** to live with the man

Hebrews 11:24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than

the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward.

- From palace to hut; would we live through a financial reversal?

Philippians 4:11 ...for I have learned in whatever state I am, to be content: 12 I know how to be abased, and I know how to abound. Everywhere and in all things I have learned both to be full and to be hungry, both to abound and to suffer need. 13 I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.

21...and [Reuel] gave Zipporah his daughter to Moses. 22 And she bore him a son. He called his name Gershom, for he said, "I have been a stranger in a foreign land."

- **Zipporah Moses wife:** One of the seven at the well
- First born son: Gershom; Lit. "Stranger"

23 Now it happened in the process of time that the king of Egypt died. Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry came up to God because of the bondage.

- Moses step-grandfather dies
- Moses step-brother becomes new Pharaoh
 1. Israel still in bondage
 2. Israel again cries out

Psalms 5:1 Give ear to my words, O Lord, Consider my meditation. 2 Give heed to the voice of my cry, My King and my God, For to You I will pray.

Israel's cry finds God's ear

24 So 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 acknowledged them.

Exodus 34:6 And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, "The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth..."

- God heard the groaning of His people
- God remembered His promise to His people
- God looked upon His people
- God acknowledged His people