

Exodus 2:1

3/5/17

Sunday Morning

**Ex.2:1** Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a daughter of Levi.

1. “a man from the house of Levi went and married a daughter”
  - a. We know who his parents were
  - b. Amram & Jochebed

V.2 The woman conceived and bore a son; and when she saw that he was beautiful, she hid him for three months.)

V.3 But when she could hide him no longer, she got him a wicker basket and covered it over with tar and pitch. Then she put the child into it and set it among the reeds by the bank of the Nile.

V.4 His sister stood at a distance to find out what would happen to him.

V.5 The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the Nile, with her maidens walking alongside the Nile; and she saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid, and she brought it to her.

1. “The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe”
  - a. Pharaoh’s daughter was probably **Hatshepsut**
  - b. Assuming that the Exodus occurred in 1446 B.C. and since Moses was 80 years old at that time, he was born in 1526 B.C. at the beginning of the reign of Thutmose I (1526–1512 B.C.) or at the end of Amenhotep I’s reign (1545–1526).

V.6 When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the boy was crying. And she had pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."

V.7 Then his sister<sup>(Miriam)</sup> 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?"

V.8 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go ahead." So the girl went and called the child's mother.

V.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.

1. “I will give you your wages”
  - a. Moses mother was **paid** to raise her own child

V.10 The child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. And she named him Moses, and said, "Because I drew him out of the water."

1. “she named him Moses”
  - a. Means – “drawn out” – not sure but probably an Egyptian name

V.11 (NP)

V.11 *Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up*, that he went out to his brethren and looked on their hard labors; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.

1. “Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up”
  - a. It is easy to miss all that is in this verse
  - b. **40 years** have passed since **V.10** & Moses has been given the very best education that the world had to offer
    - i. **Acts 7** gives us info on first 40 years of Moses’ life

**Acts 7:20** "And it was at this time that Moses was born; and he was lovely in the sight of God; and he was nurtured three months in his father's home.

<sup>21</sup> "And after he had been exposed, Pharaoh's daughter took him away, and nurtured him as her own son.

<sup>22</sup> "And Moses was educated in all the learning of the Egyptians, and he was a man of power in words and deeds.

1. (Acts 7:22) “Moses was educated in all the learning of the Egyptians” (Acts 7:22)
  - a. As Pharaoh’s grandson Moses wasn’t just educated – he was trained!
  - b. He would have been taught the arts, sciences, math, religion, personal disciplines, history, principles of war/military doctrine
  - c. Moses would have been taught –
    - i. The Egyptians believed that the world had arisen out of the lifeless waters of chaos, called **Nu** or **Nun**.
      1. There was a mound (shaped like a pyramid) when the primordial water receded called a Benben
      2. **Ra** (sun god - the supreme deity represented as a man with the head of a falcon) was contained within an egg laid upon this mound by a celestial bird. In the earliest version of this myth, the bird is a **goose** (it is not explained where the goose originates) it could also be an **ibis**.
        - a. All forms of life created by Ra
    - ii. Or you can believe that all life came from a primordial egg balanced on the back of an elephant who was balanced on the back of a turtle who was swimming in a cosmic sea!
    - iii. Or you could take the craziest idea of all – that **nothing** made everything
  - d. All we know for sure is that when Moses wrote about creation – this is what he said! **Gen.1:1 (NP)**

**Genesis 1:1** In the beginning **God created** the heavens and the earth...

2. (Acts 7:22) “he was a man of power in words and deeds” (Acts 7:22)
  - a. It is believed that Pharaoh had no son of his own and that Moses was being groomed to become the next Pharaoh
    - i. Eventually Pharaoh did have a son
  - b. “Moses was powerful in “words”
    - i. He was a great orator – Moses had natural abilities & training
  - c. Josephus records that Moses became a great captain among the Egyptians, leading them to victory against the Ethiopians when Ethiopians invaded Egypt
  - d. Josephus also records that Moses took the Ethiopian king’s daughter to be his wife

V.11 x Now it came about in those days, when Moses had grown up, that he went out to his brethren and looked on their hard labors; and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren.

V.12 So he looked this way and that, and when he saw there was no one around, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

1. “he saw there was no one around, he struck...the Egyptian...hid him...in sand”
  - a. **Moses thinking was correct** when he killed the Egyptian
    - i. Moses knew that God planned to use him to deliver Israel from bondage
 

**Acts 7:25** "And he supposed that his brethren understood that God was granting them deliverance through him; but they did not understand.
  - b. **Moses’ thinking was correct** when he walked away from the luxuries of Egypt

**Hebrews 11:24** By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

<sup>25</sup> choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin;

<sup>26</sup> considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward.

2. (Heb.11:25) “choosing...to endure ill-treatment...than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin” (Heb.11:25)

- a. Moses gave up more than we can imagine
  - i. All the nightlife was at his disposal
  - ii. The best of the food & drink were his
- b. He didn't **just** turned them down
  - i. He turned them down **w/ higher expectations for eternity**  
**Heb.11:26** considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward.
  - ii. Your view of eternity will dictate how you live this life!
  - iii. If you have a low understanding of eternity – you will live a substandard Christian life here
  - iv. A lofty view of eternity causes one to live on a lofty plane here
- c. The 3 to 4 years Moses spent w/ his family had a lasting effect on his life
  - i. I can't help but think his parents must have been praying for him – too much influence for that not to be true
- d. **But** Moses isn't ready to serve God!
  - i. He didn't realize how much he didn't know!
  - ii. And he wasn't spiritually mature enough to check w/ God before killing the Egyptian **V.13**

V.13 He went out the next day, and behold, two Hebrews were fighting with each other; and he said to the offender, "Why are you striking your companion?"

V.14 But he said, "Who made you a prince or a judge over us? Are you intending to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and said, "Surely the matter has become known."

- 1. "Are you intending to kill me as you killed the Egyptian"
  - a. Moses now **runs for his life** **V.15**

V.15 When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the presence of Pharaoh and settled in the land of Midian, and he sat down by a well.

- 1. "When **Pharaoh** heard of this matter, he tried to kill Moses"
  - a. This was probably **Thutmose III**
    - i. He had destroyed all the images of Moses' & his stepmom, **Hatshepsut**, too, who ruled for a time as only the 3 queen of Egypt – Cleopatra won't come along for 1300 years
- 2. "Moses...settled in the land of Midian
  - a. Moses had all the education, training, military experience, wealth, personal talent – but **he was not equipped to serve God!**

- b. Moses had always been successful
  - i. He was from an ordinary family of Jewish slave-class citizens who became royalty
  - ii. He excelled in every endeavor
  - iii. Called of God to deliver a people
- c. But he will never learn what God has for him as a winner**
- d. God is going to isolate him on the backside of the desert for 40 years

V.16 Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters; and they came to draw water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.

- 1. "Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters"
  - a. The Midianites were nomadic
  - b. They were closely related to Moses
    - i. Their father was Abraham thru his wife Keturah

V.17 Then the shepherds came and drove them away, but Moses stood up and helped them and watered their flock.

V.18 When they came to Reuel<sup>(friend of God)</sup> their father, he said, "Why have you come back so soon today?"

V.19 So they said, "An Egyptian delivered us from the hand of the shepherds, and what is more, he even drew the water for us and watered the flock."

V.20 He said to his daughters, "Where is he then? Why is it that you have left the man behind? Invite him to have something to eat."

V.21 Moses was willing to dwell with the man, and he gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses.

- 1. "Moses was willing to dwell with the man"
  - a. There is a "tiredness" that goes w/ this word – Nothing better to do
- 2. "he gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses"
  - a. Zipporah – sparrow – the idea of edgy, nervous, the opposite of laid back
  - b. That will cause problems for them later on

V.22 Then she gave birth to a son, and he named him Gershom, for he said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land."

- 1. "named him Gershom, for he said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land"
  - a. Gershom – sojourner – Moses didn't see himself belonging in Midian
    - i. Moses was unsettled in Midian at this time
  - b. Later he had another son & he named him "Eliezer" (means God of help)
    - i. So we see Moses settling down in Midian

V.23 Now it came about in the course of those many days that the king of Egypt died. And the sons of Israel sighed because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry for help because of their bondage rose up to God.

V.24 So God heard their groaning; and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

V.25 God saw the sons of Israel, and God took notice of them.

1. "God took notice"
  - a. Have you ever felt that God has forgotten you? He absolutely has not!

**Ex.3:1** Now Moses was pasturing the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

1. "and came to Horeb"
  - a. Most believe that Horeb is same place as **Mt. Sinai**

V.2 The angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed.

1. "The angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush"
  - a. Another 40 years has passed from 2:21 to 3:2
  - b. **Moses is now 80 years old**

V.3 So Moses said, "I must turn aside now and see this marvelous sight, why the bush is not burned up."

1. "I must turn aside...see this marvelous sight, why the bush is not burned up"
  - a. 40 years earlier God had Moses' attention – Moses knew that God wanted to use him to deliver Israel
  - b. He has slowed Moses down so He could teach him
  - c. It is time to grasp Moses' attention again
  - d. **Has God called you aside yet?** Maybe He did but you didn't realize that it was God who was calling you aside
    - i. In our hectic society it is hard to draw us aside – but it is mandatory if you are to be used by God

V.4 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

V.5 Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." **V.16 (NP)**

V.6 He said also, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

1. "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham...Isaac, and...Jacob"
  - a. He speaks of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob as though they were still alive
    - i. Because they are very much alive
    - ii. Jesus quoted this passage to explain how little the Sadducees knew

**Mat.22:28** "In the resurrection therefore whose wife of the seven shall she be? For they all had her."

<sup>29</sup> But Jesus answered and said to them, "You are mistaken, not understanding the Scriptures, or the power of God.

**V.31** "But regarding the resurrection of the dead, have you not read that which was spoken to you by God, saying,

<sup>32</sup> ' I AM THE GOD OF ABRAHAM, AND THE GOD OF ISAAC, AND THE GOD OF JACOB'? He is not the God of the dead but of the living."

- iii. The Sadducees didn't believe in life after death – "you are mistaken not understanding the Scripture..."

V.7 The LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have given heed to their cry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings.

V.8 "So I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite.

V.9 "Now, behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me; furthermore, I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them.

V.10 "Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt."

1. "Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh"
  - a. God now commissions Moses to go back to Egypt as their deliverer

V.11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the sons of Israel out of Egypt?"

1. "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh"
  - a. There is a marked change in Moses' attitude
  - b. He no longer has confidence in himself
  - c. But he ask the wrong question – "who am **I**, that I should go..."
    - i. He should have ask, "who are **You** that I should go..."
    - ii. You will never be of value to God until you realize your no value

- iii. God has to take us beyond our own abilities to make Himself real to us

**2 Corinthians 1:8-9 (NASB77)**

<sup>8</sup> For we do not want you to be unaware, brethren, of our affliction which came *to us* in Asia, that we were burdened excessively, beyond our strength, **so that** we despaired even of life;

<sup>9</sup> indeed, we had the sentence of death within ourselves **in order that** we should **not** trust in ourselves, but in God who raises the dead;