

OT-OV

Lesson 62

1. Last week I taught the Doctrine of Joseph and then we began a study of the Doctrine of Moses; when time expired we had just completed an analysis of Moses' life in Egypt.
2. I want to review some of that learned and then we will begin new material on page five.

Doctrine of Moses

1. The Hebrew name is MOSHEH, meaning to pull out or draw out; in Egyptian it means simply a child, a son. Pharaoh's daughter named him child or son.
2. Moses belonged to the tribe of Levi; he was the son of Amran by his wife Jochebed. The other members of the family were Aaron, his elder brother and Miriam his sister.
3. The life of Moses is divided into three equal segments of approximately 40 years each:
 - 3.1 His life in Egypt
 - 3.2 The period of exile in Arabia and
 - 3.3 His governing of Israel.

4. Life in Egypt:

4.1 Moses was born in approximately 1520 B.C. and according to secular history, he was born at Heliopolis, an ancient city located six miles north east of Cairo; his birth, according to Josephus, was foretold to Pharaoh by the Egyptian magicians and by God to Amran in a dream.

4.2 At the time of his birth, it had been decreed by the Pharaoh, "slay all male Hebrew children." His mother however was by some means able to conceal him; she hid him for some three months.

Exo 1:10 Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land.

Exo 1:16 And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him; but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.

4.3 When concealment was no longer possible she placed him in a small boat, or basket of papyrus and deposited him among the reeds of the Nile in hopes that someone would discover him and provide appropriate protection.

4.4. The daughter of Pharaoh who may well have been the famous queen Hatshepsut, came to the river to bathe where she saw the basket and had it brought to her.

4.4.1 According to the Grolier Encyclopedia: "Hatshepsut ... an Egyptian queen of the 18th dynasty, was the only woman to rule Egypt as a pharaoh. After the death of her husband, THUTMOSE II in BC 1504, she assumed power, first as regent for his son THUTMOSE III, and then (1503 BC) as pharaoh. She encouraged commercial expansion and sponsored a major building program; the monuments of her reign include the temple at Deir el-Bahri. Toward the end of her reign she lost influence to Thutmose III."

4.5 The princess elected to rear the child as her own, she must not have been able to resist since it was said that the baby Moses was most beautiful.

4.5.1 Moses' sister, who had been left to oversee the result, was at hand, to recommend the baby's own mother as a Hebrew nurse; Moses' mother was then hired by the princess.

4.6 Moses was adopted by the king's daughter and for many years he was considered an Egyptian.

4.7 In the Old Testament, this period of time is blank, but in the New Testament, he is represented as educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, mighty in words and deed.

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

4.8 When Moses was forty years old he resolved to cast his lot with his brethren.

Acts 7:23 And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

4.9 Seeing an Israelite suffering at the hand of an Egyptian overseer and thinking he was alone Moses slew the Egyptian and buried the corpse in the sand.

Acts 7:24-26 And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian: For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not. And the next day he showed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another? But he that did his neighbor wrong thrust him away, saying, who made thee a ruler and a judge over us?

4.10 It became evident to Moses that the time for the deliverance of his people had not yet arrived and that safety was to be found only in flight.

EXO 2:11-15 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.

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. 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? 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. 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.

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4.11 Now for new material.

5. Life in exile.

5.1. Moses fled Egypt in approximately 1480 BC at the beginning of the reign of Thutmose III. He went to Midian near the peninsula of Sinai, and rested himself by a well where he chivalrously aided several maidens by watering their sheep.

5.2 As a result of his providing this help, the maidens returned earlier than usual telling their father Jethro of Moses' kindness; Jethro called for Moses and after an extended stay he gave his daughter Zipporah to be Moses' wife.

Exo 2:16 Now a priest of Midian had seven daughters, and they came to draw water and fill the troughs to water their father's flock.

Exo 2:17 Some shepherds came along and drove them away, but Moses got up and came to their rescue and watered their flock.

Exo 2:18 When the girls returned to Reuel their father, he asked them, "Why have you returned so early today?"

Exo 2:19 They answered, "An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds. He even drew water for us and watered the flock."

Exo 2:20 "And where is he?" he asked his daughters. "Why did you leave him? Invite him to have something to eat."

Exo 2:21 Moses agreed to stay with the man, who gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses in marriage.

5.3 In the seclusion of this shephardic life, Moses received his call as a prophet. The traditional scene of this event was in a Valley near Mount Horeb.

5.4 Upon this mountain and in the valley below was the well-known Acacia, the thorn tree of the desert, it is known for its thick white thorns and grows prolifically over the rocky ground.

5.5 The angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in a flame of fire in the midst of this bush. The branches of this bush should have naturally burned in a moment but in this case remained unconsumed.

5.6 Revelations were made to Moses:

5.6.1 the eternal self-existence of the one God

5.6.2 the mission to deliver his own people

5.6.3 three signs were to attest to him of his divine mission to deliver the people:

- the rod that turned into a serpent

Exo 4:1 Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The LORD did not appear to you'?"

Exo 4:2 Then the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" "A staff," he replied.

Exo 4:3 The LORD said, "Throw it on the ground." Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it.

Exo 4:4 Then the LORD said to him, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail." So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand.

Exo 4:5 "This," said the LORD, "is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers-- the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob-- has appeared to you."

- Moses' hand turned leprous, and then healed

Exo 4:6 Then the LORD said, "Put your hand inside your cloak." So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was leprous, like snow.

Exo 4:7 "Now put it back into your cloak," he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh.

Exo 4:8 Then the LORD said, "If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first miraculous sign, they may believe the second.

- the water of the Nile river would become blood

Exo 4:9 But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground."

5.7 Moses protested, saying that he wouldn't know what to say, or how to say it. God promised assistance, and all difficulties were exhausted and removed by God's assurances but Moses was still unwilling to undertake the mission. God appointed Aaron as his spokesman so Moses consented.

5.8 Moses then returned to the home of his father-in-law and received permission to visit his brethren in Egypt.

5.9 God appeared to Moses and assured him of the death of all those in Egypt who sought his life; this would have been approximately 1440 B.C.

5.10 Moses then set out upon his journey with his wife and sons. On the way, Moses was threatened with death by Jehovah. Moses was spared after the circumcision of his son.

5.11 Moses once more received a token of divine favor in the arrival of Aaron, who met him at the "Mount of God;" together they went to Egypt and communicated the words of Jehovah to the people of Israel.

5.12 His wife and children were sent back to Jethro and there they remained until Moses joined them at Rephidim.

Exo 18:2 After Moses had sent away his wife Zipporah, his father-in-law Jethro received her

Exo 18:3 and her two sons. One son was named Gershom, for Moses said, "I have become an alien in a foreign land";

Exo 18:4 and the other was named Eliezer, for he said, "My father's God was my helper; he saved me from the sword of Pharaoh."

Exo 18:5 Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, together with Moses' sons and wife, came to him in the desert, where he was camped near the mountain of God.

Exo 18:6 Jethro had sent word to him, "I, your father-in-law Jethro, am coming to you with your wife and her two sons."

6. Moses as the governor of Israel.

6.1 The history of Moses, from this point forward is actually the history of Israel for forty years (approximately 1440-1400).

6.2 Moses and Aaron appeared before Pharaoh to demand permission for the children of Israel to go to the wilderness in order to make appropriate sacrifices to Jehovah.

Exo 7:10 And Moses and Aaron went in unto Pharaoh, and they did so as the LORD had commanded: and Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh, and before his servants, and it became a serpent.

Exo 7:11 Then Pharaoh also called the wise men and the sorcerers: now the magicians of Egypt, they also did in like manner with their enchantments.

Exo 7:12 For they cast down every man his rod, and they became serpents: but Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods.

6.3 Then followed the contest between these two mighty men; over time Jehovah sent several plagues:

The Plague of Blood

Exo 7:15 Get thee unto Pharaoh in the morning; lo, he goeth out unto the water; and thou shalt stand by the river's brink against he come; and the rod which was turned to a serpent shalt thou take in thine hand.

Exo 7:16 And thou shalt say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath sent me unto thee, saying, Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness: and, behold, hitherto thou wouldest not hear.

Exo 7:17 Thus saith the LORD, In this thou shalt know that I am the LORD: behold, I will smite with the rod that is in mine hand upon the waters which are in the river, and they shall be turned to blood.

The Plague of Frogs

Exo 8:2 And if thou refuse to let them go, behold, I will smite all thy borders with frogs:

Exo 8:3 And the river shall bring forth frogs abundantly, which shall go up and come into thine house, and into thy bed chamber, and upon thy bed, and into the house of thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thine ovens, and into thy kneading troughs:

Exo 8:4 And the frogs shall come up both on thee, and upon thy people, and upon all thy servants.

The Plague of Sand flies

Exo 8:16 And the LORD said unto Moses, Say unto Aaron, Stretch out thy rod, and smite the dust of the land with a mosquito-like insect throughout all the land of Egypt.

Exo 8:17 And they did so; for Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod, and smote the dust of the earth, and it became lice in man, and in beast; all the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.

The Plague of Flies

Exo 8:21 Else, if thou wilt not let my people go, behold, I will send swarms of flies upon thee, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people, and into thy houses: and the houses of the Egyptians shall be full of swarms of flies, and also the ground whereon they are.

Exo 8:22 And I will sever in that day the land of Goshen, in which my people dwell, that no swarms of flies shall be there; to the end thou mayest know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth.

Exo 8:23 And I will put a division between my people and thy people: tomorrow shall this sign be.

Exo 8:24 And the LORD did so; and there came a grievous swarm of flies into the house of Pharaoh, and into his servants' houses, and into all the land of Egypt: the land was corrupted by reason of the swarm of flies.

The Plague on Livestock

Exo 9:3 Behold, the hand of the LORD is upon thy cattle which is in the field, upon the horses, upon the asses, upon the camels, upon the oxen, and upon the sheep: there shall be a very grievous disease.

Exo 9:4 And the LORD shall sever between the cattle of Israel and the cattle of Egypt: and there shall nothing die of all that is the children's of Israel.

Exo 9:5 And the LORD appointed a set time μ , saying, Tomorrow the LORD shall do this thing in the land.

Exo 9:6 And the LORD did that thing on the morrow, and all the cattle of Egypt died: but of the cattle of the children of Israel died not one.

The Plague of Hail

Exo 9:14 For I will at this time send all my plagues upon thine heart, and upon thy servants, and upon thy people; that thou mayest know that there is none like me in all the earth.

Exo 9:18 Behold, tomorrow about this time I will cause it to rain a very grievous hail, such as hath not been in Egypt since the foundation thereof even until now.

Exo 9:19 Send therefore now, and gather thy cattle, and all that thou hast in the field; for upon every man and beast which shall be found in the field, and shall not be brought home, the hail shall come down upon them, and they shall die.

Exo 9:23 And Moses stretched forth his rod toward heaven: and the LORD sent thunder and hail, and the fire ran along upon the ground; and the LORD rained hail upon the land of Egypt.

Exo 9:24 So there was hail, and fire mingled with the hail, very grievous, such as there was none like it in all the land of Egypt since it became a nation.

Exo 9:26 Only in the land of Goshen, where the children of Israel were, was there no hail.

The Plague of Locusts

Exo 10:4 Else, if thou refuse to let my people go, behold, tomorrow will I bring the locusts into thy coast:

Exo 10:5 And they shall cover the face of the earth, that one cannot be able to see the earth: and they shall eat the residue of that which is escaped, which remaineth unto you from the hail, and shall eat every tree which groweth for you out of the field:

Exo 10:6 And they shall fill thy houses, and the houses of all thy servants, and the houses of all the Egyptians; which neither thy fathers, nor thy fathers' fathers have seen, since the day that they were upon the earth unto this day. And he turned himself, and went out from Pharaoh.

The Plague of Darkness

Exo 10:21 And the LORD said unto Moses, Stretch out thine hand toward heaven, that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, even darkness which may be felt.

Exo 10:22 And Moses stretched forth his hand toward heaven; and there was a thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days:

Exo 10:23 They saw not one another, neither rose any from his place for three days: but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings.

The Plague on the Firstborn

Exo 11:1 And the LORD said unto Moses, Yet will I bring one plague more upon Pharaoh, and upon Egypt; afterwards he will let you go hence: when he shall let you go, he shall surely thrust you out hence altogether.

Exo 11:2 Speak now in the ears of the people, and let every man borrow of his neighbour, and every woman of her neighbour, jewels of silver and jewels of gold.

Exo 11:3 And the LORD gave the people favour in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants, and in the sight of the people.

Exo 11:4 And Moses said, Thus saith the LORD, About midnight will I go out into the midst of Egypt:

Exo 11:5 And all the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sitteth upon his throne, even unto the firstborn of the maidservant that is behind the mill; and all the firstborn of beasts.

6.4 On the night of the deliverance, after the 9th plague, the death of the first born, Moses took the decisive lead; from this point forward he is usually mentioned alone.

6.5 Under divine direction Moses didn't lead the people by the shortest way to the promised land, since he thought they might turn back to Egypt when opposed by the warlike Philistines.

6.6 God let the people return by the way of the wilderness of the Red Sea; they passed safely through the Red Sea while the armies of the Pharaoh perished in the waves.

6.7 A partial travelogue of Israel from the Red Sea to Mount Sinai might be helpful here:

End Lesson