

***“By Faith Moses - in the Hebrews 11 Hall of Fame”***

***Last Week:***

***Last time we looked at the recorded Biblical history of the Exodus. Today we will consider the background of that inspired story again, especially from the perspective of Moses himself, and, I hope, will gain an important spiritual perspective on what the Lord God Almighty was doing in Egypt in Moses’s day. We have seen in detail how the Lord God prevailed over the heart of man - with the Egyptians, and with Israel. With the Egyptians, we saw how God worked through a “vale of tears” and Ex. 11:6 summarizes that part of history so well:***

***Ex. 11:6 And there shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there was none like it, nor shall be like it any more.***

- ***Again we see tears shed here, indeed, a great many of them were shed. Let us see what the consequence of this was, for that is at the heart of the story of the Exodus and at the very heart of God’s working throughout the Long War Against God.***

***Ex. 12:29-31***

***29 And it came to pass, that at midnight the LORD smote all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, from the firstborn of Pharaoh that sat on his throne unto the firstborn of the captive that was in the dungeon; and all the firstborn of cattle.***

***30 And Pharaoh rose up in the night, he, and all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt; for there was not a house where there was not one dead.***

***31 And he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, Rise up, and get you forth from among my people, both ye and the children of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as ye have said.***

- ***Even pharaoh’s house was touched by the angel of death on this fateful night. Only in the camps of the Israelites was there salvation and only for those where the blood had been properly placed.***
- ***The cries of the Egyptians were heard everywhere --- and they DID make a difference, even for pharaoh himself. He was touched in HIS heart by all of this, even losing his first-born son who was co-regent in Egypt and sitting on pharaoh’s throne (at this very moment, it would seem) according to***

verse 29.

- ***And, the next verses indicate that this DID make a great difference as now pharaoh (and all Egypt) was ‘inclined’ to “let this people go”!***

**Ex. 12:32-34** Also take your flocks and your herds, as ye have said, and be gone; and bless me also.

33 And the Egyptians were urgent upon the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste; for they said, We be all dead men.

34 And the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneadingtroughs being bound up in their clothes upon their shoulders.

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**Ex. 12:37-42**

37 And the children of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand on foot that were men, beside children.

38 And a mixed multitude went up also with them; and flocks, and herds, even very much cattle.

39 And they baked unleavened cakes of the dough which they brought forth out of Egypt, for it was not leavened; because they were thrust out of Egypt, and could not tarry, neither had they prepared for themselves any victual.

40 Now the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was four hundred and thirty years.

41 And it came to pass at the end of the four hundred and thirty years, even the selfsame day it came to pass, that all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.

42 It is a night to be much observed unto the LORD for bringing them out from the land of Egypt: this is that night of the LORD to be observed of all the children of Israel in their generations.

- ***Even the date of the Exodus had been set in God’s timetable. These scriptures are such a blessing. And, as we have seen, this was all about tears, the tears of the Egyptians making all the difference as the Lord God worked in the hearts of both believers and unbelievers to accomplish his prophetic purpose through ultimately, the Seed of the Woman.***

***Looking ahead, another 517 years will pass before God raises up another to lead the nation like Moses did, and that would be that man after God’s own heart, David:***

**1 Sam. 9:16** To morrow about this time I will send thee a man out of the land of

Benjamin, and thou shalt anoint him to be captain over my people Israel, that he may save my people out of the hand of the Philistines: for I have looked upon my people, **because their cry is come unto me. . .**

***You will well remember from our last fellowship that God had heard the cries of the children of Israel while they were slaves in Egypt so many years before David was raised up.***

***Today we shall how at that time God's response to these cries through his servant Moses was used so critically. By the sovereign working of God in the heart of a man, in this case, Moses, God led his people out of bondage and to the very edge of the Land of Promise. He saw the suffering of his own people. I wonder if Moses even knew his own heritage, don't you? Let's see how this developed . . .***

***Ex. 2:11-15***

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.

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.

. . .

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.**

***Now, for our main focus today, we need to turn again to that great chapter on faith in Hebrews. There we shall find a special section devoted to Moses. We need to look carefully into that to grasp the full significance of this account we have just read here in Exodus 2.***

**[READ ] Heb. 11:24-29**

24 By faith Moses, when he was come to years, 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 pleasures of sin for a season;

26 Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

28 Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29 **By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.**

**I. By Faith Moses - Refused to be King & Forsook Egypt (verses 24-27)**

24 **[A]** By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter;

25 **[B]** Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God,  
**[C]** than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season;

26 **[B]** Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches  
**[C]** than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.

27 **[A]** By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible.

- ***The parallelism in these verses is a key to our understanding. Take note of them. Please see our website, [www.libertymessenger.org](http://www.libertymessenger.org), for this outline when you can.***
- ***By this "refusal", Moses abandoned the world and all of its benefits and identified himself for all to see as a Hebrew. The consequence was to "suffer affliction with the people of God." Note that this is defined here as "separation" from the world in the normal sense, meaning that worldliness provides a benefit, namely "the pleasures of sin for a season." Of course, this is only for a season since "the wages of sin is death" (Rom. 6:23).***

- **Verse 26 is most blessed, since the sufferings of the people of God are to be considered as sufferings “together with Christ” as it says here. I believe this is a general statement and is true in all dispensations, not only in ours today.**
  - **This does not mean as it may be interpreted out of context, that Christ will “reproach” the believer. This is an “objective” genitive. The reproach is Christ’s own to be shared by necessity with believers, not something that flows from Christ’s hand to us as a kind of judgment. This is important to grasp. Our suffering here is certainly not ALWAYS due to our sins.**
    - **For comparison with a similar meaning, consider in the next chapter of the Hebrews, chapter 13:13 Let us go forth therefore unto him without the camp, bearing his reproach.**
  - **Even all the wealth of Egypt was nothing to be compared with the true and eternal value of his own sufferings since his sufferings alone had eternal value as revealed here in the words: “for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward.” Of course, Moses sufferings here are a “type” of Christ’s sufferings for the sins of the world to come later as the Seed of the Woman fulfills completely the Gen. 3:15 promise.**
- **These words in verse 27 are also most blessed. Moses possessed a faith that was so transforming that it led him to “forsake Egypt” forever! And this was so even though the consequence was “the wrath of the king”! He had the “proof” indicated in Heb. 11:1 “Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.”**
- **“seeing him who is invisible”: What more could anyone ask for than this? “To see the invisible one”. This reminds one of other similar expressions of faith such as (and I will select only two here):**
  - **Rom. 4:18 Who against hope believed in hope, that he might become the father of many nations, according to that which was spoken, So shall thy seed be.**

- **2 Cor. 4:15-18**

15 For all things are for your sakes, that the abundant grace might through the thanksgiving of many redound to the glory of God.

16 For which cause we faint not; but though our outward man perish, yet the inward man is renewed day by day.

17 For our light affliction, which is but for a moment, worketh for us a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory;

18 **While we look not at the things which are seen, but at the things which are not seen: for the things which are seen are temporal; but the things which are not seen are eternal.**

- ***Let's put this into a simple statement (and this will be the overarching theme of our fellowship today): As believers we are to cast aside the fleeting benefits of this world for we have already received BY FAITH the promised benefits of heaven's glory! Heb. 11:1. AND THERE IS NOTHING IN COMPARISON!***
- ***Amen and amen!***

***[Your comments / questions?]***

## **II. By Faith Moses - Kept the Passover (verse 28)**

28 Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

- “By faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood”: ***There are two totally different and separate things here you might think looking back from what later history revealed (in the Law which was not yet at the time of the Exodus revealed). But these are really the same. The occasion of the “passover” WAS “the sprinkling of blood.” The LEGAL REQUIREMENT TO CELEBRATE AND REMEMBER THE PASSOVER WAS PART OF MOSES LAW.***
- ***See Ex. 12:27 for a clear statement of this: “That ye shall say, It is the sacrifice of the LORD'S passover, who passed over the houses of the children of Israel in Egypt, when he smote the Egyptians, and delivered our houses. And the people bowed the head and worshipped.”***

- ***Did Moses have fear that the “destroyer” would also strike himself and the covenant people? Yes, “if they did not obey the Lord in the sprinkling of the blood as he had promised in Ex. 12:23: “For the LORD will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the LORD will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.” This was godly, believing, fear.***
- ***Faith is taking God at his word. So to respond to the word of the Lord as Moses did is to respond in faith. That is what Moses did and that is what is referenced here in verse 28***

***If only we would always take God at his word.***

- ***Remember: Our spiritual salvation occurs when we take God at his word regarding his son and his completed work finished on our behalf. And, in addition, this is so true in our daily moment by moment walk as well!***

### **III. By Faith Moses - Passed through the Red Sea (verse 29)**

29 By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.

- ***“By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned”:***
  - ***This is the final reference to Moses in Hebrews 11.***
  - ***There are several things to note:***
    - ***This is the Exodus event itself. Yes, it was a great work of the creator God. But it was an act of faith, as well, on Moses part, and that is the emphasis here. The other Israelites may just have followed him as they would be inclined to follow any good leader.***
    - ***This does say “they”. And Ex. 12:27 indicates that the children of Israel “worshipped”. I find this to be very interesting and wonder if this was done “in faith”. It***

*says so here in Heb. 11, but if so there was a rapid and radical change of heart coming so soon.*

- *It also adds “as by dry land” and contrasts this to the Egyptians who “were drowned” on the “dry land”. How can this be?*

*[Your thoughts?]*

**Conclusions / Applications:**

- *Heb. 11:1* Now faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen.
- *For us today, as for believers of every dispensation, our faith in the promises of God given to us provides the reality or substance of what is promised. And, that reality gives us the conviction of its truth. Moses had that and demonstrated it so often throughout his life. The events leading up to the Exodus make that very clear.*
- *Again, in one simple statement our overarching theme today is this:*

**As believers we are to cast aside the fleeting benefits of this world as we have already received BY FAITH the promised benefits of heaven’s glory! Heb. 11:1.**

**THERE IS NOTHING IN COMPARISON!**

- *Are we “encouraged” by these words as Rom. 15:4 says we should be?*

***Rom. 15:1-4***

1 We then that are strong ought to bear the infirmities of the weak, and not to please ourselves.

2 Let every one of us please [his] neighbour for [his] good to edification.

3 For even Christ pleased not himself; but, as it is written, The reproaches of them that reproached thee fell on me.

4 **For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**