

The Faith of Moses

Title: ~~The Mother of Moses~~ (Part 2)

Text: Hebrews 11:24-26

Take your Bibles, please, and turn to Hebrews chapter 11. We want to pick up where we left off last Sunday night. We are looking at the example of faith in the life of Moses. Last Sunday we looked at the faith of his parents as it related to the CIRCUMSTANCE OF HIS BIRTH. Tonight we want to take a look at the commitment he made.

Hebrews chapter 11 verse 24....(READ VS 24-26)

PRAYER

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Second
(2) The ~~first~~ way that I see the story of Moses as an example of faith is in the commitment he made. And this commitment I believe is a result of the teaching of ~~mother,~~ and his parants. Vs 24 says, "By Faith Moses"...

Now, if you like to mark your Bible, drew a line from Vs 24 "By Faith Moses" back to Vs 23, "By Faith Moses." In ~~vs~~ ^{Vs} 23 it is obviously not Moses's faith, because he was just born. It is his parants's faith.

and
But, why does it express it in the same way? Both verse start off with the phrase, "By faith Moses." And I believe there is a divine reason. The connection is to prove to ~~you~~ ^{US} that the parents are the one's who built into Moses' life that confidence and that trust. So, that when he had grown up he could refuse to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. WHY? Because his parants exerised faith in God's plan in Vs 23. They are both connected togethger. This is tremendous. The reason MOses could refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter was because of the principles that his parents taught him as a child.

Now, I believe this commitment he made was based upon to things. Every commitment that anyone of us makes, in some sense, is based on ~~this~~ ^{These Two Reason}. Althought it will be different then the life of Moses, but in some sense they are related.

(1) First of all, it was based upon the clear realization of the opportunities and advantages he would have as a son of Pharaoh's daughter.

I think that many of us who read the stories of Moses never really see it correctly. One fellow told me that "you know, in these Egyptian Pharaoh's homes they had a huge harem. And they had a lot of children. So, big deal. He was only one out of many. How is that so important.?"

I would like to just briefly tell you the story. It will not take long. I would like to tell you why this is such a fantastic commitment. And why it was based on a clear realization of his advantages. And therefore, he had to turn his back on those advantages.

You see, the daughter of the Pharaoh who was in power at that time was a woman by the name of ~~Ma~~ ^{Ma}-sagp-sut. Now, I know that will not change your life because you know that name. But, it is a very fasinating story.

As a matter of fact, if you would go to Egypt today, and take a little plane trib 400 hundred miles south of Cairo, down to the Valley of the Kings, you would go arcross the

Nile river and ^{you} would see one of the most amazing sights of the ancient world. A funeral Temple named ~~Mat~~ ^{Mat}-sagg-sut. I understand it is a huge place. And it bears the name: Queen ~~Mat~~ ^{Mat}-sagg-sut. I am told that it is beautiful beyond discription. And ~~g~~ this is the daughter of Pharaoh.

Why and how did she get a funeral temple? Waasn't that reserved for the Kings? ^{Yes} ~~How~~ ^{then} did she get it? Well, she ruled Egypt. That is how. Let me tell you the story.

Her husbands name was Thud-~~not~~ ^{Mose} the Second. Isn't that exciting? Moses the Second... Did you hear that? Thut-Moses. You see, Moses' name follows a line that is going on in Pharaoh's court. Now, watch this story.

Her Father, Thut-mose the First who started the dynasty give her -- his half brother ^{As A Husband}. He didn't have a son, himself. So, he gave her his half brother, Thut-mose the Second. Who dies after a very short reign. Leaving ~~Mat~~ ^{Mat}-sagg-sut with no child. She knew right away that her position was threatened. With no child, she couldn't continue the dynasty. And some other dynasty would rise up and over power her and she would be out.

So, she put two and two together. During the short marriage that she had with Thut-Moses the Second, he by the way of a harem woman had a child. And before he died, he designated that boy, of the harem wife, to be the Pharaoh of Egypt.

Mat-sagg-sut could hardly take it. It wasn't her son. It was the harem woman's son. And so he named him Thut-Moses the Third. WHO DO YOU SUPPOSE IS THE PHARAOH THAT HATED MOSES? THUT-MOSES THE THIRD. Both of them born almost at the same time. Grewing up together in the same court. Both of them having the prospect of being Pharaoh.

Queen Mat-sgg-sut ruled Egypt with an iron hand. She ruled for about 20 years until this son of the harem wife over threw her power. And he hated Moses with a passion. The Bible even refers to it. After Moses had killed that Egyptian, listen that Pharaoh hated him, and he knew he had to leave. Because the Pharaoh had his chance to get rid of Moses.

So, you see, it was Queen ^{Hut} ~~Mat~~ ^{Hut}-sagg-sut who took Moses and made him her son. And she was grooming him to be Pharaoh over all of Egypt. That is why she even gave him the name Moses.

Oh, dear friends, this is a fantastic story. Because when you read in Vs 24 when he had grown up...The original Greek has more power to it. It says, literally,

"after becoming great"Maybe it does mean "grown up". But, I would rather just take it literally. Moses ^{after} ~~after~~ becoming great...

Stephen in Acts chapter 7 referred to Moses' "greatness and power". He was a mighty man in Egypt. And he was being groomed to be Pharaoh.

But, notice, it was by faith...the faith put there by his parents, that when He did become great, he still "refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

Yet, he had all the opportunities. All the advantages. He could have ruled Egypt. He could have argued. This is God's will. God has placed me here to be the ruler of the greatest empire in the world at that time.

Oh, No...As a child his parents instilled in him that he was to take his people out of Egypt. I believe that is the only way the story makes any sense. And then Moses knew, all during his life, that in spite of the way that Hat-sagp-sut was grooming him, "HE REFUSED TO BE CALLED THE SON OF PHARAOH'S DAUGHTER." He wanted nothing to do with it.

I ask you, How can a person make that decision? How could you and I make that decision? If the whole world and all of its wealth was offered to us, and we knew that we could have it all, and we could argue.."this is God's plan"..what would cause you to refuse it all? only one thing: And that is if the Word of God is built into your life and you know it is wrong. I tell you that that is one of the greatest single decision ever made in human history. The day that Moses said: I DON'T WANT TO BE PHARAOH OF EGYPT. He refused to be called Pharaoh's daughter.

(2) The second thing that I believe is a part of this commitment is that it was based upon the relationship that he had as a Jew --- ^{refused} ~~and~~ he refused to have as an Egyptian.

The word, "refuse", by the way, in Vs 24 could also be translated "to deny, to reject, to disown." Hay! He made it clear. It wasn't just "no thank you. I would rather not."

I mean, he disowned everything. He deny it. He identified himself as a Jew. And it almost cost him his life. God had to intervene. Because the other Pharaoh hated him. And time ^{would} ~~would~~ pass for that Pharaoh to die.

(3) The third way that I see the example of Moses is in Vs 25. And that is in the choice He made. I am some times amazed as I read these words. It is almost like you have to go to Egypt to believe this. Vs 25 and 26 says: "Choosing ^{rather} ~~rather~~ to endure ill-treatment with the people of God, ^{rather} than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin; considering the reproach of Christ, ^{rather} ~~rather~~ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt.

Now

Now, I believe in this choose that he made. ~~And~~ there were three things involved in this choose.

(1) ONE, suffering. It was no easy choice. The BAible says in Vs 25.. "Choosing rather"//. Rather than being Pharaoh, he choose to be "Ill-treatment with the people of God." Notice, it wasn't the people of ^{Israel} Egypt. It was the people of God. That is a very important expression. It is referring back, once again, to God's plan for those people. Not seimpley the Israelities. But they were the people of God. God's own plan and purpose. And He had been choosen by God. And he knew it.

And I ask you, How did he know it? No one in those classes in Egypt were teaching Him that. It had to be his ^{parents} mother. His mother who instilled God's plan into his life. And so he choose rather to endure or suffer ill-treatment. He knew that the Jews were being ill-treated. And he knew that if he identified with them he would be ill-treated, also. But, he was willing to do it.

(2) The second part of this choice regards sin. The last part of Vs 25 says "he choose this rather than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin."

Now, I believe that most of us read this wrong. The "pleasures of sin" in this day and age means "to fulfil your sensual appitites - eat, drink, and be merry."

That is not the issue. In fact, the word "pleasures" is not even that word. It is literally the word for "enjoyment." And the idea in the Greek is to take "whole of seomthing." It refers to the advantage of having it for yourself.

The point here is being Pharaoh. He made a decision. And it would have been sin for him to be Pharaoh. And so he refused it.

I ask you again. HOW DID HE MAKE THAT DECISION?

We know that later in his life, God revealed much to him. BUT HOW DID HE KNOW IT AT THIS POINT IN HIS LIFE? Only one way. His mother was instilling those principles into his life. Principles that would guide him in making the right choose. Good chooses instead of ^{enjoying} ~~enjoying~~ the passing pleasures of sin. It is always sin to do something that God says not to do. ALWAYS...

(3) The third thing is in regard to security. He made a choice that effected his security. Many, many times we make a decision for Christ that will effect our security.

According to Vs 25 he "considered the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt."

I couldn't believe that statement. For many years I had trouble with it. Probable because I didn't understand what was happening. The key here is to understand the wealth of Egypt. The treasures and wealth of ancient Egypt, I am told was beyond explanation. Tremendous wealth far beyond one's imagination. And Moses, the Bible says, choose rather to have the reproach of Messiah on his life than to have all that wealth in Egypt.

And I think how ridiculous is many of our decisions. Especially when we put our trust and confidence in a few simple things that are of value to us. But, nothing in comparison to what faced Moses. And we make a decision to enjoy the things rather than to be committed to Christ and to suffer his reproach.

What does it mean to "consider the reproach of Messiah?" The Messiah received the reproach of the entire world. Because they rejected Him. They didn't want His message.

And the Bible speaks of believers bearing His reproach. When you share the Gospel of the good news of Jesus Christ, there are times when you too will bear ~~the~~ reproach for the name of Christ.

Moses knew that if he would take God's plan that his parents had instilled within him, during those early years, he knew that he would suffer the reproach, the same reproach of the coming Messiah.

But, I ask you...where did he read about the reproach of the Messiah? Again/...coming into my mind is the teaching of those parents. How did they know about the Messiah and His plan? Well, God had revealed it to them. And these parents instilled it within Moses.

Remember, there wasn't any Bible at this time in history. Moses was the author of the first five books. Yet, they had confidence that the Messiah was going to come. And that he would suffer reproach. And Moses, therefore, made a decision.

I am willing to take the reproach of Messiah's plan for my life, and my trust and confidence is in him, rather than all the treasures of Egypt. And there was millions, and millions of dollars worth of treasure in Egypt. But, he refused to take it.

(4) Forth, and final, in looking at the example of Moses, I see it not only in the circumstances of his birth...not only in the commitment he made in refusing to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, and in his choice to suffer ill-treatment rather than to enjoy

enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, but I see it, also, in the confidence he had,
personally, in his life.

You see, dear friends, this is the heart of this whole passage/.. The confidence that he had, personally, in his life.

The last part of Vs 26 says "for he was looking to the reward." Now, what does this mean? It means that he was ~~looking into~~ ^{Looking out} the distance for something that was coming.

Paul says in Philippians 3:13 "forgetting what lies behind and reaching forward to ~~the~~ what lies ahead. I press on toward the goal for the prize of the upward call of God in Christ Jesus."

That is the meaning of that phrase in Vs 26. You see, Moses turned his back on what lay behind. And he looked forward to something that was in the future. AND what was it? THE REWARD....Look back at chapter 10 verse 35...It says, "do not throw away your confidence which has a great reward."

It means "to give wages back to you." It means that Moses knew that one day, even though he denied all the treasurers of Egypt, the reward that he would get would be far greater. And he looked forward to that reward.

I believe Paul said the same thing in 2 Corinthians 4:17 and 18. He said, "For momentary light affliction is producing for us an eternal weight of glory far beyond all comparison. 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."

DO YOU KNOW WHY THIS IS SUCH A GREAT EXAMPLE OF FAITH? Because the thing that Moses had his eyes on was not the wealth, and the popularity, and the fame, of this world, but on that reward that God would give him some day.

That is real faith. You see, our eyes should not be on the things of this life, but on the things of God. The things of this world are passing away, the things of God will last forever. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there is where your heart will be also.

Let's close in prayer