

Title: Seeing the Unseen. 11

Text: Hebrews 11:27-29

We want to continue to examine the Faith of Moses. Our subject ~~this~~
^{tonight} ~~morning~~ is: SEEING THE UNSEEN.

Take your Bibles and turn with me to Hebrews chapter 11. Hebrews chapter 11 beginning with Vs 27...

(READ Heb. 11:27-29)

Prayer

We are need faith. There is no question about it. We are going through a lot of experiences. They are different from others sitting beside us. Or from those sitting around. But we all need faith. The right kind of faith, ~~is~~. Not the kind of faith that whistles in the dark. Not the kind of faith that is trying to believe something when all the facts are against you. But a faith that really knows what God's Word says. And trust it, no matter what. No matter what conflicts or pressures or ^{Trials} ~~trials~~ or test may come.

Now, Moses went through a lot. But the Bible puts him up as an example of Faith. If you look back and study the life of Moses in the O.T. you will find that he is a man with many weakness and fears, yet God put him up as a man of faith. He was a great leader. And God ~~manfully~~ used him. Yet, he had many weaknesses, jsut like you and I. And the life of Moses encourages me. And I hope it encourages you. There is hope for all of us when we look at Moses. A man who was raised up as an example of faith. And yet a man who had a lot of problems in his life.

Now, we have studied, so far, four things about the example of Moses. We have looked at the circumstance of his birth. Seeing how his ^{Parents} ~~mother~~ ~~was~~ ^{were} so vitally used. Pouring into his life the revelation of God's Word and his promises.

We saw it, also, in the commitment he made. Vs 24 tells us that he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter. Which meant he was rejecting the throne of Egypt. She was grooming him to be Pharaoh. *But, turned it down.*

We see it, also, in the choice he made. Vs 25 and 26 tells us that he choice to suffer rather than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin. Meaning disobedience by becoming Pharaoh. It, also, says that he rejected the riches of Egypt. He turned it all down because of the confidence that he had. *And* we see that at the end of Vs 26 for it says that he was looking to the reward that ~~he~~ he would have one day with God.

(5) Now, number five, we see his faith, also, in his confrontation with Pharaoh. As we know from the book of Exodus there is a lot about this. *But,* here, in Hebrews it is summarized. Vs 27 says "By Faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is unseen."

I see a lot of things for my own life in this. And I would like to share with you two things from this verse.

(1) First of all, the results. In his confrontation with Pharaoh, these results came through faith. That is the most obvious things there. By faith all of this happened. And when I look back at Exodus and remember ~~the~~ *those* 10 plagues and remember the confrontation that Moses had with Pharaoh, it is amazing that that is summarized so simply. By Faith he didn't fear the wrath of the King.

He had every reason to be afraid. Both from the stand point of his past, and from the standpoint of the Pharaoh's own attitudes toward Him. He had every reason to be afraid. Yet, the results in his life came because he believed God. He had faith.

And I realize that God has not given me the spirit of fear. But of power and love and a sound mind. And if I have fear in my life, it is because it comes from me and not from God ~~the~~ *the* Holy Spirit, who is greater than he who is in the world. God's spirit is in me. And all the results that are good results that will come in confrontation and conflict with the enemy in my life are going to come because of faith. Not because of my own efforts..

And if you are still trying to defeat the enemy, in your life, save your energy. The Bible teaches us to believe that God is able to give us the victory. And Moses certainly had to believe that as he went into that majesty count room of Pharaoh. And had to tell him that we are going to leave Egypt. And God is going to send plagues on you. And each time, Moses must have wondered...What is God going to do?

And I think the whole thing is amusing when you think about it. Because God continued to test Moses and his faith.

Hebrews 11:27 just says "By Faith". But written between the lines from the book of Exodus is much insight. For example. God told him to throw his staff down in front of Pharaoh. And it would become a snake and convince Pharaoh. And so he did it. But Pharaoh called all his magicians together and they threw down their staff and they became snakes. And I can't help but believe at that point Moses was punching Pharaoh and say, "What do we do now?"

When you think about it, God continued to test Moses and his faith to really believe. That God would do exactly what he said.

Now, there were basically two results according to Vs 27.

(1) One, deals with leaving Egypt. It says, "By faith, he left Egypt." Now, what does that mean? The word "left" means "left." He completely abandoned Egypt. With all of her wealth and prosperity.

(2) And the second thing that was a result of faith was in not fearing the wrath of the king. You see, the word "wrath" means that Pharaoh could have blew his stack at any time and have Moses killed. And the Bible says that Moses did not fear him.

Now, how could a man go into the presence of one who hates him not ~~fear~~ ^{fear} for his life? How? How could he have the courage to come up to Pharaoh and say, "IF you don't do this, God will do this to you?"

There is only one way. And that is if he believed the revelation that God gave to him. He had to believe God's Word.

And I see in my own life that the only way I am going to overcome fear, is by believing God's Word. Fear in any area of life.

Fear in terms of what God is bringing to my life, fear in terms of witnessing. What ever it is. Fear in terms of what the future wholes.... everything. If you want to eliminate fear, it is going to come because you have faith and confidence in what God is able to do. Not in yourself.

(6) Now, the six area in which I see faith in the example of Moses is also in the consecration in the Passover. Vs 28 says: "By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that he who destroyed the first-born might not touch them."

Now, what do I learn about Moses' faith in the consecration of the Passover feast which is mentioned in Exodus chapter 12?

(1) Well, I learn, first of all, that his response to God's instruction was a deminstration of faith. He responded in detail. And told the people to do it. And yet in reality he had not seen how it was going to happen, or how it was going to turn out. God told him to have this meal. To take this lamb. And they were to kill this lamb and take the blood and put it on the door post. And the death angel when it passed over the home, the first born would not be killed. And that night they were to keep their shoes on their feet because they were going to leave Egypt befor midnight.

Now, he had no way of understanding that. ~~Because Moses has harden his heart after every plague.~~ Yet, God says it is going to happen, do it. So he went through all of this instruction.

You can imigine what the people thought. They are going to have a meal that they have never had before. Some kind of celebration. And we ^{are} ~~are~~ going to leave Egypt. They had to do it by faith. That was the only way. His response was to God's specific instructions.

Now, learn a principle here. That we never have the faith to act in the crisis until we specifical obey the instructions of God. That is always true. When the crisis hits you...there is no way to deminstrate faith and confidence in God unless there is a pattern of obedience and responses to what God has instructed and commanded. If you want to have faith in the hour of need, there must be a pattern of obedience to God's Word. His specific instructions believing that what God's has said will come true.

(2) Secondly, I also see in this consecration of the Passover that the result was that the first-born's life was spared. The death angel passed over according to this verse. And the first-born was not touched. He was not destroyed. *He did not die*

I would like you to turn back to Exodus chapter 12. I would like you to understand who that destroyer really was. Exodus chapter 12, please. WHO WAS THAT DESTROYER? I want to begin with Vs 12. And please just follow along as I read., and see if you can figure out who the destroyer is.....

(READ VS 12-13; 23)

Now, here in Vs 23 it says that the Lord will not allow the destroyer to come in to your houses to smite you.

Yet, earlier he said that it was the Lord who would do the destroying. Is This a contradiction?

Vs 27..."That you shall say, 'It is a Passover sacrifice to the Lord, who passed over'....Now, which is it? A destroyer he sent, or is it the Lord himself?

Continue Vs 27,...."who passed over the houses of the sons of Israel in Egypt, when He smote (again it seems to be the Lord) ...he smote the Egyptians but spared our homes, And the people bowed and worshipped."

Vs 29....:"Now it came about at midnight that the Lord struck all the first-born." WHO? The Lord or the destroyer mentioned in Vs 23?

Well, it says both. He struck all the first-born in the land of Egypt, from the first-born of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the first-born of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the first-born of cattle,."

Now, you have heard it said, I am sure if you know anything about the book of Exodus, that the death-angel passed over. Now, that is not what I read in Exodus 12. I read that the Lord passed over. And I read, also, that he sent a destroyer. Which is described as being Himself. I suggest to you that this is the same person that, also, appeared to Moses in the burning brush which the Bible calls the "angel of Jehovah". And in the next breath says that God was speaking to Moses.

Now, how could the angel of Jehovah be an angel and also be God? The Word "angle" simple means "a messenger." The messenger of Jehovah is also called Jehovah.

In Isa 44:6 it says, "that the Lord, Jehovah, is the King of Israel. And His redeemer is Jehovah of host." Jehovah has a redeemer called Jehovah.

And I tell you that this is none other than Jesus Christ, himself. It is a pre-Bethlehem appearance of Jesus Christ. The one who has always existed. The eternal son. He is the one who is the destroyer. And what a fantastic concept. He who passed over the home and said, "When I see that blood on the doorpost, I will pass over you." It is the same one of which Paul spoke when he said in I Cor 5:7, "Christ is our passover." He was sacrificed for us. He also became that blood.

He who judges, also, becomes the substitute. And by the way, Jesus died on the cross. But, he is also going to be the judge in the future. Christ is the judge. He performs the judgement of the Heavenly Father.

In John 5 it says "the Father has committed all judgment unto the Son."

And he who is the judge is also the one who paid for your sin and mine.

Back to Hebrews 11 verse 29. I just thought you might want to know that. It was a freebee. It didn't cost you anything.

(7) The seventh way in which we see faith in the life of Moses is in the crossing of the Red Sea...Vs 29.

Now, again, if you read that story in the book of Exodus you are really not convinced that Moses is a giant of faith. Do you remember what he said? I mean the children of Israel have their backs up against the Red Sea. And the Egyptians are coming at them. And you never saw such a display of courage in all of your life.

Moses stood up before all the people, as they are complaining and whinning, and said: "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord."

Do you know what that means:? "Lord, do something quick. We are in trouble!"

You don't think that is what it means:?.....Do you remember what God said to him? "GET GOING MOSES."

"Well, there is water in the way." And the water is deep. "

"Get going Moses!.

Now, it doesn't actually say ~~but~~ but I believe, based on the story and God saying to Moses, "Get going" that Moses had to walk up to the edge of that water and be the first one to put his foot in the water.

Can't you just see it?...Big strong Moses! Listen, God tested him all the way. Stand still and just watch God do something....Please Lord....

But, I believe God made him walk right out there and put his foot in the water. And then it happened. "GET MOVING MOSES!"

Boy, I think how often I am that way. Instead of exercising faith and confidence in God, instead of realizing that God is going to test my faith, all the way up to the point of what is going to happen, and not really knowing how it is going to turn out.

There is a blessedness, by the way, to uncertainty. Especially when ~~when~~ you are trusting in God. It is terrible. It is frightening, when you are not trusting in the Lord. And there is also confussing because you don't know if you are doing the right thing.

But, there is a blessedness in uncertainty. You don't know how it is going to turn out. But you are going to exerise faith in what God directs.

And the sad thing is..that often when we are tested we are not willing to take that first step. We will not put our foot in the water.

Now, I must say a word about that phrase "Red Sea." If you haven't heard this yet, the day will come when someone will say to you that there is no such thing as the Red Sea. In the book of Exodus where this is dealt with the Hebrew text says the "Reed Sea." And that is exactly right. It is a sea of reeds. But the problem is that some people believe that because it has "reeds" that means that the water level was very shallow. And some people teach that what actually happened was that a wind came up and kind-off blew the shallow water away. And they walked across on dry land. And they THOUGHT that it was a *miracle.*

Now, if you haven't heard that, let me tell you that that is the most popular view of this.

Unless, you believe the Bible is the word of God. Now, the think that bothers me about that little wind thing just blowing the water back, is how in the world do you drown the Egyptian army in it?....

I mean, I just can't follow that thinking. How do you drown the Egyptian army. And by the way..these reeds are found along rivers that are quite deep. And they are found alongs seas that are deeper than deep...And this is true today in Egypt.

No...It doesn't make it shallow because it is called "THE REED SEA." So, don't let anyone trouble you on that idea.

The Bible teaches that in that Sea Phaaroh and his army perished. Now, the Bible tells us that it was by faith. But I want to ask you another question. Vs 29 says "By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though they were passing through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned."

Did you notice that Vs 29 says "By faith they." But, wait a minute. Didn't Israel according to the Bible not have faith? Didn't we learn eariler in Hebrews that those unbelieving Jews died in the wilderness? So, who is it refering to?

Well, some say that it is referring only to the faithful few who really did believe. That would mean Moses, Ararrn, Josaphy, Calibe, and maybe a few others. But, I remaind you that Moses didn't go into the Promise Land either. But he had faith on this occassion. Later on he blow it. And because of a certain act God would not allow him to enter the promised land.

The point is: that only at this time there was faith.

You say, "Well, the waters went back. Wouldn't you have faith to cross?" I don't know. You must think about that for a moment.

All the water is piled up like a wall on both sides of them. Don't you think it might have entered their heads, while they are crossing, what if God let's go....We will all drown...

No! I think it is "the they" on this occasion. The people of Israel exercised faith in God. Moses certainly leading them. And they crossed the Red Sea. And they got to the other side.

The ~~Egyptians~~^{Egyptians} also started across. AND PLEASE LEARN A PRINCIPLE HERE. This really spoke to my heart. Maybe I am reading into it. But I don't think so I learn here that faith is not merely daring to do something. You see, the Egyptians they dared to cross, also. But that was not faith. It was presumption. And in the mist of that God brought the waters back and drown them.

Faith is always man's responds to God's revelation. Or, it isn't true faith. Boy, let me tell you. That is hard for me to learn. Because I am always trying to drum up faith...I am trying to prove to others that some how I have faith in God. Faith is always man's responds to what God has said. Or, it is not true faith at all.

The Egyptians in a sense had faith from a human point of view. At least they dared to do it. But it was presumption. As the facts proved.

And you and I also, when we talk about having faith, let's make sure we are believing what God has said.,Not our own desires or plans.

Let's close in Prayer