

THE STORY OF NOSES

PART 2: PREPARATION

RICHARD BROWN

¹ Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman, ² and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. ³ But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him.



⁵ Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river-bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her female slave to get it. ⁶ She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. 'This is one of the Hebrew babies,' she said.

⁷ Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, 'Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?'



⁸ 'Yes, go,' she answered. So the girl went and got the baby's mother. ⁹ Pharaoh's daughter said to her, 'Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you.' So the woman took the baby and nursed him. ¹⁰ When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, 'I drew him out of the water.'



¹¹ One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labour. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. ¹² Looking this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³ The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, 'Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?'



¹⁴ The man said, 'Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?' Then Moses was afraid and thought, 'What I did must have become known.'
¹⁵ When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well.



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. ¹⁷ Some shepherds came along and drove them away, but Moses got up and came to their rescue and watered their flock.
¹⁸ When the girls returned to Reuel their father, he asked them, 'Why have you returned so early today?'



¹⁹ They answered, 'An Egyptian rescued us from the shepherds. He even drew water for us and watered the flock.' ²⁰ 'And where is he?' Reuel asked his daughters. 'Why did you leave him? Invite him to have something to eat.' ²¹ Moses agreed to stay with the man, who gave his daughter Zipporah to Moses in marriage.²² Zipporah gave birth to a son, and Moses named him Gershom, saying, 'I have become a foreigner in a foreign land.'



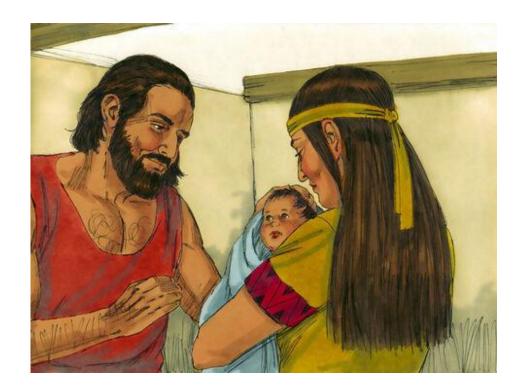
PREPARATION

- The Faith of Moses' Parents
- The Faith of Moses himself
- The Faith of Christian parents



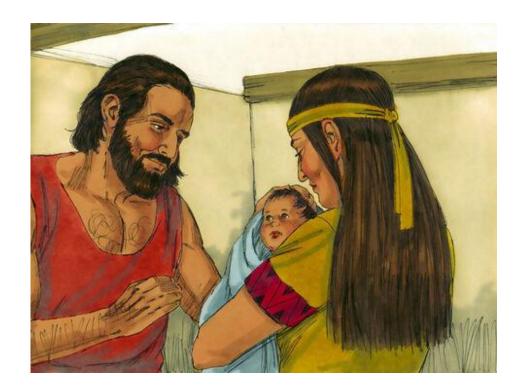


- Moses' parents were two ordinary people from the tribe of Levi
- The tribe of Levi at this time were under a curse (Genesis 34)
- They are chosen by God to give birth to a saviour.
- God can use us all, despite our background or circumstances



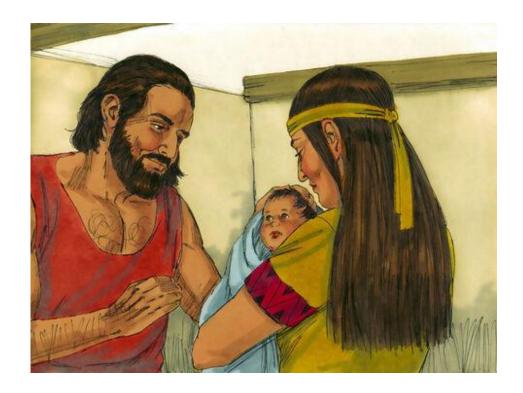


- Moses had an elder brother and sister, Aaron and Miriam
- These had not been under the threat of death
- Pharaoh's decree to kill Hebrew baby boys seems to coincide with Moses' birth
- Satan will always try to destroy the purposes of God





- She saw he was a "fine child"
- Acts 7:20 says: "they saw he was no ordinary child"
- Amram and Jochebed see something in Moses that produces a seed of faith
- Hebrews 11:23 "By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months... because they saw he was no ordinary child"



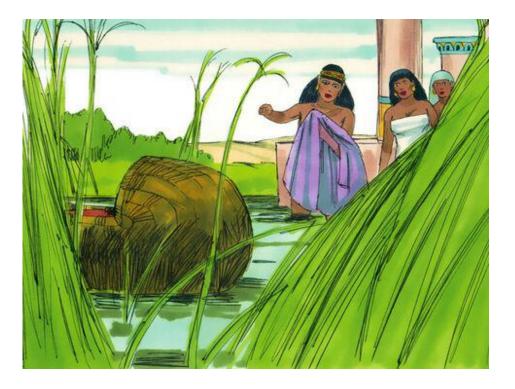


- After three months Moses' parents hide their child in the Nile
- Moses could not escape the Nile, but his parents did all they could to ensure his safety.
- They prepared a waterproof basket, placed him somewhere prominent, and watched and prayed over him.
- In the same way our children cannot escape the world they are born into.





- Moses is rescued by Pharaoh's daughter who then pays his mother to look after him
- No parent would take such dangerous action without faith in God.
- The name Moses:
 - In Egyptian it means "son; begotten";
 - in Hebrew it means "The one who draws out"



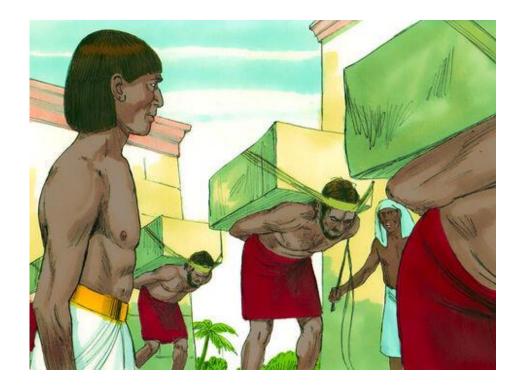


- Moses remained with his mother for at least 4 years, possibly longer whilst being weened.
- He was most likely taught about his family history.
- The time eventually came when his parents had to let him go. Now they have to trust his life to God.





- Acts 7:22 tells us that Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.
- One day Moses went out to where his people were and watched them.
- What prompted Moses to do this?



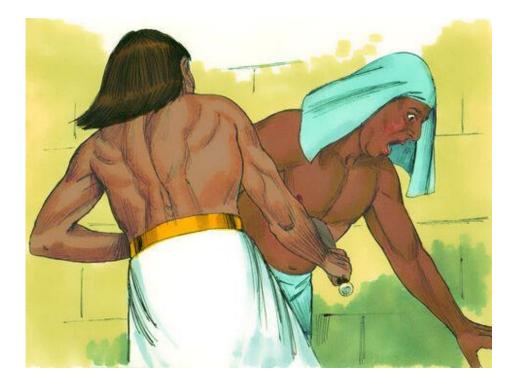


- Acts 7:23 says: It came to his heart to visit his brothers.
- Could this is God starting to move Moses' heart towards serving his purposes?
- Hebrews 11:24-26 says: By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.



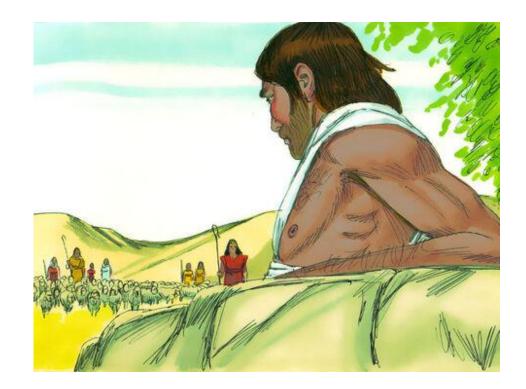


- Moses decides to no longer be associated with the oppressor and instead stands with the oppressed.
- He chooses to leave behind all the treasures and pleasures of Egypt.
- Note, at this time neither Moses nor the Hebrews knew that he had been called to lead his people.
- God has it all planned out perfectly





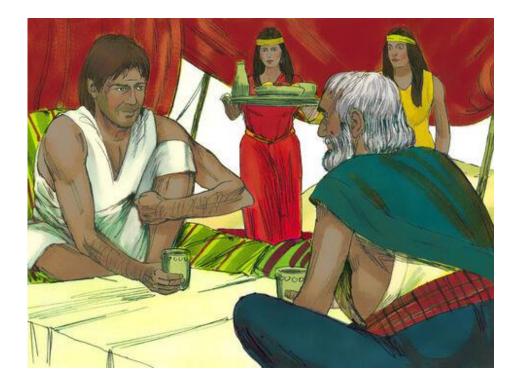
- Moses flees to Midian
- Midian was one of Abraham's sons from his wife Katurah who he married after the death of Sarah (Genesis 23)
- Even though the Midianites were generally considered enemies of Israel, Jethro was godly man and priest.
- This is where Moses was to receive his training to prepare him for God's service.





THE FAITH OF CHRISTIAN PARENTS

- How did Moses' parents feel as they watched their son walk away into the palace of Egypt?
- Maybe they were relieved that his life had been preserved, that he was now safe
- Maybe they wondered whether he would ever become the man that God had purposed him to become.





THE FAITH OF CHRISTIAN PARENTS

- God always has a heart for the prodigals
- Moses was never out of God's reach, and at the right time he speaks to the heart and things start to happen
- Seeds of faith sown will bear fruit in its time.

