

Raising a Moses

Heb 11:23-29

23 By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command.

24 By faith Moses, when he became of age, 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 passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to 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 By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29 By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned. NKJV

Every time I preach on Moses I give you all a little test. Do you know the name of Moses' mother? Jochebed which means "Jehovah is her glory". She must have been an incredible woman. She lived in incredible times. Her people were oppressed by the Egyptian government where the Hebrews lived.

And the king had made a decree that the Hebrews were to raise no more Hebrew boys. So if you had a baby boy, you were commanded to throw him in the river. Ex 1:22 So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive." NKJV

Let us look at this incredible woman and her husband Amram.

- I. They had faith to deny the governments wicked laws.
 - A. Governments can be both good and bad.
 - 1. God established governments to restrict the wickedness of men.
 - a. Rom 13:1-7 Let every soul be subject to the governing authorities. For there is no authority except from God, and the authorities that exist are appointed by God. 2 Therefore whoever resists the authority resists the ordinance of God, and those who resist will bring judgment on themselves. 3 For rulers are not a terror to good works, but to evil. Do you want to be unafraid of the authority? Do what is good, and you will have praise from the same. 4 For he is God's minister to you for good. But if you do evil, be afraid; for he does not bear the sword in vain; for he is God's minister, an avenger

to execute wrath on him who practices evil. 5 Therefore you must be subject, not only because of wrath but also for conscience' sake. 6 For because of this you also pay taxes, for they are God's ministers attending continually to this very thing. 7 Render therefore to all their due: taxes to whom taxes are due, customs to whom customs, fear to whom fear, honor to whom honor. NKJV

2. When Joseph and his brethren first came to Egypt, they were favorably treated.
 3. They were given the best land and given honor.
 4. But in a period of a few hundred years that all changed.
 5. Now they were persecuted and despised.
- B. Even good governments can allow or mandate wicked practices.
1. Every government is made up of good and evil people.
 - a. This does not only apply to the executive or legislative but the judicial also.
 2. And sorry to say that good does not always win out in government.
- C. But Amram and Jochebed did not obey the king's command.
1. They were to throw their infant boys into the river.
 2. To not do so could mean death for them and their other children.
 3. Whenever man's laws are contrary to God's laws, God's have the most authority.
 4. Acts 5:26-30 26 Then the captain went with the officers and brought them without violence, for they feared the people, lest they should be stoned. 27 And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest asked them, 28 saying, "Did we not strictly command you not to teach in this name? And look, you have filled Jerusalem with your doctrine, and intend to bring this Man's blood on us!" 29 But Peter and the other apostles answered and said: "We ought to obey God rather than men.
 5. Jesus said, "28 And do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul. But rather fear Him who is able to destroy both soul and body in hell. 29 Are not two sparrows sold for a copper coin? And not one of them falls to the ground apart from your Father's will. 30 But the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 Do not fear therefore; you are of more value than many sparrows." Matt 10:28-31 NKJV
- II. They had faith enough to teach him contrary to the society in which they lived.

- A. Even though Moses was trained in all the wisdom of Egypt yet when he wrote the book of Genesis, he used none of that worldly wisdom.
- B. The Egyptians had it's own worship system of hundreds and thousands of gods, but Moses true to his mother's teach spoke of only one God, Mono-theism.
- C. Today many religious people worship a schizophrenic god who tells one group of people one thing and another group something entirely different.
 - 1. Have they ever thought of how stupid that is.
- D. Or what if Jochebed had said I am not going to force my views on my son, I will let him decide for himself.
 - 1. Don't worry mother, that will work, he will choose for himself, but it with be what his friends, teachers, the entertainment industry, the news media force on him.
 - 2. I am sure that for Moses, the teachings of his mother were so contrary to the things he was being taught as Egypt trained him to be the Pharaoh.
 - 3. Jochebed, I am sure, understood that she was fighting an uphill battle.
 - 4. But it was a battle that she could not loose, because it was for the very soul of her blessed son.
 - 5. And although she did not understand it at that time, if ever in this world, on her hung the fate millions of her fellow Hebrews.
 - 6. Do we have the faith to go with what God said rather than what our society says is important.
 - 7. Or is it easier to just go with the flow and not fight for what we know to be right.

III. They had faith enough to tell him who he really was.

- A. Sometime when he got older she had to tell him who he really was.
 - 1. He was not the child of Pharaoh but a child of Abraham, the friend of God.
 - 2. She told him that God had a great purpose for him and his people.
 - 3. She told him the history of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, and how that God had spoken to them to call them out of the world to be a people for Himself.
 - 4. She told him how that God had destroyed the world with a great flood and how God had made covenants with His people because He loved them.
- B. Mothers, do you take the time to tell your children who they are?
 - 1. I will never forget the day that Victoria came home from school in like the

1st grade to tell me that she had learned that people were animals.

- a. It didn't take me long to get that one straight.
- b. Children may act like wild animals but they are not.

2. Do you tell your children that God made them just the way that they are and that He loves them and has a plan for their lives.
3. Do you tell them that God wants them to be special to Him and be dedicated to Him above everything else in their lives.
4. Mothers, fathers, if you don't tell them, who will?
5. It won't be the school system.
6. The SS teacher does not have enough time.

IV. They had faith to teach him the traditions of their faith.

A. She told him about God.

1. What a great privilege.
2. And I don't think she waited until he was 13.
3. Paul wrote to the young pastor Timothy and said, "when I call to remembrance the genuine faith that is in you, which dwelt first in your grandmother Lois and your mother Eunice, and I am persuaded is in you also." 2 Tim 1:5-6 NKJV
4. And, "And that from a child thou hast known the holy scriptures, which are able to make thee wise unto salvation through faith which is in Christ Jesus." 2 Tim 3:15 KJV

V. They had faith to commit him to God's care and guidance.

A. They may be your children, but you cannot keep them.

1. First you are not going to live long enough, or at least you hope not.
2. They say that by the time a child is 4 years old their entire temperament is set and will not change much after that.
3. And by the time they are 13, they are not nearly as interested in what you have to say, but you need to say it any way.

B. We do not hear much more about Moses' parents but by the time he was 40 they were no doubt gone, remember he had an older brother and sister.

C. And for sure when he came to deliver the children of Israel when he was 80, his parents were no longer alive.

D. But what they had done was set.

1. God would use this Moses to deliver over 2 million people from the slavery of the mightiest power on earth.
2. Through him God would destroy the worship system of the Egyptians, showing them that their gods were no gods at all.
3. Through Moses God would destroy the greatest military power on earth.
4. Through Moses God would give His law, and establish a worship system that would last for over a thousand years, and would still exist today, if they had a temple.

God blessed Amram and Jochebed greatly for their faithfulness. Because they had FAITH.

Faith is the substance of things hoped for, and the evidence of things not seen.

Are you passing your faith on to your children?

No it may not be easy, they may rebel, but that does not alleviate your responsibility.

Step up to the challenge today.

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In the early days of the nineteenth century, men were following with bated breath the march of Napoleon and waiting with feverish impatience for the latest news of the wars. And all the while, in their own homes, babies were being born.

Just think of some of those babies. In one year, lying midway between Trafagar and Waterloo, there stole into the world a host of well-known men! During that year, 1809, Mr. Gladstone was born at Liverpool; Alfred Tennyson drew his first breath at the Somersby rectory; and Oliver Wendell Holmes made his initial appearance in Massachusetts. On the very self-same day of that self-same year, Abraham Lincoln made his debut in Old Kentucky. Music was enriched by the advent of Frederick Chopin at Warsaw and Felix Mendolssohn at Hamburg.

But, nobody thought of babies. Everybody was thinking of battles. Yet, viewing that age in the truer perspective which the years enable us to command, we may well ask ourselves which of the battles of 1809 mattered more than the babies of 1809. When a wrong wants righting, or a work wants doing, or a truth wants preaching, or a continent wants opening, God sends a baby into the world to do it. This is why, long, long ago, a Babe was born at Bethlehem.

It was at a wayside inn that God began making the world all over again. Momentous things were set in motion at that inn at Bethlehem.

In 1809 these things also happened

remembering Whitefield was part of Massachusetts until 1820

- * Abraham Lincoln born
- * Edgar Allan Poe born
- * Oliver Wendell Holmes born
- * Alfred Lord Tennyson born
- * Kit Carson born
- * Ralph Waldo Emerson born
- * Creation of the territory of the Illinois.
- * Boston IRISH CHARITABLE SOCIETY incorporated
- * Ultraviolet radiation is discovered
- * Food canning developed
- * W. Irving writes Rip Van Winkle
- * Rebels fight Spanish in Florida
- * Robert Fulton patents the steamboat

- * wearing masks at balls was forbidden in Boston
- * Bible Society of Maine was founded
- * Brunswick Cotton Manufactory Company, built
- * first Dam & Canal built in Lewiston

- * Charles Darwin born
- * Hannibal Hamlin born
- * Cyrus McCormick born
- * Felix Mendelssohn born
- * William Ewart Gladstone born
- * Frederic Chopin born
- * Meriwether Lewis died
- * Thomas Paine died
- * Joseph Haydn dies
- * Calais incorporated
- * Stuben incorporated
- * Lincoln County jail built in Wiscasset
- * James Madison replaces Jefferson as president
- * Napoleon romps through Europe
- * Beethoven composes Emperor Concerto
- * Independence of Ecuador
- * Fort Edgecomb built