

## The Exodus and the Advent: Lesson # 3

### Exodus chapter 2: “Moses – God’s Man” (PP 242-251)

Review: God’s covenant people are blessed in Egypt – but a change in leadership brings a change in the situation. God’s people became slaves, which caused them to rely more deeply on God.

#### Exodus 2.1-10...Moses and Females...

Into the atmosphere of slavery, death decrees, and misery God sends a baby – powerless, helpless, fully dependent on God for his life.

The role of women in this story seems to be very important. Why would God use women to play such a vital role?

Jochbed had saved her son’s life by transferring her rights as mother to Pharaoh’s daughter. Now she received him back, on loan and became a hired nurse for his years of infancy.

The age that Moses was with his biological family is not stated in Scripture, but most commentators believe that 2-3 years was sufficient, but PP 244 reveals that it was actually twelve years.

#### Exodus 2.11-14...Moses and Fighting...

The elders of Israel were taught by angels that the time for their deliverance was near, and that Moses was the man whom God would employ to accomplish this work. Angels instructed Moses also that Jehovah had chosen him to break the bondage of His people. He, supposing that they were to obtain their freedom by force of arms, expected to lead the Hebrew host against the armies of Egypt, and having this in view, he guarded his affections, lest in his attachment to his foster mother or to Pharaoh he would not be free to do the will of God. (*Patriarchs & Prophets*, 245.2 – sometimes referred to as PP)

In killing the Egyptian, Moses reveal a lack of dependence on God.

→ Why is this so important?

#### Exodus 2.15-25...Moses and Failure...

→ Why does Moses have to experience failure before God can use him?

Moses rescues women in distress and later marries one of them.

#### Historical Questions...

→ Who was the daughter of Pharaoh?

A reasonable deduction based on 1 Kings 6.1 and other supporting statements (see GC 399) is that the Exodus took place about the middle of the 15<sup>th</sup> century BC. This date leads to the conclusion that Moses grew up under Thutmose I (1525-1508 BC), Thutmose II (1508-1504 BC), and Queen Hatshepsut (1504-1482 BC). Hatshepsut was a remarkable woman. She had been the only legitimate child of Thutmose I and was married to her half brother Thutmose II in order that he might legitimately succeed his father upon the throne. But the legitimate marriage of Thutmose II, like that of his father, again failed to provide a male heir. When Thutmose II died, after a reign of only four years,

the priests of Amen, in a sudden coup, crowned an illegitimate son of Thutmose II, who was at the time a mere boy and served in the temple as a minor priest. Inasmuch as Thutmose III, as he was later known, was too young to reign, his aunt Hatshepsut acted as regent for 22 years. Her reign was a peaceful one. She built great temples and erected huge obelisks. After reigning for 22 years, she disappeared from the records. Succeeding her, Thutmose III erased her name from all monuments in an attempt to eradicate the memory of her from the history of Egypt. (*SDA Bible Commentary*, Volume 1, pp. 502).

→ Why would Pharaoh’s daughter feel sorry for the baby?

If Hatshepsut was the woman who pulled Moses from the river, then her husband was Pharaoh Thutmose II. Apparently Hatshepsut could not have children, so Thutmose had a son by another woman, and this son became heir to the throne. Hatshepsut would have considered Moses a gift from the gods because now she had her own son who would be the legal heir to the throne.

Pharaoh’s daughter must have had a sweet, gently spirit. The HS was able to get through to her – but not the man on the throne. Angels led the princess to where the baby lay (PP 243).

→ Why does it take Israel so many years to cry out to God?

#### Prophetical Questions...

→ What does this have to do with the people of God in the last days?

→ In our lesson today, what is the KEY of Israel’s going home?

#### Theological Questions...

→ This is a story of God’s amazing grace: from a baby in a basket to the next Pharaoh. Wow! Yet it doesn’t seem to work. Do you feel that God wasted His grace in this story?

→ Do you think God was disappointed with Moses? Did God abandon Him when he ran away?

→ Why does God often use great difficulties to build great leaders?

#### Personal Questions...

→ Do you feel that you have ever abandoned God’s purpose for you?

→ Great privilege brings great responsibility. Do God’s gifts and blessings cause you to be more humble? (See Numbers 12.3)

Many never attain to the position that they might occupy, because they wait for God to do for them that which He has given them power to do for themselves. All who are fitted for usefulness must be trained by the severest mental and moral discipline, and God will assist them by uniting divine power with human effort. (PP 248.2b)