

Character Study: Moses

Part 1 –The Birth of a Leader

Exodus 1:1-2:10

What's happening?

- Moses was born at a time when the Israelites lived in Egypt. The Pharaoh saw the growing number of Israelites as a threat, so he forced them into slave labor, and even gave the order to have each baby boy born to a Hebrew woman thrown into the river. (1:1-22)
- During this time period, Moses was born. His parents, named Amram and Jochebed (Ex. 6:20), were of the house of Levi. His mother kept him hidden for three months, but once she could not keep him hidden any longer, she placed him in a basket and set it in the river. His sister watched from a distance to see what would happen. (2:1-4)
- Moses was discovered along the river bank by Pharaoh's daughter. She recognized him as a Hebrew, but had compassion on him. Moses' sister spoke to her and suggested having a Hebrew woman care for the baby. The Pharaoh's daughter agreed, so Moses' sister went and got her mother, who took Moses to nurse him. (2:5-9)
- As the child grew, the Pharaoh's daughter took Moses in and raised him as her son. She gave him the name "Moses" (meaning "drawn out") since she drew him out of the water. (2:10)

What's God doing?

> Though Moses was a Hebrew, he was educated in the wisdom of the Egyptians and brought up in the royalty of the Pharaoh's palace. God had not only delivered Moses from death, but He also placed him exactly where He wanted him to be. God was preparing Moses for how He would use him in the years ahead. (Note Acts 7:22)

What's to learn?

→ There are no accidents or coincidences with God. In God's sovereignty, He placed Moses where He wanted him to be. Do you realize the people in your life are there by God's sovereign design? Through the good experiences or the bad(!), you are where God wants you to be (Note Ps. 139:15-16)!

→ It is sometimes easy to take those around us for granted, but when we realize God has placed them in our lives to accomplish His purposes, we will have the right perspective. Can you think of ways God is using the people in your life to teach you things and/or prepare you for the future?