

# Faith And Deliverance

## Exodus 2

### Introduction:

1. A Delivery System
  - E.g. a hospital that delivers care to the sick. Obstacle: bad health, Delivery: medical professionals, tests, procedures, medicine
  - E.g. deliver medication – pill form, liquid injection, liquid swallow. Obstacle: body and time, Delivery: most efficient form
  - E.g. packages and letters. Obstacle: distance, Delivery: planes, trains, trucks or a good old fashion horse and rider
  - Egypt. Obstacle was sinful oppression by Egypt. Delivery: Moses would oppose the political leader to free his people
  
2. **Our Society Needs Deliverance!!**
  - But our answer is not ultimately found in humanity.
  - The hope that humanity is ultimately good and society can correct itself has been unsuccessful for several Millennia.
  - **Our only hope is in a Deliverer – who is a Sinless Man and the Supreme God combined!**

### 1. **By Faith, God Uses Us To Deliver The Disregarded (1-10)**

<sup>1</sup>Now a man from the house of Levi went and took as his wife a Levite woman. <sup>2</sup>The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him three months. <sup>3</sup>When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank. <sup>4</sup>And his sister stood at a distance to know what would be done to him. <sup>5</sup>Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her young women walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it. <sup>6</sup>When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. She took pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." <sup>7</sup>Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" <sup>8</sup>And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the girl went and called the child's mother. <sup>9</sup>And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give you your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him. <sup>10</sup>When the child grew older, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "Because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."

- Pharaoh commanded the midwives who tended to the birth from Hebrew mothers to terminate the life of the males. (1:16)
- But there were many midwives who feared God over the Pharaoh and did not kill the babies at birth (1:17)
  
- As Moses was born under the edict of murdering the first borns of the Jewish people, so was Jesus.

- The order was given by the Egyptian Pharaoh in the 1480's. Around 1500 years later, a similar order was given by King Herod. Yet out of this culture of Genocide, God brought forth 2 Deliverers – Moses and Jesus!
  - Also like Moses, Jesus emerged out of Egypt (Mt 2:15)
  - Like Moses, Jesus had decades of private ministry before His public ministry
  - Moses spent 40 years in the Wilderness, Jesus spent 40 days in the Wilderness
  - Moses was given the law at a mountain (Sinai) while Jesus delivered the laws of the Kingdom in a sermon on a Mount (Mt 5-7)
- Moses' parents' names are not mentioned here, but it is in Exodus 6:20 and Numbers 26:59.
  - Moses's parents are named Amram and Jochebed.
  - "Jochebed" means "glory of Jehovah" or "Jehovah is her glory"
    - What an appropriate name for this woman who was a jewel of glory to God!

**Numbers 26:59** The name of Amram's wife was Jochebed the daughter of Levi, who was born to Levi in Egypt. And she bore to Amram Aaron and Moses and Miriam their sister.

**Exodus 6:20** Amram took as his wife Jochebed his father's sister, and she bore him Aaron and Moses, the years of the life of Amram being 137 years.

- Moses was the youngest of 3 children
- Miriam may have been around 10 and Aaron may have been around 5 when Moses was born
  - Aaron would become a High Priest
  - Miriam would become a musician and poet
  - Moses was 80 years old in 1445 BC, the date of the Exodus (7:70)
  - So he was born in 1525 BC.
- "basket" (Heb. *Tebah*) is the same word used for Noah's "ark" (Gen 6-9)
  - Jochebed put Moses in a little boat like Noah put his family in an ark
  - Jochebed covered this thatched basket with pitch (tar) as Noah did
- Nile – crocodiles were prevalent
- Pharaoh's daughter saw the basket, heard a crying baby and took pity on the baby
  - Many commentators identify her as Hatshepsut, the daughter of Rameses 1. It's possible this daughter was from someone in his harem that had clout.
- She recognized he was a Hebrew right away, which is an easier distinction with males
- V. 9 – Moses' birth mother is assigned to be a wet nurse. Weaning happens between ages 3-5, so Jochebed got significant time raising Moses
- Pharaoh's daughter names him "Moses" (*Moseh*) = I drew him out of water
- **God will protect your children!!**
  - Barna reports: "One-Third of Engaged Christian Parents Is 'Media-Stressed'" (9/2/20), <https://www.barna.com/research/church-help-navigate-digital-age/>
    - Christian parents are concerned that in this day of media saturation that their kids won't depend on Christ as Savior and Lord
  - Ie/ We're wondering what the effect of Shelter-In-Place **home education** is going to do to our kids. Every kid is going through this. Some will thrive, some will struggle.

- But what our kids need is not to be coddled, but to find faith in Christ then faith in adversity.
- Our kids need salvation from sin and salvation from sinning.
- We need our kids to know God sent a Deliverer in Christ to them.

- **We must protect children**

- The following is Amy's Story (3 of 7) from: <https://supportcircle.org/hope/>

*I took the abortion pill to terminate my pregnancy. My son was 11 months old and I could not envision myself having another baby. That night, I told my boyfriend, Grant, about taking the abortion pill. Grant was upset that I started an abortion without talking with him first. He would have preferred to have input into the situation. Grant's response was very different than I expected. He wanted me to have the baby and co-parent together.*

*I could hardly sleep that night because my head was spinning. I knew what a new baby would entail. Support Circle helped me that time. This time, I had lost my job and medical insurance due to Covid-19. Since the shelter-in-place order, it has been hard to get another job in the hotel industry. It all seemed overwhelming and impossible. I was still leaning toward continuing the abortion. Ultimately, to me, the decision to abort or keep the baby was my choice to make.*

*Grant was so persistent that we began searching for ways to stop the abortion. Since the abortion pill is actually a combination of pills taken over a few days, I held off on taking the second pill. We found an abortion pill reversal hotline which gave me a provider that supplied the hormones needed for the reversal process.*

*We only went to Support Circle for the free ultrasound to appease Grant because he wanted to see what was going on with the baby. During the ultrasound, I became very emotional seeing the heart was still beating after having taken the abortion pill. I was given clarity while looking at the baby on that screen. It felt like God gave me a chance to make a different choice.*

*Grant and I are still together and are a family with my son. We are waiting on Medi-Cal to kick in to begin prenatal care. Initially, I was scared to be pregnant so soon after having my son but I feel better now, knowing that they will be close in age. Returning to Support Circle was good because I'm comfortable there. It's where I first saw my son and it's where I first saw my new baby.*

- God used 3 women: Jochebed, Miriam and Pharaoh's daughter
- Will we be used to bring deliverance to children?
- Will we trust God with our children?

### **Family Discussion:**

- What are mommy and daddy's biggest concern about your future?
- How will God protect us like He protected Moses?

## **2. By Faith, God Uses Us To Stand Up For The Oppressed (11-15; cf. Acts 7:24-25; Hebrews 11:24-27)**

<sup>11</sup>One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people. <sup>12</sup>He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. <sup>13</sup>When he went out

the next day, behold, two Hebrews were struggling together. And he said to the man in the wrong, "Why do you strike your companion?" <sup>14</sup>He answered, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid, and thought, "Surely the thing is known." <sup>15</sup>When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and stayed in the land of Midian. And he sat down by a well.

- Moses has now grown up 40 years
- He understands he is a Hebrew
- He was well educated in the Egyptian court
- Josephus reports that he was a general in Nubla, but that's unsubstantiated
- **The answer to oppression is not equalizing classes or giving certain groups more power. The answer is not empowerment of the masses but submission to the Lordship of Christ!**
  - The BLM official movement finds its solution class empowerment.
  - The Bible finds the solution in repenting of sin and submitting to Christ.
  - If we don't address sin, whoever is in power will sin to keep their power and whoever is not in power will sin to get it.
  - When we submit to Christ, we submit to one another. We're accountable to one another and to God.
- **The answer to oppression is not "cancelling culture" but "cancelling sin"**
  - We want to blame everyone else but not take responsibility for ourselves
  - If sin was identified, addressed and removed – we wouldn't be killing, looting or rioting.
  - There wouldn't be prejudice.
- **Sin is the root of slavery. Sin takes for self at the expense of others. Slavery is the opposite of love and respect.**
- **The answer is not violence. Moses tried that and it was a failure.**
  - He observes an Egyptian beating a Hebrew and struck down that brutalizing Egyptian
  - As the son of Pharaoh, he probably had the right to kill this guy
  - But he felt guilty before God – he tried to hide the corpse in the sand
  - But just like today, someone was taking a cell phone video – it goes from TMZ to the BBC
  - Moses feared being questioned and fled
  - This impetuous act demonstrated how Moses was not ready to be a Deliverer yet – God would bring him to a 4 decade education in the Wilderness. He would be 80 when God decides he's ready to be used.
- Stephen points out in Acts that Moses thought he could start protecting his people then, but the Hebrew people weren't ready to follow him yet.

**Acts 7:24-25** <sup>24</sup> And seeing one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian. <sup>25</sup> He supposed that his brothers would understand that God was giving them salvation by his hand, but they did not understand.

- **Moses failed to deliver his people at this time for 2 reasons:**
  - **He thought he could use his position and power**

- **He thought he could do it without God's direction**

- J.A. Motyer: "Acts 7:25 tells us that when Moses killed the Egyptian he was acting in obedience to a divine vocation as he understood it. He saw himself as God's appointed deliverer... Humanly speaking, when Moses took the law into his own hands, he put the day of deliverance further back. Of course, from the divine point of view there is no disorder in the Lord's programming. ... Moses ... had himself still so much learn in the school of divine discipline." (*The Message Of Exodus*, IVP Academic, 2005, p. 39-40)
- Moses was to have faith to be a deliverer. He didn't have the faith yet.
- Today's strategy to achieve change and justice will fail if it's about position and power. It must follow God's plan.
- God's plan involves understanding we are all created in God's image and that we are redeemed from sin to serve Him in righteousness.
- Until the world submits to Christ, our struggles will intensify.

**Hebrews 11:24-27** 24 By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. 26 He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward. 27 By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

- One commentary suggests (Davis, p. 54) that Pharaoh's daughter gave Moses a longer name – Moses may be a shortened name of perhaps Hapmose or Irumose – "one born out of the Nile"
- For Moses to be refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter is for him to forsake being referred to as a god (pharaohs were considered god)
- Moses chose to be mistreated with the rest of Israel than to enjoy the "fleeting pleasures of sin"

### **Family Discussion:**

- What should we do when we see someone being bullied or picked on?

### **3. By Faith, God Uses Us To Protect The Disadvantaged (16-22)**

<sup>16</sup>Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters, and they came and drew water and filled the troughs to water their father's flock. <sup>17</sup>The shepherds came and drove them away, but Moses stood up and saved them, and watered their flock. <sup>18</sup>When they came home to their father Reuel, he said, "How is it that you have come home so soon today?" <sup>19</sup>They said, "An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds and even drew water for us and watered the flock." <sup>20</sup>He said to his daughters, "Then where is he? Why have you left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread." <sup>21</sup>And Moses was content to dwell with the man, and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah. <sup>22</sup>She gave birth to a son, and he called his name Gershom, for he said, "I have been a sojourner in a foreign land."

- Moses ends up in Midian
- The Midianites were the descendants of Midian – the 4<sup>th</sup> son of Abraham from Keturah (his 2<sup>nd</sup> wife), Genesis 25:2

- “Josephus tells us that the Midianites lived around the Gulf of Aqabah, which is at the north end of the Red Sea, about 120 miles south-southwest of the Dead Sea in the wilderness.” (Tony Merida, *Exalting Jesus In Exodus: Christ-Centered Exposition*, Holman, 2014, p. 15)
- Some local shepherds were harassing Jethro’s daughters because of water rights at a well
- **Moses has learned that violence is not a solution. But he stood up for these ladies.**
- It probably didn’t hurt that his wife would come from among these daughters of Jethro.
- Here he’s called “Reuel” which means “friend of God”. He’s called “Jethro” in 3:1, 18:1.
  - Reuel could be his priestly name
  - Jethro could be his personal name (or vice versa)
- Moses marries Zipporah
- Their son is named Gershom – which reminds Moses of feeling alienated from home.

#### **4. By Faith, God Gives Us His Heart To Deliver The Enslaved (23-25)**

<sup>23</sup>During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. <sup>24</sup>And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. <sup>25</sup>God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.

- V. 23 – the king of Egypt died
  - This could have meant a possible return to Egypt without being a fugitive
  - “It was not uncommon for a new ruler at the beginning of his reign to give amnesty to prisoners and criminals and to lighten requirements for other of his subjects. We could call it a ‘morale-booster’ today.” (John Oswalt, *Cornerstone Bible Commentary, Volume 1 Genesis & Exodus*, p. 294)

**Exodus 4:19** And the Lord said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead.”

- **God heard** their groaning
- **God remembered** His covenant with Abraham
  - God is going to bless all nations with a redeemer
- **God saw**
- **God knew**
- William Wilberforce was born in 1759 to a wealthy merchant family.
- British ships were shipping 50,000 slaves from Africa to the America
- His family was visited frequently by John Newton, a former slave trader turned pastor and song writer (“Amazing Grace”)
- He and his friend William Pitt both get elected to Parliament when Wilberforce was 21 (corrupt system where votes were bought). Pitt’s father, William Pitt the Elder, has the city of Pittsburg named after him.
- At 24, his friend Pitt is elected Prime Minister of England. His best friend Wilberforce also rises in power.

- He trusted Christ at 26 years of age (in 1786) after struggling with depression.
- He told William Pitt (the younger Pitt) that they must defeat the scourge slavery in his lifetime.
- Wilberforce was discouraged with politics and thought of leaving. But John Newton encouraged him to stay in politics for the glory of God.
- Wilberforce and Thomas Clarkson introduced legislation to limit slave trading in 1789. It got turned down and rejected later in 1791, 1792, 1793, 1797, 1798, 1799, 1804, 1805.
- The slave trade was eventually ended by Parliament in 1807 after a revolt by slaves on Haiti.
- Then they focused their effort to end slavery all together. Because of poor health, Wilberforce resigned from Parliament but others continued his
- William Wilberforce: "In the Scripture, no national crime is condemned so frequently and few so strongly as oppression and cruelty, and the not using our best endeavors to deliver our fellow-creatures from them." (his diary, 1818)
- Wilberforce and his cohorts presented 1 million signatures (1/10<sup>th</sup> of the population) opposing slavery to the House of Commons in 1814
- Parliament eventually passed the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the Emancipation Act in the July, 1833 that ended slavery in Britain.
- The goal was to end slavery because of a biblical worldview.
- 3 days, Wilberforce died.
- 30 years later, the Emancipation Proclamation freed slaves in the United States.
- **Today, there are 45.8 million slaves** in the world today according to <https://www.notforsalecampaign.org>
- **70% are female, 1/2 are minors**
- Wilberforce: "You may choose to look the other way, but you can never say again you didn't know."

### Conclusion:

- We must cry out to God in our sin and in our sinful society.
- God hears us and sent us a Deliverer – Christ the Savior!
- By faith, we follow God's call for us as witnesses of Christ to tell the world Deliverance is available. Be active in the **Emancipation Evangelization!**
  - Moses wasn't ready. He tried and failed. He needed to learn through his years of 40-80 years of age to depend on God in a new way.
  - Next week, we will see God's call vs. Moses' excuses.

### Discussion:

- Who are those who need deliverance today? How is the answer found in Christ and not man?
- How does God's protection of baby Moses encourage you? Motivate you?
- Why did Moses' first attempt to help Israel fail? What is God trying to teach Him?
- As Moses paid a price to be a deliverer (Heb 11:24-27), as well as Christ paying the price on the cross, what do we have to forsake to be a witness for Christ?