

Moses – Part 3

Today, we conclude our study of the life of Moses, and our journey through the book named Exodus, which means “a way out.” The story is more important than the man, because Exodus is the book of redemption in the Old Testament, and its message is the redemption by blood of God’s chosen people. God’s message to Pharaoh then, and His message to the devil today, is “LET MY PEOPLE GO!” Moses was God’s messenger then, and the church is God’s messenger today!

Although Moses is a strong leader, Exodus is not a book about his leadership skills – it is a book about God’s delivering power. In Genesis, God said “LET there be light” – and there was light! (Genesis 1:3) THE POWER WAS IN THE COMMAND! In Revelation, He says “LET him that is athirst come. And whosoever will, LET him take the water of life freely.” (Revelation 22:17) Again, THE POWER IS IN THE COMMAND. So, when God’s word is “LET MY PEOPLE GO,” someone or something better get out of the way!

Although Moses’ ministry contains many miracles, the Exodus story really comes down to ONE MOMENT OF OBEDIENCE. Without this obedience on the part of Israel, all of God’s miracles would have been for nothing, and their deliverance would have come to a premature and fatal end. Today, it still comes down to ONE MOMENT OF OBEDIENCE ...

2 Corinthians 6:2 (For he saith, I have heard thee in a time accepted, and in the day of salvation have I succoured thee: behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation.)

The showdown between Pharaoh and Jehovah has come to an impasse after the first nine plagues. Egypt is in shambles, its so-called gods of nature humiliated by Jehovah’s power, and its people living in fear after seeing the Nile River turn to blood, seeing their crops and animals die, suffering plagues of frogs, lice, flies, boils, hail and locusts, and experiencing darkness for three days. The whole country is terrified, but still Pharaoh has hardened his heart against Israel!

You see, during this confrontation, Pharaoh has acted like many people today. While he felt the effects of a plague, he would do anything or say anything just to get rid of the trouble. But as soon as God removed the trouble, he would stubbornly change his mind. Pharaoh mistook God’s mercy for weakness!

Finally, it comes down to one last plague and one moment of obedience. This night of destiny will forever be called “PASSOVER,” for tonight God’s judgment will fall on Egypt, but Israel’s obedience (not God’s mercy!) will allow God to “pass over” their homes when He smites the land.

VIDEO CLIP: PRINCE OF EGYPT (Exodus 12:21-23)

Exodus 12:21-23 Then Moses called for all the elders of Israel, and said unto them, Draw out and take you a lamb according to your families, and kill the passover. And ye shall take a bunch of hyssop, and dip it in the blood that is in the bason, and strike the lintel and the two side posts with the blood that is in the bason; and none of you shall go out at the door of his house until the morning. For the Lord will pass through to smite the Egyptians; and when he seeth the blood upon the lintel, and on the two side posts, the Lord will pass over the door, and will not suffer the destroyer to come in unto your houses to smite you.

God said, “I want the door struck in three places!” and He emphasized it twice in this chapter because it was a life or death situation. ONE STRIKE WAS NOT ENOUGH – THREE STRIKES AND YOU’RE IN!

Hyssop was a common plant, accessible to anyone! It was EASY to obey, but you still had to obey!

THREE STRIKES AND YOU’RE IN!

What would have been the fate of someone who put the blood only on the lintel? ONE STRIKE AND YOU’RE OUT! God was precise in His instructions – He meant exactly what He said!

“You don’t really have to do all that – just a little blood will be okay!” What would have been the fate of someone who put the blood only on the two doorposts? TWO STRIKES AND YOU’RE OUT!

GOD DOESN’T PLAY “WORD GAMES” IN THE BIBLE! He says exactly what He means, and He means exactly what He says!

If I had been living then, I wouldn’t have taken a chance with just partial obedience, NO MATTER WHAT MY NEIGHBOUR SAID!

EVERY WORD OF GOD IS SURE! (Every word of a parent, etc. is not always sure!) If someone tells you something contrary to the Word of God, stick with the Bible!

2 Peter 1:19-21 ¹⁹We have also a more sure word of prophecy; whereunto ye do well that ye take heed, as unto a light that shineth in a dark place, until the day dawn, and the day star arise in your hearts: ²⁰Knowing this first, that no prophecy of the scripture is of any private interpretation. ²¹For the prophecy came not in old time by the will of man: but holy men of God spake as they were moved by the Holy Ghost.

2 Timothy 2:19 Nevertheless the foundation of God standeth sure, having this seal, The Lord knoweth them that are his. And, Let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity.

Why does man need his sin covered by a blood sacrifice anyway? To answer that questions, let's go back even further in history than the Exodus, all the way back to Eden. Here we find THREE STRIKES against Adam and Eve:

1 John 2:15-17 ¹⁵Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. ¹⁶For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world. ¹⁷And the world passeth away, and the lust thereof: but he that doeth the will of God abideth for ever.

OUR TEMPTATIONS	WHERE THEY STRIKE	ADAM & EVE (GENESIS 3)	JESUS CHRIST (LUKE 4)
Lust of the flesh	BODY	"the woman saw that the tree was good for food"	"command this stone that it be made bread"
Lust of the eyes	MIND	"and that it was pleasant to the eyes"	"If thou therefore wilt worship me, all shall be thine"
Pride of life	SPIRIT	"and a tree to be desired to make one wise"	"If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down from hence"

There were THREE STRIKES against Adam and Eve, because they failed in every temptation. But Jesus Christ hit a home run every time; He was totally victorious over the same three temptations!

PERSONAL SALVATION according to the Bible includes THREE STRIKES against the old man, which reverse the curse brought on us by our disobedience.

1 Corinthians 15:1-4 ¹Moreover, brethren, I declare unto you the gospel which I preached unto you, which also ye have received, and wherein ye stand; ²By which also ye are saved (**WE ARE SAVED BY THE GOSPEL – WHAT IS IT?**), if ye keep in memory what I preached unto you, unless ye have believed in vain. ³For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died (**DEATH – STRIKE ONE**) for our sins according to the scriptures; ⁴And that he was buried (**BURIAL – STRIKE TWO**), and that he rose again (**RESURRECTION – STRIKE THREE**) the third day according to the scriptures:

With any of these steps left out, the gospel would have been incomplete and ineffective – THREE STRIKES AND YOU'RE IN!

Acts 2:38 Then Peter said unto them, Repent (**REPENTANCE – STRIKE ONE**), and be baptized (**BAPTISM – STRIKE TWO**) every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost (**HOLY GHOST – STRIKE THREE**).

STRIKE ONE – REPENTANCE Repentance happens in my MIND, and it applies the DEATH of Christ to my life. It strikes back against the "lust of the eyes" (the illusion that sin is good).

STRIKE TWO – BAPTISM Baptism happens in my BODY, and it applies the BURIAL of Christ to my life. It strikes back against the "lust of the flesh" (the appetites of the flesh).

STRIKE THREE – HOLY GHOST The Holy Ghost happens in my SPIRIT, and it applies the RESURRECTION of Christ to my life. It strikes back against the "pride of life" (our tendency for self-rule).

That's why there were THREE ELEMENTS involved in the deliverance of the Israelites from Egypt ... BLOOD ON DOORPOST, RED SEA, PILLAR OF CLOUD AND FIRE (BLOOD, WATER, SPIRIT).

Exodus 12:13 And the blood shall be to you for a token upon the houses where ye are: and when I see the **blood**, I will pass over you, and the plague shall not be upon you to destroy you, when I smite the land of Egypt.

1 Corinthians 10:1-2 Moreover, brethren, I would not that ye should be ignorant, how that all our fathers were under the **cloud**, and all passed through the **sea**; ²And were all baptized unto Moses in the **cloud** and in the **sea**;

THE DEVIL CAN'T GET THROUGH THE BLOOD, THE WATER, OR THE FIRE THAT IS AROUND MY LIFE!