

Moses' Parents

Heb 11:23; Ex 2:1-10

1. Intro

1. In this passage on Moses the focus is on the way faith deals with hostility and persecution.
2. Here the parents of Moses have faith in God that he can deliver.
 1. They do not give in to the Pharaoh's decree.
 2. They plan and have faith that God is involved.

2. Amran & Jochebed

1. Who were these two people?
 1. We know them because we know their children: Aaron, Miriam and Moses.
 1. Their names are only briefly mentioned in Moses' family record (Ex 6:20).
 2. Aaron was Moses' spokesman and became the first High Priest of Israel.
 3. Miriam protected Moses as an infant and was involved in the celebration after crossing the Red Sea.
 4. Moses was raised against incredible spiritual odds, yet was used by God to deliver His people.

3. Hidden

1. For three months
 1. They knew the danger that faced their child. (1:22)
 1. To keep this child alive, his father and mother would have to risk everything.
 1. What was their penalty for disobedience?
 2. Had they not carefully hidden him, he would have been thrown into the Nile for crocodile food.
 3. How hard it must have been to conceal baby Moses for three months?
 1. Soldiers walked the streets of the Hebrew neighborhoods at night listening for hidden newborns.
 2. Probably some tension in the household.
2. Something special
 1. They saw something in this baby as being special. Was it revelation by God? (Act 7:20)

4. The Plan

1. Jochebed had a plan. She had a hope. (3)
2. Had Jochebed identified certain habits of Pharaoh's daughter?
 1. She knew that Pharaoh's daughter came to the river to bathe in a certain place and at a certain time.
 2. If she placed that basket in the right spot, at the right time, the princess would see it, or at least hear the baby crying.
3. By being in the Pharaoh's household at least he had a chance to live.
4. Miriam is then instructed to watch what would happen to her baby brother. (4)
 1. How could she know what the princess will do? (5-6)
 2. What if she obeys her father's decree and drowns the child?
 3. All the parents could do was trust God to give that Egyptian woman a mother's heart.

5. Jochebed receives Moses back. (7)
 1. Can you imagine how calmly Jochebed had to play her part?
 2. The plan worked better than anyone could have hoped or imagined.
 1. She was even rewarded (9)
6. But suffering soon comes. (10)
 1. Try to picture the day when Jochebed walked her son to the palace and said good-bye.
 2. Would she would ever see her son again?

5. Application

1. Faith and planning work together.
 1. We need to realize that there is no conflict between a faith and good planning.
 2. To walk by faith doesn't mean that we stop thinking and planning.
 1. To trust in God when we need a job doesn't mean we don't put out resumes and applications.
 2. Acting foolishly or thoughtlessly, expecting God to bail us out isn't faith, it's presumption.
 3. We must trust that God will help us develop a good plan, and also help us carry out that plan.
 4. The trust shouldn't be in our plan, but in our God who helps us develop a plan and carry it out.
 5. Jochebed put together a good plan to save Moses' life, but that doesn't mean that she wasn't also trusting in God.
2. Let God use our difficult situations to develop character.
 1. With difficulties we can:
 1. Let our troubles and hardships destroy us.
 2. Let our troubles and hardships develop us.
 2. Our faith will be tested. (James 1:2-4)
 1. Will it be our way or God's way?
 3. A deep faith will carry us through.
 1. We must cling to the promises of God and His Word when it comes to our suffering. (Rom 8:28)

6. Conclusion

1. Even in the face of persecution faith ruled.
 1. Amran and Jochebed would not go down without a fight.
 2. Their faith in God allowed them to take a risk that might have cost them their lives.
2. Will our faith stand the test in difficult times?