

MOSES

A short Article

By Pastor Kemi Ilori

Living Hope Church

LEEDS

pastorkemi@livinghopechurch.co.uk

Moses is the most important Hebrew in the Old Testament in connection with the covenant that God made with the Israelites on Mount Sinai. This covenant is popularly referred to as the Old Covenant. The New Covenant is the one that God made with all mankind through the life and death of the Lord Jesus Christ. Moses started life in a basket and met God in a bush. His story shows that it does not matter where we are coming from, as long as we take the opportunity to meet with God, and to surrender our life to Him. Our relationship with God, in terms of how close we are to Him, how willing we are to learn from Him and to obey Him, will ensure that we succeed where all others fail. Moses succeeded in life because he was a man who chose to walk with God instead of serving idols.

In an important chapter on the subject of faith, the Letter to the Hebrews makes the following comments about the life of Moses: **Hebrews** 11:23-29 - "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command. By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them. By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned."

Faith is the keyword in the whole life of Moses! Without faith, the Bible asserts, no-one can please God: "But without faith it is impossible to please Him, for he who comes to God must believe that He is, and that He is a rewarder of those who diligently seek Him." (**Hebrews** 11:6)

Highlights of the Early Life of Moses

He was born at a wrong time. His parents were slaves, and there was a law in the land to kill all male children born to the Hebrews. But God stepped in. The law was not repealed yet God thwarted the purpose of the law by enabling Hebrew midwives to successfully deliver male Hebrew babies, and by raising up Moses in the palace of Pharaoh.

He was raised up in the wrong place. Pharaoh's palace was the seat of idolatry and oppression in Egypt. Neither Pharaoh nor his ministers had any interest in God. The palace was a place of mischief and intrigue where cruel plans were made against the Hebrews. Yet, here Moses discovered himself to be a Hebrew and chose to identify himself with the suffering of his people. He chose to serve God rather than his own ambitions. He chose to know God instead of the idols of Egypt.

He went into exile for the wrong reason. He had to flee from Egypt because he became a murderer. He was trying to quicken God's programme of salvation. He offered God his own wisdom and strength. But these were not the things that God wanted from Moses. What God needed from him was a servant-heart!

He met God when he was not looking particularly for God! He gave God every excuse to refuse God's appointment, but God gave him every reason to appoint him as His chosen man!