

GREAT BIBLE CHARACTERS: MOSES

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INTRODUCTION:

1. Romans 15:4, There is a lot we can learn from the Old Testament.
2. Great examples in the Old Testament: Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, Joshua, Joseph, David, Nehemiah, Ezra, Isaiah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Jeremiah, etc.
3. Each of them teaches us great lessons about how we can please our heavenly Father.
4. As we study the life of Moses, let us be doers of God's Word (James 1:22; Luke 11:28).

GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT THE LIFE OF MOSES

1. We read about Moses for the first time in the first chapters of the book of Exodus
2. Due to his pending death ordered by king of Egypt, Moses was rescued from the water by Pharaoh's daughter.
3. Moses lived 120 years. These years can be divided into three periods of 40 years each:
 - a. The first 40 years – from his birth in Egypt until the flight into Midian.
 - b. The second 40 years – from the flight into Midian to the Exodus. He spent several years in the pastures of his father-in-law, Jethro.
 - c. The third 40 years – from the Exodus to his own death.
4. The name Moses is mentioned more than 780 in the entire Bible
5. He is known as the law giver (John 1:16-17)
6. Mentioned more than 70 times in the New Testament
7. Appears at the Mount of Transfiguration (Matthew 17:1-5)
8. Is considered one of the 5 witnesses for the Deity of Christ (John 5)
9. He is mentioned in several sermons preached by gospel preachers of the New Testament (Acts 3, Peter; Acts 6, 7, Stephen; Acts 13, Paul, etc)
10. Moses is the giver of the Pentateuch
11. God was the undertaker of Moses himself (Deut 34:6)
12. The first prophet to prophesy about Jesus (Genesis 3:15; Deuteronomy 18:15-18)
13. There are many similarities between Moses and Christ:
 - a. Both were preserved from the perils of infancy (Ex. 2:2-10; Matthew 2:14, 15)
 - b. Both knew what it was to fast for forty days (Ex. 34:28; Matt 4:2)
 - c. Both had power to control the sea (Ex 14:21; Matt 8:26)
 - d. Both fed a multitude (Ex 16:26; Matt 14:20, 21)
 - e. Both had a radiant face (Ex 34:35; Matt 17:2)
 - f. Both endured murmurings (Ex 15:24; Mark 7:2)
 - g. Both were discredited at home (Num 12:1; John 7:5)
 - h. Both were mighty intercessors (Ex 32:32; John 17)

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14. With this in mind, let us consider some great lessons about the life of Moses.

GREAT LESSONS ABOUT THE LIFE OF MOSES

1. Lesson # 1: A great lesson about the providence of God.

- A. Moses' death at the time of his birth was certain, but God had plans for him (Exodus 2).
- B. The fact that he was rescued by Pharaoh's daughter says a lot about the plans God had for Moses.
 - a. Stephen tells us that Moses was instructed in all wisdom of the Egyptians; and he was mighty in his words and works (Acts 7:22).
 - b. God wanted to rescue His people from bondage and this is why He selected Moses as the leader to lead them out of the land of Egypt.
 - c. God does not forget His people (Exodus 3:6-9).
 - d. God needed to continue with the scheme of redemption and this is why His providence is seen throughout the life of Moses.
- C. God in His providence selected Moses as the Law giver (Exodus 20; John 1:17).

2. Lesson # 2: A great lesson about overcoming obstacles in the service to God.

- A. In Exodus 4:10-17, Moses gives God excuses for not being capable of carrying out the task at hand. God refuted his excuses!
- B. Today, we give God so many excuses about not doing His work. We need to put these excuses aside and start serving the Lord.
- C. We give excuses for not participating in evangelism, loving our enemies, studying the Bible, praying, attending services at church, teaching Bible classes, etc.
- D. God gave Moses everything he needed to do the job! God has given us everything we need to do the job!

3. Lesson # 3: A great lesson about trusting God and being faithful to Him.

- A. Exodus 4-11 we see Moses trusting God in the charge to go unto Pharaoh and speak to him.
- B. This task was not an easy one, since Moses could have been killed in the process; nevertheless, He trusted God and went forth to do exactly what God told him to do.
- C. In Exodus 14 we see Moses trusting God as he and the people of Israel crossed the Red Sea in dry land. What would you have done in this same situation? Would you have trusted God?
- D. Throughout the life of Moses, we see a man who took God at His Word and trusted Him!
- E. In reference to the tabernacle, we read, "Thus did Moses according to all that the Lord commanded him so did he" (Exodus 40:16).

- F. Hebrews 3:5 reads, “And Moses indeed was faithful in all his house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were afterward to be spoken”.
- 4. Lesson # 4: A great lesson about perseverance.**
- A. Yes, Moses’s life gives us an example of perseverance. He faced many obstacles as he served God.
 - a. Pharaoh did not want to obey the voice of the Lord (Exodus 5:1-2).
 - b. The people of Israel were rebellious people, always complaining (Exodus 16:2-3).
 - c. Miriam and Aaron spoke evil against Moses (Numbers 12:1-3).
 - d. Moses sat to judge the people from the morning unto the evening (Exodus 18:13). This was no easy task! Here we see a great lesson about taking advice and delegating responsibilities!
 - B. We see perseverance in 120 years of his life.
 - C. The fruits of his perseverance:
 - a. He was called the “Friend of God”.
 - b. God spoke directly to him.
 - c. He is mentioned in the “Hall of Faith” in Hebrews 11.
 - d. God defended Moses against those who spoke evil against him.
 - e. God himself buried Moses.
 - D. We also need perseverance in life! We all need hupomone!
- 5. Lesson # 5: A great lesson about making the right choices in life.**
- A. Moses made the right choice: In Hebrews 11:24-26 we read, “By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter; choosing rather to share ill treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; accounting the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt: for he looked unto the recompense of reward.”
 - B. We face many choices in life, and as Moses, we must always make the right choice.
 - C. Things that can help us to make the right choice in life:
 - a. Put God first in life (Matthew 6:33).
 - b. Fear God and keep His commandments (Ecclesiastes 12:14).
 - c. Do not love the world (1 John 2:15-17).
 - d. Keep heaven in mind (Colossians 3:1-4).
 - e. Imitate great examples (3 John 11).
 - D. Making the right choices in life will help us make it to heaven!
- 6. Lesson # 6: A great lesson about preaching God’s Word.**
- A. Exodus 18:16, Moses said, “When they have a matter, they come unto me; and I judge between a man and his neighbor, and I make them know the status of God, and his laws”.
 - B. Exodus 7:2, “Thou shalt speak all that I command thee...”

- C. We are to do the same thing today (1 Peter 4:11; Titus 2:1; Jonah 3:2; 1 Kings 22:14; 2 Timothy 4:2).
 - D. F
- 7. Lesson # 7: A great lesson about being human beings: Disobedience to God.**
- A. Many great things we see in the life of Moses; nevertheless, he was not perfect.
 - B. Numbers 20:1-12, shows how Moses disobeyed God.
 - C. As long as we live on earth, we will make mistakes.
 - D. When we fail to keep God's commandments, we must quickly repent and do what is right in the sight of God.
- 8. Lesson # 8: A great lesson about how God takes care of his servants.**
- A. In the life of Moses we see how God takes care of His servants:
 - a. God took care of Moses during his birth and childhood (Exodus 2)
 - b. God took care of Moses at the wilderness
 - c. God took care of Moses at the crossing of the Red Sea.
 - d. God took care of Moses during his death (Deuteronomy 34).
 - B. God will take care of us always (Matthew 28:20; Hebrews 13:5; Psalm 34:19).

CONCLUSION:

1. Moses's example demonstrates how God uses us to His own glory and virtue.
2. Just like God used Moses, He can use us to His own glory and virtue!
3. We have considered many things with regards to the life of Moses.
4. May God help us to be imitators of his faithfulness.

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