

Exodus, Chapter 2.

As we look at the life of Moses, we aren't just looking at a historical figure; we are looking at the way God moves in the lives of His people. We're going to see a beautiful picture of God's will, the importance of a godly foundation, and the danger of trying to do God's work in the energy of our own flesh.

I. The Ark of Preservation (Exodus 2:1-10)

The chapter opens with a Levite couple. Under the cruel edict of Pharaoh, every Hebrew boy was to be cast into the Nile. But notice verse 2: when this mother saw her son, she saw he was a "beautiful" child. Now, every mother thinks her baby is beautiful, but there was a divine quality here. She saw something of God's hand on him.

She hid him as long as she could, but eventually, she had to let go. She made a little ark—a basket of bulrushes—and waterproofed it with asphalt and pitch. Notice the faith here! She didn't just throw him in; she placed him in a vessel of safety. By faith, she trusted God with what she could no longer protect.

Then we see the "coincidences" of God. Pharaoh's daughter comes down to bathe. The baby cries—at just the right moment! Her heart is touched with compassion. And who does God provide to nurse the child? His own mother! God is so good. Not only does she get to keep her son, but she gets paid by the Egyptian government to raise him.

Practical Application: Mothers and fathers, never underestimate those early years. Moses' mother had him for only a short time before he went to Pharaoh's court, but in those years, she whispered into his ears: "*Jehovah is God.*" She gave him a foundation that all the wisdom of Egypt couldn't erase. For you parents, the greatest thing you can do is whisper to your children, "*Jesus loves you,*" and fill their hearts with the Word. Those early "neuron connections" are best formed when they are wired to the truth of Scripture.

II. The Danger of the Flesh (Exodus 2:11-15)

Now, we skip ahead forty years. Moses is grown. He knows he is a Hebrew. He knows God has a destiny for him to deliver his people. But here is the problem: Moses had the right vision, but the wrong timing and the wrong power.

He sees an Egyptian mistreating a Hebrew, and he kills him. Verse 12 says, "He looked this way and that way." That was his mistake. He looked left and right, but he didn't look *up*. He tried to start the deliverance of Israel by burying one Egyptian in the sand.

When God finally did the work, He didn't just bury one Egyptian; He buried the entire Egyptian army in the Red Sea!

A Note for Us: How often do we try to "help" God? We see a problem, and we jump in with our own strength, our own cleverness, and our own temper. We try to accomplish the work of the Spirit in the

energy of the flesh. It never works. It only leads to a "sand-covered" mess. To do the work of the Spirit, we must be anointed and directed by the Spirit.

III. The Desert School (Exodus 2:16-25)

Because Moses moved in the flesh, he had to flee. He goes from being a prince in a palace to a shepherd in the desert of Midian. For forty years, God "broke" the Egyptian out of Moses so that He could put the Spirit into Moses.

The chapter ends with a powerful note: the people of Israel cried out in their bondage, and "God heard their groaning... and God remembered His covenant." ---

A Challenge for the Believer

Are you trying to force a door open today? Are you frustrated because you have a "sense of destiny" but nothing is happening? Learn from Moses. Don't get ahead of God. The most dangerous place to be is outside of His timing, trying to do His work in your own strength. Wait on the Lord. Let Him be the one to open the door, and let Him be the one to provide the power.

An Invitation to the Unbeliever

Perhaps today you feel like the children of Israel—in bondage. Not to a Pharaoh, but to sin, to habit, to a life without peace and fulfillment. You've been looking "this way and that way" for a solution, but you haven't looked up.

The Bible teaches that Jesus Christ did for us what we could never do for ourselves. He didn't just hide our sins in the sand; He washed them away when He shed His blood on the cross. And when He rose from the dead, He proved once and for all that He is God, Savior, and Lord. He is the Deliverer greater than Moses. If you will turn from your own efforts today and put your trust in Him, He will bring you out of darkness and into His marvelous light.