



Walnut Street Church of Christ
306 Walnut Street
Greenville, Alabama
36037

Happily Ever After – Lesson Three
A Charming Prince
God Used Moses To Save His People From Extinction
(Exodus 2)

Happily Ever After -- Theme: A charming prince -- God used Moses, Hebrew son of Pharaoh's daughter, to save His people from extinction. (Exodus 2) The Memory Verse for this lesson is Hebrews 11:24-25. "By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."

Times became difficult in Egypt for the Israelites: The children of Israel had gone into Egypt as a small family. During the 430 years they were there they became a great nation. "And the children of Israel were fruitful, and increased abundantly, and multiplied, and waxed exceeding mighty; and the land was filled with them." (Exodus 1:7) The Jews were treated well in Egypt until a King arose who did not know Joseph. "Now there arose up a new king over Egypt, which knew not Joseph. And he said unto his people, Behold, the people of the children of Israel are more and mightier than we: Come on, let us deal wisely with them; lest they multiply, and it come to pass, that, when there falleth out any war, they join also unto our enemies, and fight against us, and so get them up out of the land. Therefore they did set over them taskmasters to afflict them with their burdens. And they built for Pharaoh treasure cities, Pithom and Raamses. But the more they afflicted them, the more they multiplied and grew. And they were grieved because of the children of Israel. And the Egyptians made the children of

Israel to serve with rigour: And they made their lives bitter with hard bondage, in mortar, and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field: all their service, wherein they made them serve, was with rigour.” (Exodus 1:8-14) In addition to the hard service that was placed upon the Israelites, the Egyptian midwives were commanded to kill the boy babies that were born. “And the king of Egypt spake to the Hebrew midwives, of which the name of the one was Shiphrah, and the name of the other Puah: And he said, When ye do the office of a midwife to the Hebrew women, and see them upon the stools; if it be a son, then ye shall kill him: but if it be a daughter, then she shall live.” (Exodus 1:15-16) These midwives feared God and spared the boy babies. Among those that were spared was Moses.

Moses was born under Pharaoh’s horrible decree. Moses was born under difficult circumstances. However, he lived and became one of the five major characters in our Bible. Those five characters are Adam, Abraham, Moses, David and Jesus Christ. The Bible tells us that, “Amram took him Jochebed his father’s sister to wife; and she bare him Aaron and Moses: and the years of the life of Amram were an hundred and thirty and seven years.” (Exodus 6:20) Moses’ parents hid him for three months. “And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months.” (Exodus 2:2) the Hebrew writer wrote of this event saying, “By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king’s commandment.” (Hebrews 11:23) Most students of the Bible remember how Moses came to be brought up as Pharaoh’s daughter’s son. Who could forget this loving mother, the Nile River, a basket or ark placed in the bulrushes, and older sister watching to see what happened and the Egyptian princess rescuing the crying, baby Moses?

Stephen reviewed a large part of Moses’ life. In Acts 7:23-36 we read, “And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel. And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended him, and avenged him that was oppressed, and smote the Egyptian: For he supposed his brethren would have understood how that God by his hand would deliver them: but they understood not. And the next day he shewed himself unto them as they strove, and would have set them at one again, saying, Sirs, ye are brethren; why do ye wrong one to another? But he that did his neighbour wrong thrust him away, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge over us? Wilt thou kill me, as thou diddest the Egyptian yesterday? Then fled Moses at this saying, and was a

stranger in the land of Madian, where he begat two sons. And when forty years were expired, there appeared to him in the wilderness of mount Sina an angel of the Lord in a flame of fire in a bush. When Moses saw it, he wondered at the sight: and as he drew near to behold it, the voice of the Lord came unto him, Saying, I am the God of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold. Then said the Lord to him, Put off thy shoes from thy feet: for the place where thou standest is holy ground. I have seen, I have seen the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them. And now come, I will send thee into Egypt. This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send to be a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush. He brought them out, after that he had shewed wonders and signs in the land of Egypt, and in the Red sea, and in the wilderness forty years.” (Acts 7:23-36) God used Moses, the Hebrew son of Pharaoh’s daughter, to save His people from extinction. It came into his heart to visit or to help the children of Israel. It is a tribute to the heart and life of Moses that he chose to deliver God’s people. Moses served as a faithful servant in the house of the Lord. (Hebrews 3:1-6)

God sent Moses to Pharaoh to deliver the Jews. God’s message to Moses was simple. He said, “Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.” (Exodus 3:10) Pharaoh was arrogant and would not allow Israel to leave Egypt. “And Pharaoh said, Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice to let Israel go? I know not the LORD, neither will I let Israel go.” (Exodus 5:2) God brought ten horrible plagues on Egypt in order to bring Israel out. The plagues were: (1) Turning water into blood (Exodus 7:19-25), (2) Frogs (Exodus 8:1-7), (3) Lice (Exodus 8:16-19), (4) Flies (Exodus 8:20-24), (5) Murrain of animals (Exodus 9:1-7), (6) Boils on man and beast (Exodus 9:8-12), (7) Hail (Exodus 9:17-35), (8) Locust (Exodus 10:1-20), (9) Darkness (Exodus 10:21-29) and (10) Death of the firstborn. (Exodus 12:29-30) Several great events took place in connection with the deliverance of the Jews from Egypt by God. Not only do we have the ten plagues, but we also have the Passover. (Exodus 12:1-20) The Passover was a beautiful picture of God’s deliverance and protection. If the people ate the food as God commanded and put the blood on the door as God commanded there would be deliverance. The Passover became a central part of the religious life of the Jewish nation. When the children of Israel came out of Egypt, they passed through the Red Sea on dry ground. Pharaoh and his army drowned as they

pursued them. (Exodus 14) After they had crossed the Sea, Miriam led the Jews in singing a great song of deliverance and praise to God. (Exodus 15) As Moses led the Jews through the wilderness, we see some of the great Bible stories. The Lord fed the people with manna and with quail. Water was given from a rock. The Old Covenant Law was given through Moses. (Exodus 19-24) Moses was given a pattern for the Tabernacle. (Exodus 25-40) Disobedience caused Moses not to be allowed to enter the land of Canaan; although his love for God made it possible for him to be in heaven.

Lessons from the life of Moses: Moses shows us the importance of loving obedience to God. Moses lifted up the serpent that was a likeness of Jesus. (John 3:14) Moses taught us to place proper emphasis upon God and upon spiritual things. “By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible. Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned.” (Hebrews 11:23-29) Moses also teaches us the power of prayer. When the children of Israel had so sinned that God was ready to bring destruction upon them, the prayer of Moses changed the heart of God and delivered the nation. (Exodus 32)

Our greatest privilege in this life is to be a follower of God, like Moses. Following God begins with Bible study and obedience. (2 Timothy 2:15, Acts 2:36-38) It continues as self is sacrificed to God. (Romans 12:1) The result of following God is "an inheritance in the kingdom of Christ and of God." (Ephesians 5:5) What choice are you making for God? Please choose to become a Christian and to be faithful to God.

***By Charles Box, Walnut Street Church of Christ, 306 Walnut Street,
Greenville, Alabama USA***

