

**LESSON TWO** Exodus 2:1-25**Lesson Two, Day One** The concealment of baby Moses

1. Combine Ex. 2:1-2; Acts 7:17-21; Heb. 11:23 into an account of Moses' first three months. Write in your own words.

2. a. List the factors that led to the decision to hide Moses. Then describe God's role in each of them.

b. In what ways did the decision of Moses' parents require faith in God?

3. Give the similarities between this situation and the one described in Matt. 2:1-14.

Lesson Two, Day Two God's providence in Moses' rescue

1. Read Ex. 2:3-10. How did God work by His providence—unseen, yet accomplishing His will—in this encounter?

2. Summarize each of these passages and then show how it applies to a world event or to an event in your own life.

Job 5:12-13

Ps. 33:10-11

Prov. 16:7

Prov. 21:1

3. Personal: Do you often see God's providence, or do you see natural reasons for personal and world events? Why?

4. What does Acts 5:38-39 say about how God works in the world?

***** SYLLABUS CHAPTER TWO *****

- B. The Preparation of Moses 2:1-25
 1. From Reeds to Riches 2:1-10
 2. From Palace Halls to Wilderness Hills 2:11-25

Now we focus our attention on the greatest man, outside of Christ, who ever lived. Criticisms come and go, but Moses remains the most commanding figure of the ancient world.

Dr. I. M. Halderman says, "The life of Moses presents a series of striking antitheses. He was the child of a slave, and the son of a queen. He was born in a hut and grew up in a palace. He inherited poverty and enjoyed unlimited wealth. He was the leader of armies and the keeper of flocks. He was the mightiest of warriors and the meekest of men. He was educated in the court and dwelt in the desert. He had the wisdom of Egypt and the faith of a child. He was fitted for the city and wandered in the wilderness. He was tempted with the pleasures of sin and endured the hardships of virtue. He was backward in speech and talked with God. He was a fugitive from Pharaoh and an ambassador from heaven. He was the giver of the law and the forerunner of grace. He died alone on Mount Moab and appeared with Christ in Judea (Mt. of Transfiguration)." **B. The**

Preparation of Moses 2:1-25**1. From Reeds to Riches 2:1-10**

No trumpets sounded when Moses was born. There was no indication at all that this beautiful baby boy (v. 2), Amram and Jochebed's third child, would become a great man, the leader of the Hebrew nation.

But perhaps this mother and father sensed that their tiny son was special and that in some way God's hand was upon him. Heb. 11:23 declares, "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months by his parents . . . and they were not afraid of the king's commandment."

The three months must have passed by quickly. Each day his baby lungs grew stronger, bringing him closer to discovery. But Jochebed was relying on God to show her what to do when she could no longer conceal the baby. Pharaoh had commanded that Hebrew baby boys be left at the river Nile to die. Finally, no doubt under His divine guidance, Moses' mother saw to it that a little chest or ark (a "paper boat" woven from rushes of papyrus and coated with pitch) was made. The precious babe was laid inside and placed in a thicket of reeds at the river's edge under big sister Miriam's watchful eyes. Moses' family had faith that something would happen to save their baby. It was a matter of waiting on God. God turns evil into good. Despite all opposition, God works out His eternal purposes. In this instance, God used Pharaoh's murderous edict to educate His chosen future leader "in

all the wisdom of Egypt." Moses would need to understand their ways many years later. How amazing! Pharaoh's household would soon be nurturing one of the hated Hebrews in their own court. No matter how often we read this account, it is fascinating and thrilling. What split-second timing! The princess came to the riverbank at the critical moment, and God's own hand guided her eye to the tiny, half-concealed boat.

God's timing is always perfect. There are times He calls upon us to patiently wait, but He is never late. We can be assured that the careful timing in Moses' life is an example of His timing for all His children. Again and again, we are assured "God is no respecter of persons." He deals with each of us as though we were an only child. No matter how overwhelming and impossible the circumstances, there is nothing too hard for Him (Jer. 32:17; 32:27).

2. From Palace Halls to Wilderness Hills 2:11-25

God not only saved little Moses' life, but also, He brought blessings "exceedingly abundantly above what we could ask or even think" (Eph. 3:20 KJV) to Jochebed. It was she who nursed her precious son. Moses grew in his babyhood at her knee. He received his earliest impressions and learned of his religious heritage from her. She taught him about God's love and promises.

There is abundant evidence in all this for Christian parents to place their children in God's care in their infancy. No matter how deeply we love our children, He loves them more. No matter how diligently we care for them, He is able to give them better care. His wisdom is greater than ours. We can see this in the life of Moses. When the day came for Moses to leave his mother's side, he was prepared. He had a deep sense of identity.

It appears that he was sent to the university of Heliopolis (by the river Nile) to be instructed in all learning. Acts 7:22 says Moses "became mighty in words and deeds." The Jewish historian Josephus tells us that Moses became an illustrious commander in the Egyptian army. Nevertheless, Moses never forgot who he was. Exodus 2:11 makes that plain with the phrase, "he went out to where *his own people (his brethren, KJV) were.*"

We have now come to one of those places in God's Word where we become keenly aware of how the Bible gives a true picture of its heroes. Human biographies so often cover or tone down the full story. God's Word tells it exactly like it is. Moses' defects and weaknesses are not concealed from us. Moses rushed ahead of God. He acted on impulse and the emotion of the moment.

Moses' intentions were noble. It was noteworthy that he should resolve to turn away from moving toward