

#9 Moses | March 25, 2018

The First 40 Years

- The birth of Moses came during a God-ordained baby-boom. Exodus 1:7, 9-10, 12, 20.
 - On Exodus 1:19, rather than viewing the midwives as liars (albeit "white lies,") perhaps we should see them as telling the truth. There appear to be only two midwives for all the Hebrew people (v. 15), and the text repeatedly speaks of the multiplication of the people.
 - Note that there is no condemnation of the tactics of the midwives voiced by God. Rather, it is said that they **feared God** and were rewarded by Him (v. 21).
- The salvation of Moses was providential for developing a leader who would save the Hebrew people.
 - There are several indications that God's hand of favor was on Moses from the time of his birth.
 - He was born in the house of Levi, the future priestly (intermediary) tribe (Ex. 2:1).
 - It is said of the Baby Moses that he was beautiful three times in Scripture: Exodus 2:2, Acts 7:20, Hebrews 11:23.
 - He was providentially spared an almost certain death (Ex. 2:1-10) and allowed to be raised by his own mother, instilling Hebrew values that would never leave him.
- The royal training of Moses would give him all the tools he needed for successfully leading the "Let My people go" campaign.
- The slaying of the Egyptian slave pushed Moses into the next segment of his life, which would also be providentially used of God in the future (Ex. 2:11-15).
 - Moses did not have to identify with the Hebrew people.
 - His silence would have given him a comfortable—and forgotten—life.
- Perhaps one of the greatest lessons of these years was learning to be hated and accused by his own biological people and his adopted people.

The Second 40 Years

- In many ways, these were the "silent years," yet were tremendous years of mental preparation.
- The "burning bush" experience was a one-time, dramatic revelation from God in which Moses received his call to action (Ex. 3:1-22).
- God gave Moses dramatic evidence of his call, as well as a life-long helper.
 - The rod turned to a serpent (Ex. 4:1-5)
 - Moses' hand turned leprous, then healed (Ex. 4:6-9)
 - Moses given Aaron to help him (Ex. 4:9-17).

The Third 40 Years

- Moses' most dramatic period of life began with miserable failure (Ex. 5).
- 215 years after the family went to Egypt, Moses led them out.
 - Exodus 6:16-20 – four generations from Levi.
 - Levi – 137 years
 - Kohath – 133 years – in the original journey to Egypt.
 - Amram – 137 years at death
 - Exodus 12:40 and Galatians 3:17.
- Moses was 80 years old when he spoke to Pharaoh – Exodus 7:7
- The plagues (and other miracles) were to convince Pharaoh and the Egyptians, but Pharaoh's heart was hardened (Ex. 7-11).
- Moses struggled in leading the Israelites out of Egypt over a 40 year period.
- Because Moses struck the rock in the wilderness, he was not allowed to enter the Promised Land (Num. 20:7-12). This is because, unknown to Moses, the rock was representative of Christ (1 Cor. 10:4).
- Moses' body was buried in an unknown place by God (Dt. 34:6) and Michael and Satan fought over the body (Jude 1:9).

Things you may not know

- These events began about 1572 BC (Moses' birth), and the Exodus was about 1491 BC, approx. 2500 years after creation.
- Moses likely had two wives...or more.
 - Exodus 2:18, 3:1, Numbers 10:29, Judges 1:16
 - Numbers 12:1
- Many believe that Moses will be one of the two witnesses of the book of Revelation (Rev. 11:3).