

As Joseph was a picture of Messiah, Yeshua reflects the life of Moses in many ways.

- Both were born under times of Jewish oppression
- Both escaped death miraculously as infants
- Both lived in Egypt as immigrants for a time
- Both was mistaken for Gentiles for a time. (Moses in Midian and Yeshua Who is seen by many Jews as a Leader of Christians)
- Both brought people in bondage to freedom, for as Hebrews were enslaved to Egypt, we were enslaved by sin

Yeshua is on every page of the bible if your eyes are opened.

Welcome! (Ma shlomech!)

Memory Scripture for week: Isaiah 41:10 (Thank you, Chris!)

“Fear not, for I am with you; Be not dismayed, for I am your God.
I will strengthen you, yes, I will help you,
I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.”

Book of Mysteries, Day 102, The Miriam Mystery

Hebrew word study: TOV “good, very good / beautiful”

Name given to Moses by his birth parents. TOVIAH / TOBIAH “God is Good”

Another name given Moses by the people was Shamaiah Ben Natanel, or “Son to whom God gave the Torah”

Before opening Exodus 2, let's look at some of the reasons God had for the Hebrews' sojourn in Egypt.

- To save them from famine.
- To grow in size into a nation in order to take on the Canaanites (in a place of plenty and a place of peace for many years)
- Then, to suffer oppression in order to cause them to desire to leave Egypt

What happened in Babylon? They became too comfortable. New generations thought of Babylon as their home. When God opened the doors to return to Jerusalem, most Jews remained in Babylon.

God comforts the afflicted and afflicts the comfortable.

Because of that affliction they had to depend on God alone.

But I believe there is one more reason for their time in Egypt. God is a merciful God. He gives the lawless ones time to turn from their wicked ways or to go so far they are completely given over to sin. In doing so, it is a witness to those who might think God unjust in dealing with them.

In Genesis, God made a covenant with Abram, and told him His plan.

Read Genesis 15:17

Hebrews would not move into their land, given by God, until the iniquity of the Amorites had reached its peak. God's timing came in Exodus. The Amorites had reached that point of no return.

Exodus, chapter 1, the population of the Hebrews exploded quickly. Pharaoh feared their might. 2 Hebrew word for "might" means to 'crunch their bones!' He enslaved "with rigor." "Peh rek", "to break apart." The attempt was to break their spirit.

God used the "two" women to be witnesses to Pharaoh.

By the way, why are we never told in the Bible the Pharaohs' names? Perhaps Job gives us a clue. Read Job 18:17

"His remembrances shall perish from the earth, and he shall have no name."

Maybe God doesn't even honor them by giving us their names.

Read chapter 2, verses 1-2

Here, we see the practice of a future Levitic law. The priests were to marry within their tribe of Levi. Somehow, the Hebrews in Egypt were aware that that was to be done.

The parents were Amram (friend of the Most High) and Yocheved (God's Glory)

(Numbers 26:59 gives names)

They had two older children, Miriam and Aaron, who was three when Moses was born. Evidently, the command to kill all baby boy of the Hebrew came after Aaron's birth.

"He was a 'goodly' child. This TOV, indicating he was a beautiful baby and it is here he received his Hebrew name, Toviah.

Yocheved was able to "hide" him 3 months. The word, hide means "to cover; to protect."

Verse 3

Whether God spoke to her or He gave intuition to do this, no one knows.

The word "ark" is 'tevah' and is used only twice in the Bible; here, and in Genesis for Noah's ark.

Both Noah and Moses were kept safe from "troubled waters." The Hebrew children were preserved by both arks (as well as the rest of us!)

Moses was saved from watery death for other baby boys.

In Egypt they made small boats out of the same material - bulrushes or papyrus. Everywhere else in the bible as :atonement." Seems like a picture for us that atonement protects us from "death due to our sin," just as that pitch protected Moses from the water.

Yocheved slipped the basket into the 10-15' high bulrushes along the "ooze" of the Nile's edge.

Verses 5-6

His sister Miriam stationed herself at a distance to observe.

When Pharaoh's daughter opened the basket, Moses began to cry and she felt compassion. Perhaps a motherly instinct. She said, "This is one of the Ivri yel ed,' Hebrew children.

It was as if the Nile god had gifted her with a child, for her was childless.

Hatshepsut, the princess was to become the 5th Pharaoh in the 18th Dynasty. The number 5 represents grace.

So often, in Jewish history, we see that Israel being helped by God in using a Gentile to keep them from destruction. Examples are Joseph's Pharaoh, Esther's King Ahasuerus, people who saved Jews during WWII.

Verses 7-10

Yocheved not only saved her son, but now she is going to receive a wage for caring for him for 3 years! The first 5 years of a child's life sets his character in most cases. Little sponges.

God is so good. You just know, that during those 3, possibly plus years Moses received teaching every day, all day from Godly parents. And those teachings remained with him.

Could it have been know that Pharaoh's daughter was childless? And, that her schedule was to go

to the Nile at a certain time to bathe? Her bathing was possibly a religious ritual as they worshiped the God of the Nile. 3

The Nile was infested with crocs, but she had a special area that was crocodile-free zone in which to bathe.

Early Egyptian religion contained much truth of the One True God, but over the years was perverted to superstition.

Thutmosees II, illegitimate son and step-son of Hatshepsut was raised primarily by the Egyptian priests, being completely saturated in the dark arts. As we'll read in chapter 7, he had magicians who, at least that instance, had supernatural powers from Satan. He also is credited for writing or compiling Egypt's Book of the Dead, concerning their afterlife beliefs.

As he was approximately the same age as Moses, they were being raised in the same time frame.

Moses, on the other hand, received the best education of the day, as Hatshepsut was preparing him to become the next Pharaoh, for the name of Moses appears on several papyri describing him as "royal" prince.

So, now we see that the Pharaoh's plan not only was thwarted, but he ended up paying for Moses early care and had Moses growing up in his own household to replace him! Oh, the irony. I'm sure God laughs at the ways of men.

Moses was tutored in reading, writing, several languages, arithmetic, astronomy, the laws of the land, philosophy, and medicine. Even though Egyptian medicine contained mostly nonsense, not a bit of that shows up as they go throughout their Exodus.

Egyptians loved outdoors games and Moses would have enjoyed archery as well as horseback riding. Egyptian families were valued. An ancient text says the following:

"Love your wife at home, as is fitting. Fill her belly, cloth her back; ointment is the prescription for her body. Make her heart glad as long as you live." I like that!

The palace itself must have been magnificent with a courtyard filled with flowers and huge pond, animals and birds.

Furnishings were quite modern with tables and chairs similar to what we know; beds: so different from nomadic Hebrew life.

Gala dinners held with each guest having his own servant or more. Blind harpers played songs of love and folk music. Acrobatic dancers entertained.

Women loved perfumes, ointments and makeup, especially for the eyes. I've heard that some of eye coloring contained arsenic.

Slaves, on the other hand, lived mostly on bread and a thick beer, but on Egyptian fest days they generously handed out meats and bread to the work gangs.

Upon reaching adulthood, Moses was appointed a general and sent out leading a campaign against the Ethiopians who had been constantly invading the southern edges of Egypt. He came home with victory, but Jewish sages teach that an Ethiopian princess saw him and fell for him. She sent word to him she wanted to marry him. He agreed if she would see that he took one the cities and was good for his word.

The sages believe that is where Moses got his Ethiopian wife spoken of in Numbers 12:1.

Verses 11-12

Time to make a decision; whether to continue as Hatshepsut's son, living with wealth and power, or join his brothers.

Read Hebrews 11:24-27

Here, we see that he made his choice. By faith, he declined the throne. Somehow, he had a sense

4 of his destiny as their “savior.” His timing just wasn't God's timing.

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The word, “smiting” in verse 11 is the same as in verse 12. It can mean murder. The Egyptian may have been in the process of killing that Hebrew. But, the word “hid” is not the same as when Yocheved “hid” baby Moses. This word for hid means “done in secret.”

Verses 13-14

The number TWO stands for witnesses or division.

Exodus is Book # 2 and the story of Hebrews being “divided “ from the Egyptians.

Here in verse 13 we find 2 Hebrew men, witnesses to his crime. But this incident will also divide him from Egypt and all he has known for 40 years.

“Why did you kill one of your own?” they ask. Even though Moses felt a p[rotective nature toward his people, they did not see him as one of them, let alone a leader.

Read Acts 7:22-28

Moses fled from fear of Pharaoh who sought to slay him.

Verses 15-16

There are two possibilities here, that I found.

One: Pharaoh sought any method to kill Moses.

Two: this was more of a show for people. Hatshepsut would have tried to protect her son from punishment.

Now, back to Hebrews 7:27

(This passage is pointing to the time of Exodus when Moses did not flee Egypt with all the people out of fear of Pharaoh.)

So, after finding out he had been seen killing the Egyptian, he bolted and ran to Midian, home of distant relatives. Whether or not he had that in mind we don't know. Midian was an area named after one of Abraham's sons by Keturah. It is East of Egypt and the Sinai Peninsula in Northern Arabia.

One day in his future he would bring the Israelites back through there. Josephus positions Midia including Mt. Horeb, Arabia.

Verse 15

Moses sat down by a well.

This is a euphemism for he “camped out there.”

Verses 16-17

The priest of Midian, Jethro, was probably a combination priest, judge, and leader of the Midians.

He is listed under seven different names, three of which are the following:

Jethro (Heb. Yitro-“excellency”),

Ruel (Heb. Ru “friend” and el “God” meaning 'Friend of God')

Putiel (“Redeemed of God”)

Saudi Arabia's city of Medina also has been called “Jethro.” So, there seems to be a connection here

Drawing water took a long time to collect enough for all the flock and the other shepherds waited until the girls had done that then chased them off to take advantage of water already drawn.

Moses showed again his compassion for injustice and came to their rescue.

Verses 18-20

Like Joseph, he was not recognized as a Hebrew, but taken for an Egyptian.

Their father was indignant that they hadn't brought him home to honor him as was the strong

custom of the Middle East to welcome visitors. Maybe in the back Jethro's mind was also the fact he had 7 marriageable daughters.

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Verses 21-22

Like Jacob, Moses was willing to remain with his family and marry Zipporah (“bird; beautiful”)

First son, Gershom, “Banishment” (Literally, 'I have been a guest in a foreign land.')

Second son, Eliezer, “My God is my help.”

Verses 23-25

God had some training for Moses

-He had to learn humility and patience (Numbers 12:3)

-He needed to know the Lord and to depend on Him alone

-He needed to learn to shepherd

-He needed to learn the lay of the land; to know where to find water, etc.

During those 40 years of testing, the Hebrew children were also being tested, forcing them to cry out to the Lord.. During this period Thuthmoses II died and Hatshepsut took the reins, becoming the most powerful woman in Egypt's history.

Thuthmoses III, the illegitimate son gained the position as co-ruler with her, but being power-hungry, he murdered Hatshepsut. Moses would return to Egypt to face that Pharaoh who he probably knew; the one who murdered his Egyptian mom.

I found this comment written by Sarah Liberman, a Jewish believer.

“All people have a choice as to which blessings or curses will be at work in our lives. We can decide to be with the Lord as laid out below...or not.

'See, I have set before you today life and prosperity, death and destruction.

For I command you today to love the Lord your God,

To walk in obedience to Him,

And to keep His commands, decrees, and laws;

Then you will live and increase,

And the Lord will bless you.'

Let us choose blessings for our lives.” AMEN

Next Week we tackle chapter 3. God bless. Shalom