

~Hebrews~

Lesson 30 – By Faith...Moses part 2

The book of Hebrews is written to the Hebrew Christians admonishing them to persevere and endure, having their hope fixed on Jesus instead of falling back under the Law.

- In chapter 11, Paul, is reminding them that righteousness comes by grace through faith and not through the works of the Law.
- Eternal Salvation is through faith alone and he is warning them not to abandon this faith
 - He reminds them of the Old Testament heroes and how they stood their hope of Eternal Salvation on faith

We learned last week that there is a choice in walking by faith

- There is a refusing and a choosing
 - Refusing the passing pleasures of sin and choosing the eternal reward of Jesus Christ
- There must be a turning from and a turning to
 - Turning from the temporal and turning to the eternal

We saw this in last week's text with Moses

- By faith Moses' parents chose the promise over the edict of the king of Egypt
- By faith Moses when he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, chose to suffer affliction with the children of Israel
 - considering the reproach of Christ as infinitely more worthy and greater than all the treasures of Egypt
 - Why? – because he looked to the eternal reward

Today we are continuing the faith of Moses in the time of the Exodus of Egypt, Hebrews 11:27-29

Let's read today's text:

Hebrews 11:27-29

27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

28 By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

29 By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

- These three verses give us pre-figure of our path unto Eternal Salvation by faith
 - V.27 – by faith we forsake our old life and the sin of this world and choose Jesus
 - V.28 – by faith we commit our life to Jesus and accept His gift of grace, being immersed in the blood of His New Covenant
 - V.29 – by faith we are baptized into Jesus Christ and resurrected unto eternal life with Him

By Faith Moses Forsook Egypt

Hebrews 11:27

By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.

To get the full understanding, we need continue the account of Moses' life from last week.

- We left off when Moses “became of age” and chose to reject Egypt and accept God's calling

Exodus 2:11, Acts 7:23

11 Now it came to pass in those days, when he was forty years old Acts 7:23 when Moses was grown, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel Acts 7:23, and he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens.

This is when God called Moses and it came into his heart to be the deliverer.

Exodus 2:11-12, Acts 7:24-29

And seeing one of them suffer wrong ^{Acts 7:24}, ¹¹ he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. ¹² So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he defended and avenged him who was oppressed, and struck down the Egyptian ^{Acts 7:24}, and ¹² killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

For he supposed that his brethren would have understood that God would deliver them by his hand, but they did not understand ^{Acts 7:25}.

And the next day he appeared to two Hebrew men as they were fighting, and tried to reconcile them, saying, ‘Men, you are brethren; why do you wrong one another?’ ^{Acts 7:26}, ¹³ and he said to the one who did the wrong, ‘Why are you striking your companion?’ But he who did his neighbor wrong pushed him away, saying, ‘Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?’ ^{Acts 7:27} ¹⁴ Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?’

¹⁴ So Moses feared and said, ‘Surely this thing is known!’ Then, at this saying, Moses fled and became a dweller in the land of Midian, where he had two sons ^{Acts 7:29}.

After Moses received the call to be the deliverer and made the decision to refuse to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, you can imagine he is probably eager to get this going.

- Moses, probably being an ambitious person and being trained in the art of Egypt, tries to make a showing to prove that he has changed and is now one of the children of Israel.
- I’m sure he had this all planned out, being a great military leader and ruler in Egypt
 - Remember, the text we read last week says he became great in Egypt by his own doing, Heb 11:24
- He thought he might go down to his brethren, kill this Egyptian and show them he is now on their side and prove to them that he is their deliverer sent to set them free.
 - But to Moses’ surprise the Hebrews turn on him and they give him a completely unexpected response.
 - This scares Moses and he flees Egypt

Some commentators think this verse in Hebrews 11:27 that says he “forsook” Egypt is the same account as what we just read of him “fleeing” Egypt.

- I disagree with this on a couple of points
 - The Greek word “forsook” in Heb 11:27 is *kataleipo*, *καταλείπω*- to leave behind, intensely separate, relinquish, devoid, forsake
 - The Greek word “fled” in Acts 7:29 is *φεύγω*- to escape, stand fearfully aloof, flee
- Therefore, this fleeing from the king of Egypt in Acts 7:29 is not the forsaking in Heb 11:27.

So when did Moses forsake Egypt?

- Moses fled Egypt, but he hadn’t forsaken Egypt because God’s people were still in the land and he knew he was called to be their deliverer.
- 40 years go by and God finally tells Moses, from the burning bush, that it is time to lead His people out of Egypt.
 - When Moses is 80, he returns to Egypt and by faith tells Pharaoh, “Let my people go”
 - This is the point he forsakes Egypt because he knows this time he is leaving with the children of Israel.
 - Why? Because he is operating by faith, standing on the Word that God spoke to him in the burning bush, Ex 3

- The first time, Moses flees Egypt in fear, Acts 7:29
- The second time Moses forsakes Egypt by faith
 - humbled under the mighty hand of God, 1 Pet 5:7
 - under the *One who is invisible*, God Almighty

Why did God wait 40 years to send Moses back?

- At the time when Moses fled to Midian when he was 40, there were two Hebrew babies being born in Egypt, Joshua and Caleb.
 - Out of 1,000,000+ people at the Exodus from Egypt, only 2 people from that generation were allowed to enter the Land of promise because of their faith.
 - These two were Joshua and Caleb
 - Is it possible that God was waiting until Joshua and Caleb were grown before he would send Moses back?
- These 40 years were also used as a training period for Moses
 - God used this time to strip away his old thinking of being a prince of Egypt and renew his mindset to be a humble shepherd in Midian
 - His dokimion, δοκίμιον, was being built up and ready for the calling

Moses had two oppositions when going back:

- Pharaoh and the children of Israel
 - Moses asks a legitimate question, “What do I do if they don't believe me?”, Ex 4:1
 - God prepared Moses with three signs to show the children of Israel, Ex 4:1-9
 - and assured Moses that after many mighty wonders, Pharaoh would let His people go, Ex 3:20

By faith he forsook Egypt... for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible, Heb 11:27

- Moses confronted Pharaoh 9 times and he did it enduring, as seeing the invisible, with boldness and faith, *not fearing the wrath of the king*. For he knew God was with him.

When God calls us to be a fellow worker with Him, He expects us to forsake our old lives and follow Him looking to the reward of eternal life with Him.

- Abraham forsook Ur, Ruth forsook Moab, Moses forsook Egypt, Elisha forsook the plow, The Apostles forsook all, Matt 19:27
- Even Jesus gave up everything to walk in the Father's will to become a man
 - looking to a future hope and the joy that was set before Him, Heb 12:2

Philippians 2:7 He emptied Himself, receiving the form of a servant, being made in the likeness of mankind, ^{Rom 8:3} in the likeness of sinful flesh, ^{2 Cor 5:21} For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him.

Jesus isn't asking us to do anything that He hasn't already done

Matthew 16:24-25 ²⁴ Then Jesus said to His disciples, “If anyone desires to come after Me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow Me. ²⁵ For whoever desires to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for My sake will find it.

John 12:25 He who loves his life will lose it, and he who hates his life in this world will keep it for eternal life.

Galatians 2:20 I have been crucified with Christ; it is no longer I who live, but Christ lives in me; and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave Himself for me.

By Faith Moses Kept the Passover

Hebrews 11:28

By faith he ^akept the Passover and the ^bsprinkling of blood, lest he who destroyed the firstborn should touch them.

This scene of the Passover is such a beautiful image of Jesus' sacrifice

- God was not only freeing the children of Israel, but using this pass-over as a type and pre-figure of Jesus' sacrifice

Exodus 11:1, 3, 6-7, 12-13

¹ And the LORD said to Moses, "I will bring one more plague on Pharaoh and on Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will surely drive you out of here altogether.

³ Speak to all the congregation of Israel, saying: 'On the tenth of this month every man shall take for himself a **lamb**...

⁶ Now you shall keep it (the lamb) until the fourteenth day of the same month. Then the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill it at twilight. ⁷ And they shall take some of the **blood** and put it on the two doorposts and on the lintel of the houses where they eat it.

¹² 'For I will pass through the land of Egypt on that night, and will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment: I am the LORD. ¹³ Now the **blood shall be a sign** for you on the houses where you are. And **when I see the blood**, I will **pass over** you; and the plague shall not be on you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.

The Passover is God's main agenda in the Exodus of Egypt

- Of course, there are many things happening during this event, but God is using this to foreshadow the sacrifice of His Son and using this to set up His New Covenant.
 - Jesus is the whole point of the Old Testament and we see this very clearly here in the account of the Exodus

a) *By faith he kept...*

- The Greek word "kept" is *pepoieke*, *πεποίηκε*, to commit your will to
 - This is a present active indicative of the verb *poieo*, *ποιέω*
 - This means so much more than just "to do", but it is what you commit your will to
 - What or Whom you align yourself with
 - This word has huge implications in the first epistle of John

b) *sprinkling of blood...*

- The Greek word "sprinkling" is only used once in the New Testament and not at all in the Septuagint
 - It means to pour out, shed, as in shedding blood
 - This isn't just a sprinkling of blood on the door posts.
 - It is signifying the pouring out of the blood of Jesus, dripping down the door posts and lintel as it dripped down His face and back

Matthew 26:28 For this is My blood of the new covenant, which is **shed** for many for the remission of sins.

Paul tells us that Christ is our Passover, 1 Cor 5:7

1 Corinthians 5:7 ... For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

7 Types of Jesus found in the Passover

The lamb was selected on the 10 th of Nisan, Ex 12:3	Jesus who is the Lamb of God, Jn 1:29, rode in on a donkey on the 10 th of Nisan for the Triumphal Entry, Matt 21:5, Jn 12:12
The lamb must be without blemish or spot, Ex 12:5	Jesus, the Lamb of God, is perfect without blemish, 1 Pet 1:19, 2 Cor 5:21, Heb 9:14, 4:15
No bones of the Passover lamb are to be broken, Ex 12:46	Jesus bones were not broken on the cross, Jn 19:31-33
The lamb was killed on the 14 th of Nisan, Ex 12:6	Jesus was crucified on the 14 th of Nisan, Jn 19:14
The lamb's blood was poured out on the doorposts and lintel, Ex 12:7	The blood of Jesus was poured out as a sacrifice for the sins of all who believe, Rom 3:24-25; 1 Pet 1:18-19; Rev 12:11, 1:5; Matt 26:28, Ex 24:8
The wrath of God passed over anyone who had the blood on the door posts and lintel, Ex 12:23 (even Egyptians would have been saved by the blood of the lamb)	The judgement of sin will pass-over anyone who is covered by the blood of Jesus, Rom 8:1; 1 Thess 5:9; Is 53; Eph 1:7; Col 1:13, 1 Pet 1:18-19; Heb 9:11-15
Passover must be eaten and eaten with an expectant readiness of heart with a belt on your waist, sandals on your feet, and a staff in your hand, Ex 12:11	Jesus is the Bread of Life, Jn 6:51, and anyone who eats His flesh and drinks His blood with an expectant readiness of heart will abide in Him and have everlasting life, Jn 6:54-56; 1 Cor 11:24; Matt 26:26.

Exodus 12:13 says, "*When I see the blood, I will pass over you*"

- when God looks at us, He sees the blood of Jesus.
- Satan is the accuser of the brethren, but when Satan tries to accuse you to God, God says, I see a perfect, sinless child covered in the blood of Jesus, Rev 12:10-11.

By Faith Moses Passed through the Red Sea

Hebrews 11:29

By faith they passed through the Red Sea as by dry land, whereas the Egyptians, attempting to do so, were drowned.

After the Passover and the tenth plague on Egypt, Pharaoh finally lets the children of Israel go, Ex 13:17. However, shortly afterward, Pharaoh's heart is hardened and he chases after Israel, Ex 14:4-8

God tells Moses to purposely lead the children of Israel to the Red Sea, Ex 14:1-2

- In the natural world, this seems like a bad idea. Trapping yourself with the enemy on one side and the Red Sea on the other, but God had different plans.
 - God wanted the world to know that He is God. *By this you shall know that I am the Lord*, Ex 7:17, 8:10, 23:27,
 - This was part of God's plan setting up Joshua to conquer the promised land
 - Jericho and all God's enemies knew the mighty hand of God
 - Rahab said, "*I know the Lord has given you this land, that the terror of you has fallen on us*", Josh 2:9
- When trapped between the Red Sea and the army of the Egyptians, the children of Israel start to complain and fear for their lives, but Moses stands strong and says:

Exodus 14:13-14

13 And Moses said to the people, "Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD, which He will accomplish for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall see again no more forever. 14 The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace."

The account of the Red Sea is found in Exodus 14:

Moses raises his staff, the waters of the Red Sea part as walls of water on each side, possibly up to 500 feet deep. Moses and the children of Israel safely pass through the Red Sea on dry ground to the other side.

Isaiah 51:10 Are You not the One who dried up the sea, the waters of the great deep; that made the depths of the sea a road for the redeemed to cross over?

After Israel is safe, the barrier cloud is lifted, and the Egyptian army charges after them. God makes the waters come back together, drowning all the Egyptians, thus delivering Israel from the hand of Pharaoh.

The children of Israel passing through the Red Sea, as Paul says in 1 Corinthians 10:1-2, were baptized into Moses, namely Moses faith. This is a type and pre-figure of us being baptized into the faith of Jesus Christ.

- It was only by the faith of Moses that the children of Israel passed through the Red Sea.
- Likewise, it is only by the faith of Jesus Christ that we are baptized into Him unto Everlasting Life.

Galatians 3:22- But the Scripture has imprisoned all under sin, so that the promise, **out from the faith of Jesus Christ**, might be given to those who are believing.

Galatians 3:22- ἀλλὰ συνέκλεισεν ἡ γραφή τὰ πάντα ὑπὸ ἁμαρτίαν, ἵνα ἡ ἐπαγγελία **ἐκ πίστεως Ἰησοῦ Χριστοῦ** δοθῇ τοῖς πιστεύουσι.

These three events Hebrews 11:27-29, namely Forsaking Egypt, the Passover, and the Red Sea are beautiful types and prefigures of our path unto Eternal Salvation by faith.

- Forsaking our old life and the sin of this world and choosing Jesus
- Committing our life to Jesus and accepting His gift of grace, being immersed, and covered in the blood of His New Covenant
- Being baptized into the faith of Jesus Christ and resurrected unto eternal life with Him

The faith of Moses in the Exodus of Egypt gave the children of Israel freedom from their bondage and salvation into the land of promise.

So too does our believing in the faith of Jesus release us from the bondage of sin and bestows upon us the gift of His Eternal Salvation, but only when we deny ourselves, forsake this world, and choose to follow Him.

Isaiah 49:6 Indeed He says, 'It is too small a thing that You should be My Servant to raise up the tribes of Jacob, and to restore the preserved ones of Israel; I will also give You as a light to the Gentiles, That You should be My salvation to the ends of the earth.' "

God called Moses into some seemingly outrageous events to lead them to their deliverance. But we never see Moses waiver, and in fact he embraces everything God calls him to do by faith.

So we, when God is calling us into our deliverance, even if we don't understand with our physical senses, we must respond with faith. Seeing Him who is invisible with the eyes of our faith. Because our eyes of faith are **not** fixed on the temporal, but on the eternal reward of Christ.

Looking to Him for our Eternal Salvation
and Deliverance