

MOSES – LIFE OF DESTINY #3 “Learning Contentment”

Exodus 2:15-22

Moses: An important lesson is learning contentment: Flows out of service/being hidden/learning to trust God.

Exodus 2:15-22 ¹⁵When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well. ¹⁶Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters. And they came and drew water, and they filled the troughs to water their father's flock. ¹⁷Then the shepherds came and drove them away; but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock. ¹⁸When they came to Reuel their father, he said, "How is it that you have come so soon today?" ¹⁹And they said, "An Egyptian delivered us from the hand of the shepherds, and he also drew enough water for us and watered the flock." ²⁰So he said to his daughters, "And where is he? Why is it that you have left the man? Call him, that he may eat bread." ²¹Then Moses was content to live with the man, and he gave Zipporah his daughter to Moses. ²²And she bore him a son. He called his name Gershom, for he said, "I have been a stranger in a foreign land."

I. LEARNING TO SERVE

A. Sometimes we can have a high opinion of ourselves

1. Moses was raised in a palace: *Best education/wealth/attention*
 - a. *Some scholars feel he was a military hero*
2. So the idea of God having plans for our lives – we think in terms of attention
 - a. *I will star for God! I will be on the platform/with a microphone/having a title...*
3. These attitudes always cause problems
 - a. *Conflict with others/making bad decisions (murder!)/harming the cause of God*

B. God uses the conflicts/problems to teach us – to humble us

1. Moses runs away to the desert of Midian – and winds up with a shepherd
 - a. **Genesis 46:34** *shepherds are detestable to the Egyptians; Low-class/despised/unimportant*
 1. Moses winds up being a shepherd – working for someone else
2. Moses learned to serve: He was serving someone else's interests
 - a. That is often the starting point of usefulness
 1. **Mark 9:35** ³⁵*Jesus sat down and called the twelve apostles to him. He said, "Whoever wants to be the most important must be last of all and servant of all."*
3. Service is putting your interests lower/later than the interests of others – or of the ministry/church
 - a. Getting work done – to bless others
 1. **Luke 16:12** *And if you have not been faithful in what is another man's, who will give you what is your own?*
4. You cannot have your own destiny unless you can serve other people's

II. LEARNING TO BE HIDDEN

A. Moses came from Egypt: *The capitol/the palace; People would have seen him/probably bowed to him*

1. He is in the back of the desert **Exodus 3:1** *Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.*
 - a. The middle of nowhere: No one knows that he is serving his father-in-law!
2. The hiddenness of destiny is often the struggle
 - a. *If there were public announcements – ladies and gentlemen! Moses is humbly/fantastically serving*
3. For disciples it is difficult to be hidden: To do right when no one knows it
 - a. Every disciple must be hidden in order to develop/enter destiny
 - b. **Isaiah 49:2** ²*He made my mouth like a sharpened sword, in the shadow of his hand he hid me; he made me into a polished arrow and concealed me in his quiver.*
4. This is where we learn humility – this is where we learn to trust
 - a. Can you do right if you are hidden? b. You pray – no one knows. Witness/give/help...
 1. **V22** *And she bore him a son. He called his name Gershom, for he said, "I have been a stranger in a foreign land."*

III. LEARNING TO TRUST

A. The story of Moses serving while being hidden ends with the story of God at work

1. **Exodus 2:24-25** ²⁴*God heard their groaning and he remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac and with Jacob.* ²⁵*So God looked on the Israelites and was concerned about them.*
 - a. God was doing things – that Moses knew nothing about
 - b. God is working in you – things that you may not realize how powerful they are
 - c. God is working for you – preparing circumstances for your destiny to be revealed
2. God sees where you're at! God knows what you are doing!
 - a. So Trust God! He knows where you're at – and will speak to us at the right time