The Life of Moses
Discussional Bible Studies.

Study Notes by Stuart Olyott

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# The Life of Moses

## Discussional Bible Studies.

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1- Its birth : and his escape to Midian.

Passages for study: Exodus 2:1-10, 11-23.

Generals Questions:-

- From which tribe did Moses come?
- How long did his mother keep him at home?
- What did his mother do with him?
- Who stayed nearby to see what would happen?
- Who rescued him? What happened to him ultimately?
- Did Moses know to which people he belonged?
- How did he react?
- What happened the next day, and what made him afraid?
- Why did he have to rescue Jethro's daughters?
- How did the girls answer their father's question?
- What was the father's reaction, and how did Moses react?
- What happened to Moses as a result?
- What were his feelings now towards his own people?

Questions for discussion:-

1. By what varied means from birth onwards was Moses prepared for his life work? What does this teach us?
2. What useful lessons can we learn from Moses' parents?
3. Was Moses right or wrong to fill the Egyptian? Give reasons for your views.
4. What does today's study teach us about God?

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2. God calls Moses.

Passage for study: Exodus 3:1-17.

General Questions:-

- Where was Moses at this time?
- How did the angel of the Lord appear to him?
- How precisely did the Lord address him?
- Was Moses quick to answer?
- What was God's answer to that, and how did Moses react?
- What had God heard, seen and known?
- What had He decided to do?
- What made Him want to do something about the situation?
- Where was Moses to fit into the plan?
- What was Moses reaction to that, and how did God answer him?
- When Moses still hesitated, how did God reassure him?

Questions for discussion:-

1. Who was the angel of the Lord?
2. What should we do if we are asked to take on some Christian work which is don't feel able to do?
3. What does this passage teach about God?
4. What did God mean when He said He would be WITH Moses?
   Does this throw any light on Matthew 28:20 and Hebrews 13:5?

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General Questions:

- What was the first thing God told Moses to do?
- How was God going to deal with Pharaoh and his people?
- How was Moses to convince the Israelites that God had appeared to him
  - Him the first time?
  - The second time?
  - The third time?
- How did Moses react to the Lord’s sending him?
- How did God answer Moses?
- Did Moses still refuse to go?
- What was God’s answer?
- What was Moses to take with him? and why?

Questions for discussion:

1. Why, precisely, did God give Moses the power to work miracles?
   What does this teach us about miracles in general?
2. What weaknesses do you see in Moses’ character?
   In what ways do the same weaknesses show themselves to day?
3. What principles concerning Christian work can we learn from today’s passage?
4. What does this passage teach us about God?

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4. Moses returns to Egypt.


General questions:-

- What reason did Moses give to his father-in-law for going back to Egypt?
- How did Moses know that it was safe to go back?
- What did God say to Moses?
- What did God say to the King of Egypt?
- What did God say to Aaron?
- What did Moses and Aaron say to the king of Egypt?
- How did Pharaoh react?
- What was Pharaoh's next step?
- What did the Israelite foreman say?
- What did Moses say to the Lord?

Questions for discussion:-

1. So often we are not as interested in our own relatives as Moses was. How do we get a burden for them?
2. Do you think that God arranges for you to meet certain people during the day? (See 4:27). How should this affect your attitude to them?
3. Look at 4:31. The people believed because they saw the miracles with their own eyes. What would you say to somebody who said, 'I would believe if saw a miracle'?
4. The king of Egypt wrongly accused Moses and Aaron of making the people neglect their work (5:4).
   a. How should we react when we are wrongly accused or misunderstood?
5. Does this passage contain any mistakes to avoid, and any examples to follow?
6. Why do you think such a passage as this is found in the Bible?

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5. God calls Moses.


General questions:
- How was God going to keep His promise to the children of Israel? 1
- To whom did God appear, and what was His promise to them? 3
- What did God promise? 7
- Who was Moses going to be like? 1
- Was Aaron to be to Moses? 1
- How did Moses and Aaron prove themselves? 8
- What turned into a snake? 10
- What did the wise men and magicians do? 11
- What did Aaron's rod do? 12
- Did the king listen to Moses and Aaron? 13

Questions for discussion:
1. Moses and Aaron were instruments to bring to pass God's promise to rescue Israel, and to take it to Canaan. How can we help God fulfil His plan for the world today?
2. 6:9. The Israelites did not listen to a message which had come from God Himself. Why? What can we learn from this?
3. Moses and Aaron kept going, even when no-one listened to them.
4. What was their secret? What does this teach us?
5. 7:11. How did the magicians manage to work miracles? What does this teach us?
6. What is the difference between divinely worked miracle, and other miracles?
7. What principles are taught in this passage which we can apply to the Lord's work today?
8. What does this passage reveal about God?

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6. Disasters strike Egypt.
(Blood, frogs, gnats, flies).

Passage for study: Exodus 7:14 - 8:32.

General question:-

- Where is Moses told to meet the king? 15
- What was going to happen to the water? 17
- How many days was the water turned into blood? 25
- Where were the frogs going to go? 3
- What did the king promise Moses and Aaron? 8
- What did God tell Moses to do? 16
- Did the magicians use their magic and succeed? 18
- Where did the king want the people to offer sacrifices? 25
- Did the king allow them to sacrifice anywhere else? 28
- Did the king allow them to go in the end? 32

Questions for discussion:-

1. In what ways does Moses set us an example to follow, in this passage?
2. 8:8. Should we pray for everyone who requests it?
3. Moses’ faith was tested several times.
   Who else in Scripture had their faith tested?
   Why does God do it?
4. What new evidences of God’s power were given in chapter 8?
   How would they have heartened God’s people?
5. What was the purpose of the plagues?
   What should we think of natural tragedies which occur today?
6. Why do you think the history of the plagues is given in such detail?

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7. Disasters strike Egypt.
(Animals die, boils, hail, locusts, darkness).

Passage for study: Exodus chapters 9 and 10.

General questions:
- What does God call Himself? 1
- What was the punishment? 3
- What happened to the Israelites' animals? 4
- What was the next plague? And it's result? 8-12
- Did all tae Egyptians ignore the threat of hail? 13-26
- What was Pharaoh's response to this plague? 27, 35
- Why did God harden Pharaoh's heart? 1-2
- How bad was the plague of locusts? 5,12
- How were they removed? 16-20
- What was special about the darkness of the plague? 21-23
- What was Pharaoh's response this time? 24-29

Questions for discussion:
1. How do you reconcile, for example, 9:34 and 10:1?
2. How do you know if someone has a hardened heart?
   What should be our attitude to such people?
3. How should we reply to people who say that they find today's narrative unbelievable?
4. What new truth is revealed about God in today's passage?
5. Why do you think this passage is in the Bible?
   What practical lessons can be learned from it?
   In what way should our lives be different as a result of studying it?

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8. The Passover.

Passage for study: Exodus chapters 11 and 12.

General Questions:

- How many sore punishments were there for Egypt? 1
- Did God take certain first-born sons? Was it only sons? 5
- Did Pharaoh allow the Israelites to leave the country? 10
- Where was the blood to come from? Where was it to be put? 5-7
- Where did the feast of the Passover originate? 13
- How many days were they to eat unleavened bread? 15
- What would happen if they did eat unleavened bread? 19-20
- What was the first thing the Israelites did? 21
- How did Pharaoh react? 11-32
- What did the Israelites carry away? 34-36

Questions for discussion:

1. What would you say to someone who said that today's passage proved that God is cruel?
2. 11:8. Why do you think Moses was angry?
   Was he right or wrong?
   When is it right to be angry?
3. In what ways was the Passover a type of Christ?
4. What do you think of Exodus 12:35-36?
5. Who would we lose if these two Chapters were missing from our Bible?

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General questions:

- Why did God not let the Israelites go the shortest way? 17
- Whose body did they take with them? 19
- How did they know which way to go? 21
- Did Pharaoh let thee go willingly? 4
- Why did he want to keep them? 5
- What was their reaction when they saw the Egyptians following? 10
- What did Moses answer? 13
- What were they to do, and who was going to fight for them? 14
- What was the next move? 15
- What position did the angel and the cloud now take? 19-20
- How did the Israelites ultimately react to God? 31

Questions for discussion:

1. What does this passage teach about God?
2. What modern theories are there about the crossing of the Red Sea? How should we react to them?
3. What would you say to someone who complains, ‘Well, nothing like that ever happens these days’?
4. What lessons for our own spiritual lives can we learn from today’s passage?
5. Why do you think God took them ‘the long way round’? Does He ever do anything similar with us?

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10. Travelling through the desert.

Passage for study: Exodus 15:22 - 16:35.

General questions:-

- Why was the place called Marah? 23
- What did the Lord show Moses, and tell him to do? 25
- What did the Lord say to Moses? 4
- What had God heard? 7
- How were the people going to know that the Lord was their God? 12
- How each food was to be gathered for each household? 16
- What happened to the food saved? 20
- What was the seventh day called? 26
- What did the people of Israel call the food, and why? 31
- How long did the Israelites take to reach Canaan? 35

Questions for discussion:-

1. Why is moaning and grumbling wrong? Can it ever be right?
2. What does this passage teach about the Sabbath day?
3. What reason is given twice in this passage as to why God alloyed His redeemed people to suffer thirst, disappointment and hunger?
   See also Deuteronomy 8:2,16 and 1 Peter 1:6-7.
   What are we to learn from this?
4. In what respects is the manna a type of our Lord Jesus Christ?
5. What does this passage teach about God?
6. In addition to what we have learned from the other questions, what can we learn from this passage which will be of help to us in our spiritual lives?

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11. Moses final Instructions.


General Questions:

- What were the words of this law to the people of Israel? 47
- Which river were they going to cross to reach the Promised Land? 47
- What was Moses told to do? 49
- Why was Moses going to die on the mountain? 51
- Would Moses see the Promised Land? 52
- In which direction was Moses able to see? 1-3
- Who had been promised this land for their descendants? 4
- Where did Moses die? How long did they mourn for him? 5, 8
- Who was his successor? 9
- Why was Moses such prophet? Give two reasons. 10-12

Questions for discussion:

1. Perhaps Moses was counting on going into the Promised Land. How should we think about the future?
2. Can one mistake ruin our Christian lives?
3. When God removes us from our task, should we always expect Him to have prepared a successor?
4. What lessons are to be learned from 34:6?
5. Moses does not appear to have been scored of dying. What should we say to believers who are?
6. What has most impressed you about the life of Moses?

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