

# JESUS IN THE OLD TESTAMENT

## Lesson 17: MOSES, the Deliverer

Aim: To see how Moses is a Type of Christ when he brought about the deliverance of Israel from Egypt, during which he carried Joseph's bones in the sure and certain knowledge of Israel's future deliverance and resurrection.

Key Scriptures: Genesis 50:20-21, 24-26. Exodus 2:13-14; 3:1-10; 12:30-31; 13:19. Psalm 83:4; 105:15.

In the last lesson, we saw how Joseph portrayed Jesus as 'Savior of the World'. We saw how the brothers' second encounter with Joseph after he became governor over Egypt is a picture of the nation of Israel's future encounter, deliverance, and restoration with their Brother Jesus Christ.

In that position as governor over all the land of Egypt, Joseph had stockpiled enough food during 7 years of plentiful harvests to keep the people of Egypt and the surrounding lands from starving during the 7 years of famine that followed. It was to Joseph in Egypt that his brothers went to buy food, and on their second visit Joseph was made known to them, and they were reconciled.

We finished the lesson with 2 verses from the final chapter of the Book of Genesis, when Joseph spoke to his brothers:

**Genesis 50:20** "But as for you, you meant evil against me; but God meant it for good, in order to bring it about as it is this day, to save many people alive.

21 "Now therefore, do not be afraid; I will provide for you and your little ones." And he comforted them and spoke kindly to them.

**Q:** What was the reason given in **v.20** that God allowed the brothers' evil against Joseph to happen?

**A:**

Despite all the unpleasantness and great hardships he had experienced as a result of his brothers' actions, Joseph was gracious and benevolent towards them. He wanted to bring them comfort and provide for them.

One day in the future, the brother of Jesus, the nation of Israel, will be confronted with Him at His second appearing, and just as Joseph's brothers were in fear of him and remorseful for how they had treated him, so will the nation of Israel be towards Jesus. When they recognize Jesus as their Messiah, just as Joseph's brothers finally recognized him, they will mourn and grieve for their past actions (Zech.12:10). And just as Joseph forgave his brothers, because he knew it was part of God's plan to save them and the inhabitants of the land, so Christ will forgive the nation who crucified Him.

From a young age, Joseph had been wise beyond his years. That wisdom brought about salvation for his family and the people in the land of Egypt. However, Joseph also knew that in the future God would restore the children of Israel to the land promised to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob - the land of Canaan. So before he died, Joseph made his brothers swear an oath:

**Genesis 50:24** And Joseph said to his brethren, "I am dying; but God will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land to the land of which He swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob."

25 Then Joseph took an oath from the children of Israel, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here."

26 So Joseph died, being one hundred and ten years old; and they embalmed him, and he was put in a coffin in Egypt.

**Q:** What did Joseph want the children of Israel to do?

**A:**

**Q:** What would be the purpose for that?

**A:**

Today's lesson is entitled **Moses, the Deliverer** in which, just as Joseph prophesied, God would 'visit His people' and take them out of Egypt. Before we look at Moses' delivering the children of Israel, are you curious to know if they kept their promise to Joseph? Especially since that generation that left Egypt with Moses are not well known for being faithfully obedient!

**Exodus 13:19** And Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for he had placed the children of Israel under solemn oath, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones from here with you."

Forty years later the 2<sup>nd</sup> generation of the Children of Israel entered the promised land under Joshua's leadership following the death of Moses:

**Joshua 24:31** Israel served the LORD all the days of Joshua, and all the days of the elders who outlived Joshua, who had known all the works of the LORD which He had done for Israel.

32 The bones of Joseph, which the children of Israel had brought up out of Egypt, they buried at Shechem, in the plot of ground which Jacob had bought from the sons of Hamor the father of Shechem for one hundred pieces of silver, and which had become an inheritance of the children of Joseph.

So for 40 years the children of Israel carried Joseph's bones around the wilderness. It was also many years after entering the promised land before Joseph was finally buried in Shechem in the land of his inheritance.

**Q:** What things therefore can we determine concerning Joseph placing his brethren under a solemn oath concerning his bones?

**A:**

Let's now return to the account of Moses, and for that we will be in the Book of Exodus.

I am sure we are all very familiar with the account of Moses as a baby in a basket amongst the bulrushes on the banks of the River Nile, and how he was rescued by Pharaoh's daughter and subsequently grew up in Pharaoh's palace in Egypt. Moses would have led quite a privileged lifestyle there, but one day he visited his people the Jews who were enslaved at that time, and he saw one being unfairly beaten by an Egyptian, whereupon Moses rose up and killed the Egyptian, and hid his body in the sand (Ex.2:12).

The following day Moses visited his brethren again:

**Exodus 2:13** And when he went out the second day, behold, two Hebrew men were fighting, and he said to the one who did the wrong, "Why are you striking your companion?"

14 Then he said, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" So Moses feared and said, "Surely this thing is known!"

**Q:** What does the Hebrew who was striking his companion accuse Moses of being when he tried to intervene? And how does Acts 7:23-27 provide further commentary on this encounter?

**A:**

As a result of this encounter, and because Pharaoh heard about the killing and sought Moses' life, so Moses fled and went to dwell in the country of Midian. It was whilst he was there that he became a shepherd and married one of the 7 daughters of the priest of Midian. (We will look at what the marriages of both

Moses and Joseph reveal to us in a future lesson.) After 40 years in Midian, God appeared to Moses with the commission to return to Egypt.

**Q:** Do you know how God appeared and spoke to Moses?

**A:**

Let's read about it:

**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.

2 And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed.

3 Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn."

4 So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

5 Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground."

6 Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father-the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God.

7 And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows.

8 "So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites...

10 "Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

**Q:** What does God tell Moses to do in v.5 and why?

**A:**

**Q:** What did v.1 say the place was, which made it 'holy ground'?

**A:**

**Q:** What was God's reason for coming down onto the holy mountain?

**A**

Underline the commission God was giving Moses in **v.10**.

**Q:** How does Moses' 40 years in Midian relate to Christ's timeline of His dealings with Israel?

**A:**

**Q:** Other examples of Christ going to 'a far country', the heavens, and Israel set aside?

**A:**

When Moses returned to Egypt having spent 40 years away, he confronted Pharaoh and told him to let God's people go. But Pharaoh would not do so. So what did God do through Moses that would eventually bring about their release?

**A:**

**Q:** What was the 10<sup>th</sup> and final plague?

**A:**

**Q:** In Exodus 4:22 God referred to Israel as His son, His firstborn, so therefore all of Israel should die that night. Did they? Explain.

**A:**

**Exodus 12:30** So Pharaoh rose in the night, he, all his servants, and all the Egyptians; and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where there was not one dead.

31 Then he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, "Rise, go out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. And go, serve the LORD as you have said.

### **The Type and the Antitype**

From his birth Moses was destined to be a ruler and the deliverer of Israel. (See Heb.11:23-26). But the first time of going to his people Moses was rejected: 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?' Moses then left for a far country before God sent him back to Egypt 40 years later to be Israel's deliverer.

At His first Advent, Jesus, who was born King of the Jews, was rejected by His brothers, the same nation of Israel, after which He went to a 'far country'.

**Q:** Which far country did Jesus go to, and what is He waiting for?

**A:**

When Moses returned to Egypt, he was accepted by his brethren the second time, and was subsequently able to bring about their deliverance from slavery under Pharaoh.

### **The Assyrian**

Jesus, on His return to the earth, will be accepted by the nation of Israel as both their King that they rejected and killed, and their Deliverer. Jesus will deliver Israel from the bondage that they will find themselves in during the great Tribulation at the hands of the Antichrist. Just as Pharaoh in Moses' day was an Assyrian king over Egypt, the most powerful nation, so the Antichrist will be an Assyrian and the most powerful world ruler at that time. *(See Isa.52:4. Act.7:18, then Isa.10:24; 14:25; 19:23. Hos.11:5. Mic.5:5-6.)*

When Jesus returns to His 'brothers' they will acknowledge their sin of unbelief and the crucifying of their King. After this, Jesus will take Israel back into the land of their inheritance.

Let's return to one final piece of the puzzle to see how the events of Moses' day match perfectly with the future events relating to Christ at His 2<sup>nd</sup> Advent. After Israel's exodus from Egypt, Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he once again decided he did not want to let Israel go from serving him. So Pharaoh and his armies pursued the children of Israel in chariots and on horseback as far as the Red Sea. With Pharaoh close behind, God told Moses to hold out his rod over the waters, and then God parted the seas and Israel crossed over on dry ground.

**Q:** What happened next?

**A:**

### **The final piece of the puzzle type**

Israel had been removed from the land of Egypt but she was not fully delivered from its influence **until** Pharaoh and his army were destroyed in the Red Sea. Likewise on Christ's return His angels will gather the Jews from the Gentile nations around the world and take them 'out of Egypt' to return to the



land. Once there, just as Pharaoh pursued the children of Israel, so the Antichrist and his armies will surround them in Jerusalem. It tells us in **Psalm 83:4** that the Gentile rulers will say: "Come, and let us cut them off from being a nation, That the name of Israel may be remembered no more."

But God has already said: "Do not touch My anointed ones, And do My prophets no harm." (**Ps.105:15**).

When Antichrist comes against the Jews and Jerusalem, then he will come against God and His anointed ones - a battle he can never win. God will utterly destroy them all. (*Est. 7:10 So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the king's wrath subsided.*) Then Christ will set up His Kingdom on earth as it will have already been established in the heavens. Hallelujah!

Did you notice how Moses' role of delivering the children of Israel, and Joseph's role as savior of the world for his brothers, are very similar? They both reveal different facets of the Antitype of Jesus Christ as both Savior and Deliverer. And of course, Moses carrying Joseph's bones throughout Israel's wilderness journey shows that they both understood the same thing: that God would still resurrect, deliver, and restore His people Israel at a time yet future.

Next lesson we will return to Moses once again. This time to look at his role as Prophet.

Let's pray...