

Famous Chapter 2's Of the Old Testament

Exodus 2

I love an interesting story. I equally love a story that gives entertaining facts. I will admit that we are given little of both in the birth of Moses story. He is possibly the most famous man to ever live. Sure, Jesus is famous. Martin Luther king is famous. Famous of all time? Jesus has been famous for about 2000 years. Moses has been famous for much longer than that. Yet, his birth is given 10 verses. I suppose Jesus birth wasn't given that many more. We all love the Moses story.

I want to break down this chapter slowly. This is not a debunking or a sermon. Let's just walk through the birth of Moses. It opens with a man from the house of Levi taking a daughter from the house of Levi. What on earth does that mean? I suppose the first guess is incest. I tend to go with the experts who lean towards the house of Levi. Meaning the town or village. In the Bible there were Canaanites that are descendants of Cain. We have the Edomites who are the descendants of Edom. It's probably the same with Levi's descendants.

Secondly, we have Moses being from the Levitical line. In the years to come, God will appoint Arron (Moses brother) as the first priest from the priestly line called the Levitical clan (Gods priests of his temple). In many ways the first verse in Exodus 2 is famous for pointing out where God was going with his priests. This is more than just a baby story.

A Quick note about the edict of that time. Pharaoh was tired of the Hebrew women having too many babies. He feared that one day they would take over just by numbers alone. So, he declared that all the male children under 2 years old be killed as a way to cull the population of slaves. What we discover is that Moses mother had two children first: a sister and brother. That is why Moses sister watched him in the basket in the reeds. That is also why his mother sent him off on the river. To avoid being killed.

As a side note, I'd like to mention Pharaohs daughter. She is not named in the Bible. Further to this, pharaoh is not named either. Which Pharaoh is he? There has been a ton of debate on this story. Historians are greatly divided on the Moses timeline. Many put Moses within Ramses II. Yet, Egyptian records don't give many details. Archeology does not help. Some parts fit and others do not. When did Moses exist? Who is this Pharaoh? This chapter is not just another chapter. It's famous for many reasons.

We also have Moses. Clearly, he looked like a Hebrew child. How did pharaohs daughter conceal him for three months? How did she pass him off to her father as hers? Didn't this go against his edict? Eventually, Moses grows up and people around him know he is Hebrew. Even Moses knows. Apparently, it's not a big deal. Moses then kills an Egyptian and flees to the desert. His step father Pharaoh tries to have him killed.

Then we have part two of this chapter. See, I told you that this chapter goes through a ton of information within a few verses. Then we have two Hebrew things happen. The Jewish religion has deep roots in these two things. The first is the Well. Sometimes the mention of a certain thing is important in the Bible. In many ways it's a Jewish writing style. Moses met his wife at a well. Isaac met Rebekah at a well. Her son Jacob met Rachel at a well. Jesus met the woman at the well.

Finally, we have a point in the Hebrew history that is dear to them. The Bible story of Joseph and his family concluded 400 years before with a drought. The Hebrew people sold themselves into slavery for food. 400 years later they are terribly oppressed by Pharaoh. This last part of Exodus 2 concludes with a cry for help to God. God has heard their cries. Yet, he provided a savior years before in the baby Moses. God was working on them even before they complained. That is why this chapter is so famous.