

MOSES - LIFE OF DESTINY #2: "Getting Ahead of God"

Exodus 2:11–15

Looking at the life of Moses: How did he enter the destiny God planned for his life? Powerful lesson: Getting ahead of God

Exodus 2:11–15 ¹¹Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. ¹²So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. ¹³And 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?" ¹⁴Then 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!" 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.

I. THE MISTAKE OF TIMING

A. Moses correctly saw a need – but he failed to understand the issue of timing

1. The right thing at the wrong time – does not go well

a. **V15** When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh

1. People don't listen/it causes trouble/we lose time; Moses spent 40 years in the desert!

2. The temptation for us is always to rush ahead of God

a. I want to preach – I'm ready: I'm moving! b. People: *You have to wait for God to prepare hearts*

c. People's problems: *We want to rush in and straighten them out: Will cause more problems*

d. Problems in the church/situations: *You have to wait for God to expose/God to work on hearts*

1. **Proverbs 19:2** ²Enthusiasm without knowledge is no good; haste makes mistakes.

B. Waiting is a powerful test in life

1. **Waiting forces us to trust God:** There are things we can't do – b/c WE ARE NOT GOD!!

a. Phillips Brooks was pacing back and forth in a fit of agitation. A friend asked what was wrong. "I'm in a hurry," he said. "But God is not."

2. **Waiting is a practical test:** *Do you believe God know what He's doing, or not?*

a. **Psalm 27:14** Wait on the LORD; Be of good courage, And He shall strengthen your heart; Wait, I say, on the LORD!

C. When we allow God to work through us in the right time – it is powerful

1. Moses goes to Egypt at the right time: Supernatural deliverance! 2. **Eccl 3:11** He has made everything beautiful in its time.

a. Day of Pentecost: When fully come – power released!

II. THE MISTAKE OF POWER

A. Moses 2nd mistake was to think he could achieve God's will with human strength

1. People need to be delivered: So I will use my strength *he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.*

a. Moses had confidence in his fighting ability: That's what will bring the victory

2. We have things we can place our confidence in

a. Talent/speaking ability/smarts/conversational skills/money – strategies/campaigns/advertising

B. Whenever our confidence is in human ability: Things don't go well

1. Mostly b/c God doesn't bless confidence in human abilities

a. **Jeremiah 17:5-6** ⁵This is what the LORD says: "Cursed are those who put their trust in mere humans, who rely on human strength and turn their hearts away from the LORD. ⁶They are like stunted shrubs in the desert, with no hope for the future. They will live in the barren wilderness, in an uninhabited salty land.

1. God works against human pride: So we wind up frustrated; Things don't go well!

C. God brought Moses to a place where his confidence was no longer in himself

1. When God called him at the burning bush: Moses response was – I CAN'T! That's good

a. *We do not place confidence in the flesh/without you we cannot do anything/we trust in you!*

2. God uses people/talent/abilities – advertising/strategies: When we keep our confidence in God!

a. **Jeremiah 17:7-8** ⁷"But the person who trusts in the LORD will be blessed. The LORD will show him that he can be trusted. ⁸He will be strong, like a tree planted near water that sends its roots by a stream. It is not afraid when the days are hot; its leaves are always green. It does not worry in a year when no rain comes; it always produces fruit.

III. GOD'S COMMITMENT OF POWER

A. There is a promise here: God is committed to His work – and His workers

1. When we make mistakes – that is not the end of God's plans for us

a. God goes to work – to help us learn the lessons of our mistakes

1. **The trouble humbles us:** *I am not as awesome as I thought! I need God!*

2. **The trouble teaches us:** *I know what doesn't work/I know what approach to avoid*

B. If we allow God to work on us – God will make sure we get where we need to go

1. The right purpose at the right time in the right way: Is powerful!

a. Moses experienced miracle power to accomplish God's will