

WEDNESDAY**Moses Is Born****Ex 2:1-10 What role did God's providence /protection play in Moses' birth story?**

Exodus 2:1 And a man of the house of Levi went and took *as wife* a daughter of Levi [by the way, her name was **JOE-che-bed** - Jochebed].

- Both of Moses' parents were LEVITES

² So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he *was* a beautiful *child*, she hid him three months.

- Beautiful = Heb. Tob = more than external beauty = same word used to characterize God's work during Creation week
 - Declared everything was "tob" = good, excellent
- He was / special baby = Jocchebed knew it = Could he be the one?
- Jocchebed / heard stories handed down by oral tradition
 - for over 2,500 years
- How God ratified covenant of RBF w/ Abraham in vision
 - Warning him / Hebrews would be enslaved 400 years—
 - timeframe that was almost fulfilled
- All of Israel expected = soon-coming deliverer to rescue them from their descent into slavery. Could this child be that deliverer?
- Jochebed prayed = Prompted by faith/ concealed her baby boy for 3 months = **Hebrews 11:23** – parents hid child by faith / not afraid of king's command
- Endangered lives of her family—three-year old son / Aaron
 - and his older sister Miriam.

³ But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and laid *it* in the reeds by the river's bank. ⁴ And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him.

- When peril could no longer be risked = Jochebed constructed small waterproof ark/ wrapped baby blanket / set him adrift in Nile

- Instructed Miriam / follow along river bank w/ watchful eye
 - to see outcome of his rescue
- Not first time / God used an ark = to save His covenant seed
- Verses 5/6 = Bathing in Nile that day, Pharaoh's daughter
 - Hat-SHEP-soot = led by God to location where / ark had lodged among reeds
- Seeing basket = princess sent her handmaiden to bring it to her
- She opened lid = recognized = Hebrew baby that her father had ordered to be destroyed = BUT
 - Her heart welled w/ pity = maternal desire when he cried
- She wanted him for her son = suddenly faced a dilemma
 - How would she feed this baby?

EXODUS 2:7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?"

- Quick-thinking Miriam ran to her, saying she knew of / wet nurse
 - but not revealing = woman = was baby's mother

⁸And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the maiden went and called the child's mother. ⁹Then Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this child away and nurse him for me, and I will give *you* your wages." So the woman took the child and nursed him.

- Pharaoh's daughter agreed to pay wages to woman = establishing proof = princess had rightful claim over boy = as her adopted son
- In His providential working / Lord ensured Jochebed would raise her own son for many years

- his Levite parents obviously instructed him in / way he should go

EXODUS 2:10 And the child grew, and she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. So she called his name Moses, saying, "Because I drew him out of the water."

- Eventually = young lad was delivered to / princess
- She named him Moses— meaning "drawn" [from the water].

- Living as / prince = Moses was educated in all wisdom of Egyptians—math sciences / recently formalized language art of reading /writing to prepare him to be next Pharaoh of Egypt
- Moses lived during time / famous Egyptian 18th dynasty = one king during this dynasty—Thutmose III, called “Napoleon of Egypt”—is considered one of most famous Pharaohs of ancient Egypt.
- New Testament tells us **Acts 7:22** Moses was “mighty in words/deed
- Ultimately = much of this education would be useless for, or even work against, what really mattered: knowledge of God and His truth.
- **How much do we focus on knowing more than what really matters**
- But trappings of wealth/ pomp left MOSES discontented.
- Our Creator has put eternity in each human heart **Ecclesiastes 3:11**
- Nothing but = restored relationship w/Him can fill void
 - and make sense of our lives
- Nothing can bring true satisfaction except = hope of eternal life which God promised before time began (**Titus 1:2**).
- N.T. Hall of Faith says of Moses— **Hebrews 11:24–27**

By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible
- Born under death decree = who could have envisioned his future?
- God’s plan for Moses = lead Hebrews out of bondage
- **To fulfill His covenant promises to Abraham/Isaac/Jacob**