

# Old Testament Eras

## *Moses*

### ***Introduction***

Since the life of Moses essentially spans 4 of the first 5 books of the Bible, we're going to use the New Testament book of Hebrews to guide our study of Moses today. To get us started, write down the first 2 things that come to mind when you think of Moses.

### ***Firmly Grounded In Faith***

***“By faith Moses’ parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king’s edict.” – Hebrews 11:23***

1. Review the account of Moses’ birth with those near you. What was Pharaoh’s edict?
2. By hiding Moses, what were some of the dangers that Moses’ parents faced?
3. For what reasons did Moses’ parents hide him?

***“By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.”***

***– Hebrews 11:24-26***

1. Read Acts 7:21-22. What type of upbringing did Moses receive?
2. What type of life did the Israelites live at that time?

3. Why did Moses choose to be mistreated with his fellow Hebrews?
4. For what reasons might this have been a challenging choice for Moses?

***“By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.”*** – Hebrews 11:27-28

1. Glance at Exodus 12:21-28. God provided protection for his people during this 10<sup>th</sup> and final plague. The blood of the animal you’re eating for supper is painted on the door post of your home, and it’s this sacrificial blood that the LORD promises will be the reason you are spared. Imagine that you are an Israelite eating the Passover meal in Egypt. What thoughts are running through your mind?
2. The Israelites have left the Egyptians and Pharaoh has them trapped between his army and the Red Sea. Read Exodus 14:13-14. How do the people respond? What thoughts might have been running through Moses head?

## ***Application***

1. Imagine that you are Moses at age 20 and you discover what your parents did for you. What kind of impact might that have had on Moses?
2. After leaving Egypt, the rest of Moses’ life was spent leading a grumbling nation through the desert. For 40 years, Moses had to deal with the narrow-sighted complaints of God’s people. If you think about it, these complaints were always the result of a focus so narrow they could only see what was happening around them in the moment. They focused on the present, and completely lost sight of the *promised* land. Discuss the following situations. Is it a situation where you would need someone to lead you away from earthly pleasures and back to a focus on heavenly treasures in the *promised* land? Why or why not?
  - You suffer injury at work because you refused to take the necessary precautions. A friend says you should sue for damages.

- Your employer offers you a huge promotion. While your new position would pay more, it would mean that you would have to work every Sunday and have less time to spend with your family.
  - Someone sells you a car and you find out that he turned back the odometer and lied about other aspects of the car. A friend says you should sue.
3. At your table, see if you can agree on the top 5 pressures that weigh on 21<sup>st</sup> century American Christians today?
  4. Those pressures of life, and perhaps many more, will be on our children as they grow up. For what reasons is it important that they see us standing firm in our faith?
  5. We saw how Moses looked ahead to his eternal home.
    - What attitudes might you have if you thought this world was all there was?
    - How could we do a better job of looking forward to our heavenly home while we're on this earth?
    - What are 3 ways that keeping your eyes on your eternal home help you to deal with this life?
  6. A fellow Christian says that he has found out that the company he works for is breaking the law in several major ways. He says that he knows he has to confront his boss but that he can't afford to get fired. What are some thoughts from today's lesson that you could share with him to encourage him?

## ***Systematic Theology***

*If we have time*

In systematic theology, we strive to find everything the Bible says about a particular topic. Systematic theology is often broken up in to 5 to 6 categories. Prolegomena, Theology, Anthropology, Christology, Soteriology, and Eschatology. Portions of Scripture from Moses' Era show up all over the place in the indexes of our systematic resources! Look for Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy!

### ***Prolegomena (The "before conversation")***

### ***Theology (The study of God)***

### ***Anthropology (The study of man)***

### ***Christology (The study of the Christ)***

***Soteriology (The study of salvation)***

***Eschatology (The study of the last things)***

***Next Week's Old Testament Era—Joshua!***

If you'd like to preview our lesson on Joshua during the week, Joshua is the focus of the Old Testament book with his name. If you don't have time to read the whole book it would still be helpful to page through it. Even if you only read the headings!