

## ***Moses The Big Failure?***

### ***Introduction:***

Have you ever failed at something “big”? I don’t mean have you ever made an “F” or a “D” on a paper, or missed a last minute shot. Many of our failures are simply minor disappointments that will be forgotten in a few days (X Box). Have you failed at something “BIG?” Getting fired, breakup of an important relationship, college, rearing your children, your marriage, at serving God,. If you have you have probably felt like a loser wanting to hide from all humanity for the rest of your life. Take heart and look at Moses.

### ***I. MOSES FAILED AT DELIVERING HIS PEOPLE, EXODUS 2.11-15***

- A. Thought he could deliver Israel all by himself, Acts 7.24.
- B. He had talent, wisdom, training, and a position of power. How could he fail?

### ***II. FLED TO MIDIAN, EXODUS 2.15B.***

- A. A barren land populated mostly by herdsmen, goats and sheep.
- B.** Not a place for such a well trained and talent man to be.

### ***III. WHAT NOW?***

- A. He meets seven daughters of a herdsman and priest. Exodus 2.16-21.
- B. Marries Zipporah and has a son, Gershom, v. 22.
- C. Pharaoh dies and Israel cries out for help, Exodus 2.23-25.
- D. Spends the next forty years as a shepherd, Exodus 3.1.

### ***IV. MOSES MEETS THE GREAT I AM, EXODUS 3.***

- A. The first words God speaks to Moses, vv. 4-5.
  - 1. God identifies Himself, v. 6.
  - 2. God has seen the affliction of Israel and heard their cries, vv. 7,9.
  - 3. God has a plan, v. 8.
- B. God wants Moses to be His servant, v. 10

**V. MOSES HAS SELF DOUBTS**

- A. Who am I? v. 11
- B. Suppose they will not hear me? Exodus 4.1.
- C. I am not eloquent, v. 10.

**VI. GOD'S ANSWERS**

- A. You are a messenger of the Great I AM, Exodus 3.14.
- B. Moses given three signs:
  - 1. Staff turns into a serpent, Exodus 4.3.
  - 2. Sign of leprosy, Exodus 4.6-7.
  - 3. Turning water into blood, Exodus 4.9.
- C. God will use Aaron as Moses mouthpiece, Exodus 4.14.

**VII. APPLICATION**

- A. Humility is a great asset, Numbers 12.3.
  - 1. Ability to listen, accept correction, to learn.
- B. God had a plan to deliver Israel, Isaiah 55.8-9.
  - 1. In human terms it did not make much sense, confront Pharaoh and “tell” him to let Israel go.
  - 2. Israel will plunder Egypt when they leave, Exodus 3.22.
  - 3. Moses learned to rely on God’s ability and power, Exodus 3.20.
    - i. We must realize our shortcomings but also God’s ability. 2 Corinthians 2.5-6.
    - ii. The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob is the God who made the world, flooded it and brought it back to life.
    - iii. Later on He used the Apostles to preach the gospel to the entire world.
    - iv. He can use us as long we allow Him to.

**Conclusion:**

1. While we do not want to fail it will happen from time to time.
2. What matters most is what we do with those failures.
3. Whether we turn to God for help and instruction or our own self pity when it happens.
4. Fortunately God has provided a way for us to receive forgiveness and go to heaven.
5. His plan does not make sense to some people, He sent Jesus to die for us on the cross of Calvary.
6. By faith in Christ as God's Son, repentance, confession, and baptism we can have our sins washed away.
7. Are you willing to rely on God's word and become a Christian this morning?

Modified from Denis Tucker