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Teaching Notes

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The Deliverer is Prepared

Exodus 2

- Israel is in bondage in Egypt
- Promised Land look impossibly out of reach
- God's deliverance comes through a baby... but still eighty more years until the Exodus!! How patient is our God! How clear is it that His ways are not our ways!!
- Age of **Instant gratification**... God's timetable is so different
- Moses introduced: the towering figure of the Old Testament
- Mediator of the Old Covenant
- At once Prophet, Priest, and King over his people
- Amazing portrait of antitheses: (I.M. Haldeman)

Child of a slave, and the son of a queen

Born in a hut, lived in a palace

Inherited poverty, adopted into unlimited wealth

Powerful commander of armies, humble keeper of flocks

Mightiest of warriors, humblest and meekest of men

Educated in the court, dwelt in the desert

Wisdom of Egyptians, faith of a child

Fitted for the city, wandering in the wilderness

Tempted with the pleasures of sin, endured the hardships of virtue

Slow of speech, yet he talked with God

Holding a rod in his hand, wielding the infinite power of God

Fugitive from Pharaoh, ambassador from heaven

Giver of the Law, forerunner of grace

Died alone on Mount Nebo, yet appeared with Christ on the Mount of Transfiguration

No man assisted at his funeral, yet he was buried by an archangel

I. Moses' Birth and Parent's Faith

Exodus 2:1-3 *Now a man of the house of Levi married a Levite woman, 2 and she became pregnant and gave birth to a son. When she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him for three months. 3 But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile.*

- Father was Amram, mother was Jochebed... Exodus 6:16-20
- Focus here is on mother's faith
- Other passages give fuller picture

Acts 7:20 *"At that time Moses was born, and he was no ordinary child. For three months he was cared for in his father's house."*

Hebrews 11:23 *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.*

Exodus 3:6 *Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.*

- Moses was born into a family of faith... his father and mother together trusted in the Lord and lived out an active faith
- "Faith comes by hearing"... hearing the stories of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; perhaps even hearing directly from God Himself
- Parent's acted not in fear of man but out of faith in God
- Incredible importance of this to the spiritual development of any child

- How is the faith of Moses' parents demonstrated? By trusting God to protect Moses even when cast into the river
- By defying Pharaoh's command, yet obeying it as far as they could!! (Romans 13)

II. Moses's Rescue and Adoption into Pharaoh's Household (vs. 4-10)

vs. 4-10 His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. 5 Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. 6 She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies," she said. 7 Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" 8 "Yes, go," she answered. And the girl went and got the baby's mother. 9 Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Take this baby and nurse him for me, and I will pay you." So the woman took the baby and nursed him. 10 When the child grew older, she took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses, saying, "I drew him out of the water."

- Note God's sovereignty all over this passage

Matthew 10:29-31 Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet not one of them will fall to the ground apart from the will of your Father. 30 And even the very hairs of your head are all numbered. 31 So don't be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.

Ephesians 1:11 In him we were also chosen, having been predestined according to the plan of him who works out everything in conformity with the purpose of his will

Romans 8:28 And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.

- God orchestrated the journey of the ark; God orchestrated Miriam's ability to track it; God orchestrated that Pharaoh's daughter would pick it out; God ordained that the daughter of Pharaoh yield to the suggesting of a Jewish girl to let Jochebed nurse her own baby!!
- God's sovereign control over all things is our greatest comfort in the ebbs and flows of history
- Note also how God's angel encamps around the baby even long before the baby acknowledges his creator!!
- Note: God also mocks the wisdom of Pharaoh... "Come, let us deal shrewdly with the Hebrews so that they won't leave the land" (1:10) God is shrewder still!! He ordains that the

deliverer through which the Exodus would come would be fed, clothed, educated and reared in the palace of Pharaoh himself

- YET also there maintained a connection to his Hebrew roots... and you can be sure Amram and Jochebed trained Moses in the stories of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
- Perfect instrument... shaped and prepared by the craftsmanship of God Almighty

III. Moses Grows Up in Pharaoh's Household: The "Gap" Between 2:10-2:11

- The interval between Moses's childhood and manhood occurs in the gap between 2:10 & 2:11
- Yet, Scripture does not leave us totally in the dark: Acts 7:21-22 and Hebrews 11:24-26 fill in the absolutely essential details

Acts 7:21-22 When he was placed outside, Pharaoh's daughter took him and brought him up as her own son. 22 Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.

- Moses was not just an "orphan baby" project... he was actually adopted by Pharaoh's daughter!
- Moses received specialized training in the Egyptian schools... was "powerful in speech and action"
- All of this points to Moses's bright future in the Egyptian court... perhaps even heir to the throne itself
- Josephus tells us that the Pharaoh had no other children, and that his own daughter, Thermutis, had no children of her own
- This prepares us to understand what Moses turned his back on in Hebrews 11:

Hebrews 11:24-27 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. 25 He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a short time. 26 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. 27 By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible.

- Moses REFUSED
- For what? Choosing to share suffering with his people
- And not what? Pleasures of sin for a short time

- WHY? A greater treasure!!!! Christ and His eternal riches... for the reward!!

IV. Moses Takes Matters Into His Own Hands (vs. 11-15)

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- Israel in Egypt: prophesied and fulfilled

Prophesied: Genesis 15

Genesis 15:13-16 *Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years. 14 But I will punish the nation they serve as slaves, and afterward they will come out with great possessions. 15 You, however, will go to your fathers in peace and be buried at a good old age. 16 In the fourth generation your descendants will come back here, for the sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure."*

Fulfilled: Genesis 37, 39-50 Joseph

Genesis 46:2-4 *And God spoke to Israel in a vision at night and said, "Jacob! Jacob!" "Here I am," he replied. 3 "I am God, the God of your father," he said. "Do not be afraid to go down to Egypt, for I will make you into a great nation there. 4 I will go down to Egypt with you, and I will surely bring you back again. And Joseph's own hand will close your eyes."*

- God's reasons: Two-fold focus... preparing Israel, patient toward the Amorites

- 1) Preparing Israel: severe mistreatment prepared Israel for Promised Land... also gave time for Israel to multiply

Psalm 119:67 Before I was afflicted I went astray, but now I obey your word.

- 2) Patient toward Amorites: "Sin of the Amorites has not yet reached its full measure"

- The "Fourth Generation:

1 Chronicles 6:1-3 The sons of Levi: Gershon, Kohath and Merari. 2 The sons of Kohath: Amram, Izhar, Hebron and Uzziel. 3 The children of Amram: Aaron, Moses and Miriam.

Genesis 15:13 Then the LORD said to him, "Know for certain that your descendants will be strangers in a country not their own, and they will be enslaved and mistreated four hundred years.

Exodus 12:40 Now the length of time the Israelite people lived in Egypt was 430 years.

Galatians 3:17 What I mean is this: The law, introduced 430 years later, does not set aside the covenant previously established by God and thus do away with the promise.

Henry Morris: "Galatians 3:17 suggests that the 430 year period was from the time of the covenant with Abraham until the giving of the Law on Mount Sinai. This in turn suggests that Genesis 15:13 can be interpreted 'Thy seed shall be a stranger in a land not theirs, and shall serve them; and [all the people among whom they dwell, both Canaanites and Egyptians] shall afflict them four hundred years.' Similarly Exodus 12:40 can be understood as follows: 'Now, the sojourning of the children of Israel, who dwelt in Egypt, was [altogether that is from the time of the covenant until they left Egypt] four hundred and thirty years.'"

- Another king arose who did not know Joseph

Commentators: 17th Dynasty in Egypt: Hyksos (Semitic and foreign); 18th Dynasty was native and expelled the Semitic overlords... quite possibly the Pharaoh who so welcomed Joseph and his family was Hyksos, Semitic and foreign to Egypt... the next Dynasty was pure Egyptian and would have hated the Semites

- Three strategies for dealing with Jews

- 1) Severe forced labor (vs. 8-14)
- 2) Localized Genocide (vs. 15-21)
- 3) Nation-wide Genocide (vs. 22)

NONE WORKED!!!

Isaiah 46:10 I make known the end from the beginning, from ancient times, what is still to come. I say: My purpose will stand, and I will do all that I please.

- Satan's consistent attack against God's plan

NAS Genesis 3:15 And I will put enmity Between you and the woman, And between your seed and her seed; He shall bruise you on the head, And you shall bruise him on the heel."

Revelation 12:1-5 A great and wondrous sign appeared in heaven: a woman clothed with the sun, with the moon under her feet and a crown of twelve stars on her head. 2 She was pregnant and cried out in pain as she was about to give birth. 3 Then another sign appeared in heaven: an enormous red dragon with seven heads and ten horns and seven crowns on his heads. 4 His tail swept a third of the stars out of the sky and flung them to the earth. The dragon stood in front of the woman who was about to give birth, so that he might devour her child the moment it was born. 5 She gave birth to a son, a male child, who will rule all the nations with an iron scepter. And her child was snatched up to God and to his throne.

Exodus 1

Matthew 2:16 When Herod realized that he had been outwitted by the Magi, he was furious, and he gave orders to kill all the boys in Bethlehem and its vicinity who were two years old and under, in accordance with the time he had learned from the Magi.

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