

Sunday

May 31, 2020

WHAT

**ANSWERS
GROUNDED**

&

**IN FAITH
AND HOPE**

WHY

WHAT

1 PETER

&

3:13-15

WHY

I Peter 3:13-17

13 Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good?

14 But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled,

15 but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, **always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect,**

16 having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame.

17 For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

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WHAT & WHY

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

WHAT & WHY

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is real.

WHAT & WHY

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is infinite and personal.

WHAT & WHY

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is sovereign and providential.

Sovereignty: God's *position* of supreme authority and absolute power.

Providence: God's *activity* of guiding, guarding and governing
His plan in all things.

WHAT & WHY

Why do you have hope?

I have hope because

God is sovereign and providential.

***...even when your world gets turned
upside down and inside out!***

5 elements of God's sovereign and providential purposes in the tragedies and calamities of His permissive will:

- 1. Allow the natural consequences of mankind's rebellion against God to have its effect.**
- 2. Execute specific divine judgement.**
- 3. Get our attention in light of the imminent coming of Christ.**
- 4. Awaken our personal need for an intimate relationship with God.**
- 5. Call God's people to perform courageous act of love in the midst of danger and profound need.**

What does that look like in real life?



What does that look like in real life?

Joys

Victories

Successes

Adventures

Strengths

Highlights

Exhilaration

Clarity

What does that look like in real life?

Joys

Victories

Successes

Adventures

Strengths

Highlights

Exhilaration

Clarity

Disappointments

Failures

Regrets

Flaws

Weaknesses

Lowlights

Despair

Confusion

*(statue from the
Main Reading Room
in the
Library of Congress
in Washington D.C.)*



Moses

*(statue from the
Main Reading Room
in the
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in Washington D.C.)*



Moses

Born: 1400 BC

Died: 1280 BC

Lived 400 years after God used Joseph to provide a safe haven for his father Jacob (Israel) and his brothers who had sold him into slavery, and then the Israelites found themselves living under the heavy hand of the Egyptian Pharaoh, who was using and abusing them as a labor class of slaves.



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0-40 yrs. old

Privilege

Power

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40-80 yrs. old

Retreat
Reform
Reluctance

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Privilege
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Retreat
Reform
Reluctance

80-120 yrs. old

Lead
Love
Loss

0-40 yrs. old

Privilege

Power

Pain

- Grew up the adopted son of the daughter of Pharaoh in Egypt....
-

0-40 yrs. old

Privilege

Power

Pain

- Grew up the adopted son of the daughter of Pharaoh in Egypt....
-

Exodus 2

- 1 Now a man from the house of Levi went and took as his wife a Levite woman.
- 2 The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine child, she hid him three months.
- 3 When she could hide him no longer, she took for him a basket made of bulrushes and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank.
- 4 And his sister stood at a distance to know what would be done to him.
- 5 Now the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her young women walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it.

0-40 yrs. old

Privilege

Power

Pain

- Grew up the adopted son of the daughter of Pharaoh....
-

Exodus 2

0-40 yrs. old

Privilege

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Pain

- 6 When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. She took pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."
- 7 Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?"
- 8 And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the girl went and called the child's mother.
- 9 And 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.

- Grew up the adopted son of the daughter of Pharaoh....
-

Exodus 2

0-40 yrs. old

Privilege

Power

Pain

- 10** When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, "Because," she said, "I drew him out of the water."
- 11** One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people.
- 12** He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

- Grew up the adopted son of the daughter of Pharaoh....
-

0-40 yrs. old

Privilege

Power

Pain

Exodus 2

- 13** When he went out the next day, behold, two Hebrews were struggling together. And he said to the man in the wrong, "Why do you strike your companion?"
- 14** He answered, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid, and thought, "Surely the thing is known."
- 15** When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses.

40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

Reluctance

Moses Moves to Midian



40-80 yrs. old

Retreat
Reform

Reluctance



40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

Reluctance



40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

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Exodus 2

21 And Moses was content to dwell with the man

(Jethro, the priest of Midian), and he gave Moses his daughter Zipporah.

22 She gave birth to a son, and he called his name Gershom, for he said,

"I have been a 'sojourner' (*exiled*)
in a foreign land."

23 During those many days the king of Egypt died,
and the people of Israel groaned because of
their slavery and cried out for help.

Their cry for rescue from slavery came up
to God.

24 And God heard their groaning,
and God remembered his covenant with
Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

25 God saw the people of Israel--and God knew.

40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

Reluctance

Exodus 3

1 Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

2 And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.

3 And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned."

4 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

5 Then He said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."

6 And He said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."

And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

Reluctance

7 Then the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters.

I know their sufferings,

8 and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land,

a land flowing with milk and honey,

to the place of the Canaanites, the Hittites,

the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites,

and the Jebusites.

9 And now, behold, the cry of the people of Israel has come to me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them.

10 Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt."

40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

Reluctance

11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

12 He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

13 Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?"

14 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM."

And He said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

15 God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations.

40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

Reluctance

Exodus 4

1 Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.'"

- *Staff / Snake*
- *Hand of leprosy*
- *Water to blood*

10 But Moses said to the LORD, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue."

11 Then the LORD said to him,

"Who has made man's mouth?

Who makes him mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Is it not I, the LORD?

12 Now therefore go, and I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak."

40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

Reluctance

Exodus 4

13 But he said, "Oh, my Lord, please send someone else."

14 Then the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses and He said,

"Is there not Aaron, your brother, the Levite?

I know that he can speak well.

Behold, he is coming out to meet you,

and when he sees you,

he will be glad in his heart.

15 You shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth, and I will be with your mouth and with his mouth and will teach you both what to do.

16 He shall speak for you to the people, and he shall be your mouth, and you shall be as God to him.

17 And take in your hand this staff, with which you shall do the signs."

40-80 yrs. old

Retreat

Reform

Reluctance

80-120 yrs. old

Lead

Love

Loss

Exodus 4

18 Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him,
"Please let me go back to my brothers in Egypt to see whether they
are still alive."

And Jethro said to Moses, "Go in peace."

19 And the LORD said to Moses in Midian,
"Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are
dead."

20 So Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey,
and went back to the land of Egypt.
And Moses took the staff of God in his hand.

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-
- For the next 40 years he faithfully led a grumbling, complaining, faithless, rebellious group of men, women and children through the wilderness.

80-120 yrs. old

Lead

Love

Loss

Exodus 17

1 All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink.

2 Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said,
"Give us water to drink."

And Moses said to them,

"Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?"

3 But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"

4 So Moses cried to the LORD,
"What shall I do with this people?
They are almost ready to stone me."

80-120 yrs. old

Lead

Love

Loss

5 And the LORD said to Moses,

"Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go.

6 Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink."

And Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel.

7 And he called the name of the place Massah (*test*) and Meribah (*contention*),

because of the quarreling of the people of Israel, and because they tested the LORD by saying, "Is the LORD among us or not?"

80-120 yrs. old

Lead

Love

Loss

Numbers 20

2 Now there was no water for the congregation.

And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron.

3 And the people quarreled with Moses and said,

"Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the LORD!

4 Why have you brought the assembly of the LORD into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle?

5 And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is no water to drink."

6 Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces.

And the glory of the LORD appeared to them,

80-120 yrs. old

Lead

Love

Loss

7 and the LORD spoke to Moses, saying,

8 "Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle."

9 And Moses took the staff from before the LORD, as He commanded him.

10 Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them,

"Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?"

11 And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock.

12 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron,

"Because you did not believe in Me, to uphold Me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them."

80-120 yrs. old

Lead

Love

Loss

Deuteronomy 34

- 1 Then Moses went up from the plains of Moab to Mount Nebo, to the top of Pisgah, which is opposite Jericho. And the LORD showed him all the land, Gilead as far as Dan,
- 2 all Naphtali, the land of Ephraim and Manasseh, all the land of Judah as far as the western sea,
- 3 the Negeb, and the Plain, that is, the Valley of Jericho the city of palm trees, as far as Zoar.
- 4 And the LORD said to him,
"This is the land of which I swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, 'I will give it to your offspring.'
I have let you see it with your eyes, but you shall not go over there."

5 So Moses the servant of the LORD died there in the land of Moab, according to the word of the LORD,

6 and He buried him in the valley in the land of Moab opposite Beth-peor;

but no one knows the place of his burial to this day.

7 Moses was 120 years old when he died.

His eye was undimmed, and his vigor unabated.

8 And the people of Israel wept for Moses in the plains of Moab thirty days.

Then the days of weeping and mourning for Moses were ended.

9 And Joshua the son of Nun was full of the spirit of wisdom,
for Moses had laid his hands on him.

So the people of Israel obeyed him and did as the LORD
had commanded Moses.

10 And there has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like
Moses, whom the LORD knew face to face,

11 none like him for all the signs and the wonders that the
LORD sent him to do in the land of Egypt,

to Pharaoh and to all his servants and to all his land,

12 and for all the mighty power and all the revered deeds
that Moses did in the sight of all Israel.

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Imperfect people
can have an
intimate
relationship with
God.



God's sovereignty
and providence
are purposed to
establish maturity
through the seasons
and even the pain of
your life.



God's sovereignty
and providence
are purposed to use
you to build
His kingdom here on
earth as it is in
heaven.



God's sovereignty
and providence
do not guarantee
smooth sailing
or the
avoidance of
difficulty.



God's sovereignty
and providence
does guarantee that
there is hope in the
midst of all the
tragedies and
calamities of life.

