

## **From Bondage to Belief: The Exodus of True Identity**

*Hebrews 11:24: By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.*

Moses was the first truly liberated Israelite in Egypt. Liberation occurs when God's children discover their true identity and destiny. Moses not only knew his true identity, but he acted upon it with the aim of making life better for his enslaved fellow Israelites. Sadly, none of his countrymen appeared to be thankful for his patriotism and intervention. "And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known" (Exodus 2:14). Ultimately, Moses had to flee Egypt because he failed to help his countrymen discover their identity and destiny as the children of God and heirs to the promises of Abraham. Unless a people understand who they are, they cannot leave Egypt. Only a divine discovery of one's identity and destiny will lead to an exodus of identity. Until this happens, an entire nation consisting of two million people was content to remain as slaves of Pharaoh.

Thankfully, the burden of sin in Egypt can only grow heavier, never lighter. Forty years went by. "And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage" (Exodus 2:23). Sin is grievous. We must never think that it will stop with the worship of one false god; the children of Israel spent their years building idols, temples, and cities for Pharaoh. These were the same children whose forefather Abraham refused any association with the kings of Sodom and Gomorrah, determined never to compromise with sin. "And I will make thee swear by the LORD, the God of heaven, and the God of the earth, that thou shalt not take a wife unto my son of the daughters of the Canaanites, among whom I dwell" (Genesis 24:3). Let us carefully consider the power of sin; living in Egypt makes one forget the great heritage of our father Abraham. Sin is always more abusive toward the children of God—it singles them out for harsher treatment. Remember Samson; remember David!

Christian, your home cannot be in the land of Egypt, not even in the land of Goshen. Goshen is still part of Egypt, and Pharaoh is the lord of Goshen. It was Joseph who secured Goshen as a compromise for Israel, but Joseph gave instructions for his bones to be taken out of Goshen and into the land of Canaan. "And Joseph said unto his brethren, I die: and God

will surely visit you, and bring you out of this land unto the land which he swore to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob” (Genesis 50:24). Christian, do not be content with the Goshen of sin. The Devil and the world will try to persuade you to stay in Egypt, in Goshen. No, no part of Egypt is safe. It is a sin to forget God’s promise to Abraham, a sin to want to stay in Egypt and sin, a sin to desire to serve Pharaoh, and a sin not to want a preacher to reveal your true identity and destiny. Come out of Egypt, child of Jesus Christ! He commands you! “Wherefore come out from among them, and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing; and I will receive you” (2 Cor 6:17).

After forty years, Moses returns. The last time he left them, he wore the clothes of an Egyptian. This time, he comes to them dressed as an Arab, a Midianite. This is the preacher. The preacher who brings the message of salvation embodies the whole world, just as the Holy Ghost spoke the languages of the world on the Day of Pentecost. “And they were all amazed and marvelled, saying one to another, Behold, are not all these which speak Galilaeans? And how hear we every man in our own tongue, wherein we were born?” (Acts 2:7, 8). Whether he wore Egyptian garments or Midianite attire, Moses knew who he was—a child of God and a descendant of Abraham. Though his garments changed, he was still their kin, a blood relative. The preacher is always our brother, a blood relative, because we all put on Christ through baptism in Jesus’ name (Acts 2:38; Galatians 3:27). The Gospel never suffers from identity confusion. It adopts the cultures and customs of this world to destroy sin, but the cultures and customs of this world can never destroy the Gospel. “And I say also unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it” (Matthew 16:18).

*Isaiah 52:7: How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth!*

Once Moses convinced the children of Israel of their identity and true destiny, they left Egypt. Repentance occurs in Egypt, but salvation is given in the desert outside of Egypt. It was outside of Egypt that they ate manna. “This is the bread which cometh down from heaven, that a man may eat thereof, and not die. I am the living bread which came down from heaven: if any man eat of this bread, he shall live for ever: and the bread that I will give is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world” (John 6:50, 51). There is no manna in Egypt because we are not meant to live there. Only those who leave sin and start the journey toward heaven receive manna—the flesh and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ. Moreover, it was in the

desert that they met the Rock that followed them. This Rock was split, and water gushed out to quench their thirst. Jesus died for our sins, and out of Him came rivers of living water. “And did all drink the same spiritual drink: for they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them: and that Rock was Christ” (1 Corinthians 10:4). Have you ever heard of a moving rock that followed the children of Israel? A rock is supposed to stay in one place—but not Jesus. He loves and moves with His people throughout their journey to heaven. “Let your conversation be without covetousness; and be content with such things as ye have: for he hath said, I will never leave thee, nor forsake thee” (Hebrews 13:5).

Moses’ journey and message reveal a powerful truth: true liberation begins when we understand our divine identity and destiny. We are not meant to remain in the spiritual Egypt of sin but to walk toward the promise of salvation in Christ. He leads us, feeds us, and never forsakes us. Just as Moses guided the Israelites out of Egypt, so Christ calls us today to leave sin behind and journey with Him toward eternal life. The question remains: will you answer His call and embrace your true identity?