

The Broadmoor Bulletin

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Moses

Moses and Jesus

Moses prophetically told the children of Israel through divine inspiration, “*The Lord your God will raise up for you a Prophet like me from your midst, from your brethren. Him you shall hear.*” (Deut. 18:15). There are many ways in which Moses foreshadowed Jesus, and many writers have enumerated some of those ways. For example: (1) Being Hebrew male infants, the lives of both Moses and Jesus were threatened by the rulers of their day. (2) After the test of the passage of time and the humble life of a shepherd, God worked with Moses to deliver His people from Egyptian bondage. After the test of the passage of time and the humble life of a carpenter, God worked with Jesus to deliver all people from the bonds of sin and death. (3) Moses was a lawgiver (Exodus, chapters 19-23), a prophet (Deut. 18:18), and a priest (Ps. 99:6). Jesus was a lawgiver (Heb. 8:6), a prophet (Acts 2:19-26), and a priest (Heb. 6:19-20). (4) Moses was the mediator between God and the nation of Israel (Deut. 5:5). Jesus is the mediator between God and man (1 Tim. 2:5). (5) Moses exhorted the nation of Israel to have faith in God. Jesus exhorts all people to have faith in God.

The list of ways that Moses and Jesus are alike would be quite long, if every aspect were considered. One writer lists seventy-five ways in which Moses was a type of Christ, and ends by saying there are “at least twenty-five other points in which Moses foreshadowed our Lord”. The purpose of this article, however, is not to compare how Moses and Jesus are alike but to discuss ways in which they are different. In order to convince his Jewish readers that Jesus is better than Moses, the Hebrew writer makes several arguments in which he points out how Jesus is different from Moses. Looking at the epistle to the Hebrews, one can clearly see the superiority of Jesus over Moses in the following ways.

First of all, the epistle begins by establishing the deity of Jesus. He was God in the flesh, and it is evident that He was superior to Moses who was a mere man. Although Jesus was like Moses in many ways, He was far superior to him in this regard – He was divine, the one “through whom also He [God] made the worlds”, and He is “the brightness of His [God’s] glory and the express image of His person” (Heb. 1:2-3).

Secondly, the Hebrew writer points out that Moses was faithful to God “in all His house” (Heb. 3: 2-3), but then he points to “this One” [Christ] and says that He “has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses”. Why? The reason is that “He who built the house has more honor than the house”. Moses was a faithful servant in God’s house (His family), but Jesus was the builder of God’s house. When one

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God Will Fight for You!

There are many wonderful lessons we can learn from the life of Moses. One of those lessons is that our great God in heaven is actually the One who fights for us in our daily spiritual battles. We see this truth taught clearly in Deut. 1:29-33. Listen to the charge of Moses to a fearful and unbelieving Israelite army who was afraid to take the promised land as God told them to do. “Then I said to you, ‘do not be shocked or fear them. The Lord your God who goes before you will Himself fight on your behalf, just as He did for you in Egypt before your eyes, and in the wilderness where you saw how the Lord your God carried you, just as a man carries his son, in all the way which you have walked until you came to this place.’ But for all this, you did not trust the Lord your God, who goes before you on your way, to seek out a place for you to encamp, in fire by night and cloud by day, to show you the way in which you should go.”

There are a number of important and vital lessons that we can learn from this text.

First of all, we must learn – like Moses did - that the spiritual battles we face actually belong to the Lord. And since we know, going into the battle, that the Lord is going to win, we have no reason to fear or lose heart. The reason we’re often afraid and the reason we may run from the fight, is because we think that the battle is against *us*. And if we rely on our strength and our wisdom, we feel so inadequate and become intimidated by such a fierce opponent. But the truth that God is teaching us, through Moses, is that He is the One who will fight for us as we face Satan and all of his lies. Our job is to trust Him completely and get out of our comfort zone and stand up against the devil and his allies! And then we can stand back and see the victory that God will give us as He completely overthrows Satan and he agents.

Another lesson that Moses teaches us in this text, is that God isn’t going to be there for just one battle. He has demonstrated His faithfulness throughout Israel’s history to fight for His people and protect them. He will do the same for us today. If we will look back over our lives, we will see that God has indeed watched over us, protected us and been there to help us fight the spiritual giants in our lives. We must remember that He will be with us to the very end!

A third lesson that Moses teaches us from this text, is that our strength really comes from the Lord. In verse 31 Moses said that God *carried* Israel – just like a man carries his son. Truth is, we receive our strength from the Lord. He is the One who goes before us to lead us, defend us, and protect us. If we rely on our own strength, we are tempted to give in and quit. When we believe that our strength comes from the Lord, then we’re much more likely to persevere in our spiritual battle.

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Moses and Jesus

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sees the beauty and design of a magnificent structure, the Architect and Builder are the ones who receive the honor for the building. The necessary conclusion is that Jesus is superior to Moses, because He is the one who built God's house. It can be said that Moses helped to build God's house, in the same way that Paul wrote that the apostles and Christians are "*God's fellow workers; you are God's field, you are God's building. According to the grace of God which was given to me, as a wise master builder I have laid the foundation, and another builds on it.*" (1 Cor. 3:9-10) Jesus is the designer and builder of His own house, and the Hebrew writer says, "*For every house is built by someone, but He who built all things is God.*" (Heb. 3:4). This is another statement which clearly points to the deity of Christ – if He is the builder, and if He who built all things is God, then He must be God. Since He is the builder of His own house and Moses is a part of that house, then He is superior to Moses and should receive more honor.

The Hebrew writer makes a third argument in chapter 3 in verses 5-6. The force of his argument is clear. Moses was faithful in God's house as a servant, but Jesus was faithful as a Son over His own house. Notice the difference in prepositions – Moses was faithful "in" God's house; Jesus was a faithful Son "over" His own house. The Hebrew readers would have had no trouble understanding the clear and logical argument made by the writer – the son of the household is superior to and has authority over all the servants.

Moses was a great man of God whose faithful life and accomplishments are recorded in the scriptures, and he is presented as an example for anyone who wants to learn how to serve God acceptably. It is obviously true that Jesus and Moses were alike in many ways, but the writer of the Hebrew letter uses the contrasts between the two to show the superiority of Jesus. It was important for his readers to understand this truth in the first century, and it is equally important for all men today to understand and accept it.

Jerry Holt

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that he who destroyed the firstborn would not touch them.

Hebrews 11:23 – 28

Editor's Note: Our apologies to Jonathan Sheahen for failing to acknowledge his authorship of the article "Grin and Bear It" in the September edition of the bulletin.

God Will Fight for You!

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This text affirms that Israel's history is one of God continually fighting for and providing for His people. All of the plagues that God brought against the Egyptians are examples of God fighting for His people. As Pharaoh was in hot pursuit of the Israelites, Moses again declared that God would fight for His people. Listen carefully to his words in Exodus 14:13-14:

"But Moses said to the people, "Do not fear! Stand by and see the salvation of the Lord which He will accomplish for you today; for the Egyptians whom you have seen today, you will never see them again, forever. The Lord will fight for you while you keep silent."

The lesson that Moses learned and that we need to learn as well is that God is with us and will fight for us. Not just for one or two battles, but for every battle we face with the devil! As we defend the faith against false teachers and resist Satan and his attack against us and our families, we must believe that this is really God's battle. And like Israel of old, we need to stand back and *see the salvation of the Lord!* In the midst of a terrific battle we must not be afraid but trust our awesome God! In the words of a popular Christian song, "When your enemy presses in hard, do not fear, the battle belongs to the Lord. Take courage, my friend, your redemption is near, the battle belongs to the Lord."

Mike Roy

Moses, a Very Meek Man

In Numbers 12:3, the Bible says that Moses was very meek or humble. In this context, Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses. Moses did not get offended and launch into a passionate defense of himself. Instead, he allowed God to come to his defense.

"Hear now My words: if there is a prophet among you, I, the LORD, shall make Myself known to him in a vision. I shall speak with him in a dream. Not so, with My servant Moses, He is faithful in all My household; with him I speak mouth to mouth, even openly, and not in dark sayings, and he beholds the form of the LORD. Why then were you not afraid to speak against My servant, against Moses?" (Ex. 12:6 – 8)

Just like Jesus, when Moses was reviled, he did not revile in return, but he entrusted himself to God who judges righteously. (1 Pet. 2:23)

Meekness or gentleness is a characteristic that should be evident in our lives if we are taking the Spirit's teaching to heart. (Gal. 5:23) We will enjoy many blessings when we pursue meekness. Meekness or humility can prevent pride from destroying us. (Pr. 16:18 – 19) It is a necessary prerequisite in order to receive lasting honor. (Pr. 15:33; 18:12; 22:4) Only those who are humble and meek can be led by God's teaching. (Ps. 25:9) Although it is contrary to human wisdom, God promises that the meek or gentle will inherit the earth. (Ps. 37:11; Mt. 5:5) Let us follow the example of Jesus and Moses and find rest for our souls. (Mt. 11:29)

Gilbert Booher

The Excuses of Moses

Exodus 3:1-4:17

INTRODUCTION

1. When God appeared to Moses at the burning bush...

a. He called him to the task of leading the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage.

b. In response, Moses gave excuses as to why he did not think he was the man for the job.

2. The excuses of Moses, and God's response to them, will serve as the basis for our study...

a. For in a similar way, as God's people today, we have received from God a special calling.

b. Not to go to a country to deliver those in physical bondage, but to a world to deliver those in the bondage of sin - cf. **Mk. 16:15; 1 Pet. 2:9-10**

-- Too often, though, we behave just like Moses, making the very same excuses!

[Read **Ex. 3:1-10** to see how God called Moses. Reminded of this call, consider the five excuses given by Moses...]

I. "WHO AM I?"

A. FOUND IN EX. 3:11...

1. Though Moses was once a member of the ruling house of Egypt...

a. He was now but a lowly shepherd.

b. 40 years had passed since he had been in Egypt.

c. He was an 80 year old man, already past the average life span for his generation.

-- This prompted Moses to wonder whether he was the right man for the job.

2. But God's response was quick, and should have been adequate...

a. **"I will certainly be with you..."** – **Ex. 3:12**

b. God promised to be with Moses, and this alone should have been sufficient.

c. As Paul later wrote, **"If God is for us, who can be against us?"** – **Ro. 8:31**

B. SOME USE THIS SAME EXCUSE TODAY...

1. Trying to excuse ourselves by believing that we are insufficient for the task

a. It is true that by ourselves that we are insufficient.

b. But God can make us sufficient - cf. **2 Co. 3:5-6**.

c. Look what He did with the apostles! (uneducated and untrained men – **Ac. 4:13**)

2. Through Jesus, God has provided us the same assurance given Moses - cf. **Mt. 28:20**.

3. With His help, we can accomplish anything He wants us to do! – **Ph. 4:13**

[As will be apparent later, any excuse for not doing what the Lord has called us to do is simply a smokescreen. So it was with Moses, and we find him quickly coming up with another excuse...]

II. "WHAT SHALL I SAY?"

A. THIS EXCUSE IS FOUND IN EX. 3:13...

1. Moses knew that should he go to the children of Israel, there were bound to be questions

a. Such as, "Who is this God who sent you to us?"
b. And perhaps, "Why are we to leave this country we have come to consider our home for over 400 years?"

-- Moses expresses inadequacy in knowing what to say.

2. Again, God's response was quick...

a. **"Thus you shall say..."** – **Ex. 3:14-15**

b. God tells Moses what he needs to say in response to their questions.

B. AGAIN, A SIMILAR EXCUSE IS SOMETIMES GIVEN TODAY...

1. We try to excuse ourselves by saying that our knowledge is inadequate.

2. But God has told us what to say...

a. It is really quite simple - cf. **Mk. 16:15-16**

b. How simple? - cf. **1 Co. 15:1-4; 2:2**

[And so, as with Moses, we have no reason for saying "what shall I say?" As we return to Moses, we see that despite God instructing him what to say, he soon raises a third objection...]

III. "SUPPOSE THEY WILL NOT BELIEVE ME?"

A. THIS EXCUSE IS FOUND IN EX. 4:1...

1. Now that he knows what to say, he balks at the idea that the people may not listen.

a. Is he afraid of failing?

b. Has he already forgotten that God will be with him?

2. God responds by equipping him with several convincing proofs...

a. The ROD, which turns into a serpent – **Ex. 4:2-5**

b. His own HAND, which turns into leprosy – **Ex. 4:6-8**

c. The WATER, which will turn to blood when dropped on the dry ground – **Ex. 4:9**

B. SOME HESITATE TO SHARE THE GOSPEL FOR THE SAME REASON...

1. The fear of failure keeps them from trying.

2. But just as God gave Moses convincing proofs, so He has given us the evidences necessary to convince the honest and sincere person...

a. The Word of God, able to produce faith – **Ro. 10:17;**

Jn. 20: 30-31

b. Especially its evidences concerning the resurrection of Christ, fulfilled prophecy, etc.

-- With such aids, we cannot justify our inactivity in sharing the gospel with others!

[You would think by now Moses would accept the call; but a fourth excuse is quickly given...]

IV. "I AM SLOW OF SPEECH AND SLOW OF TONGUE"

A. WE FIND THIS EXCUSE IN EX. 4:10...

1. Moses claims that he is not an eloquent speaker

2. But God is not moved by this objection...

a. He already knows the inability of those He calls – **Ex. 4:11**

b. But He is able to make up for anyone's shortcomings.

1) Again, He promises to be with Moses – **Ex. 4:12**.

2) He had even arranged for Aaron to be Moses' mouthpiece – **Ex. 4:14-16** (who was sent earlier so as to arrive about this time - cf. **Ex. 4:27**).

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Broadmoor's Website

B. SOME CHRISTIANS TRY TO USE THIS EXCUSE AS WELL...

1. But it did not stop the apostle Paul - cf. **1 Co. 2:1, 3-4**.
2. It has not stopped others.
 - a. I know of some who overcame speech impediments to become preachers.
 - b. I know of one who despite stammering would preach any opportunity he could.
3. At the very least, we can make use of those who can speak by arranging studies for them with others (as did Cornelius – **Ac. 10:24, 33**).

[We have considered four excuses that Moses gave; but as mentioned earlier, they were really smokescreens. The true reason for all these excuses is revealed in **Ex. 4:13...**]

V. "PLEASE SEND...WHOMEVER ELSE YOU MAY SEND"

A. MOSES SIMPLY DID NOT WANT TO GO!

1. The previous excuses were simply a smokescreen attempt to hide this fact!
2. Now that the smokescreen is removed, God's impatience with Moses becomes evident.
 - a. His anger was kindled against Moses – **Ex. 4:14a**.
 - b. Read **verses 15-17** with an emphasis on the word **"shall"** to appreciate the anger of the Lord.

B. BRETHREN, THE SAME IS TRUE WITH US TODAY!

1. Any and every excuse we could offer is only a smokescreen.
2. We really would rather that God use someone else!
3. We really don't want to do what God has called us to do!
4. But brethren, the anger of the Lord is kindled against those who do not live up to their calling!
-- If we have been making excuses, we need to repent!

CONCLUSION

1. With Moses, we know the rest of the story...
 - a. He answered the call, and went to Egypt
 - b. With the help of God, he delivered the children of Israel out of Egyptian bondage.
2. But what about us? What will be the rest of our story?
 - a. Shall we heed the call to preach the gospel to the lost?
 - b. Or shall we make excuses and one day suffer the wrath of God?
-- Only time will tell, but I pray that I encouraged all not to make excuses...

Mark Copeland

http://www.bible.ca/eo/text/exo3_1.htm

“But I know that the king of Egypt will not permit you to go, except under compulsion. So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My miracles which I shall do in the midst of it; and after that he will let you go. I will grant this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be that when you go, you will not go empty-handed.” (Ex. 3:19 – 21)

Broadmoor has a website intended for the use of preaching the gospel and edifying the saints. This article will briefly state what is available on the website. To get to the website, you must have an internet connection. Once you have opened up a web browser, type www.broadmoorchurch.com in the address box at the top of the browser. This will open up the home page. The home page will have a big black box at the top with the words “Church of Christ at Broadmoor.” Underneath this black box will be the smaller red boxes with links to the different sections provided on our website. Some sections of the website have additional links listed underneath these red boxes.

- **Home.** The *Home* page provides an introduction to the website. It states our intended goal as a congregation and welcomes others to come visit with us. As a gospel meeting or special study approaches, this page will also provide special announcements about these studies.
- **Services.** This section of the website provides information pertinent to when we assemble together. The times of services are provided along with a brief statement of what to expect when you come to worship with us. Underneath the red section links, there are a couple of links for *Bible Classes* and *Gospel Meetings*. The *Bible Classes* page simply states what we are studying in our classes. The *Gospel Meetings* page provides our future schedule of gospel meetings.
- **Directions.** The Directions section provides directions to our building along with a map. Links on this page allow the user to get another map or driving directions from any specified location.
- **About Us.** The *About Us* section of the website provides some basic teaching about who we are as we strive to pattern ourselves after Christ's Church as revealed in the New Testament. There is also a link that points to *Our Leaders*, which explains how we are organized and lists the names of the men that serve as Elders, Deacons, and Preachers.
- **Bible Study.** The *Bible Study* page provides opportunities for bible study. One of the links allows users to submit a bible question. There is a link called *Salvation*, which provides an article on salvation, including God's part and man's part. The link entitled *Sermons* provides a few sermons in Power Point format. If there is a particular sermon you would like to see listed, simply ask Mike or Jeremy and it can be added to the website. Another link, called *Links*, provides links to other useful information, including teaching material and basic Bible resources like Bibles, dictionaries and maps. The last link in this section is *Study Material*. In the future, various Bible study materials will be made available to the user.
- **Members.** This section is designed for those that are members at Broadmoor. It contains the men's work list, class material being covered in classes, the quick reference list of members' addresses and a listing of area hospitals. The directory or quick reference list is password protected. Ask one of the men of the congregation for the user name and password.
- **Contact Us.** This section simply provides our contact information so that others can contact us.