

A Savior is Born

Exodus 2:1-25

“DESPERATE TIMES CALL FOR DESPERATE MEASURES. Worried by the rising tide of immigration, Pharaoh tried everything he could think of to stop the Israelites from flooding over Egypt. First he forced God’s people to become his slaves, ‘But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and the more they spread abroad’ (1:12). Next he ordered the midwives Shiprah and Puah to kill every Hebrew boy at birth. But these two splendid women defied Pharaoh, and ‘the people multiplied and grew very strong’ (1:20) ...

Having failed at slavery and infanticide, he finally resorted to genocide: ‘Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, ‘Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall cast into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live’ (1:22).

It was during these desperate times that a young Hebrew couple dared to marry, and when they celebrated the uniting act of their love, they produced a son...” Ryken

- I. Exodus chapter one set the stage for what God brought about in Exodus chapter two. After 400 years of living in Goshen, it was time for the Israelites leave and not look back. It was time for them to move on in God’s will. They didn’t know that, all they knew was the hardships they were enduring under a ruthless Pharaoh who despised them. There’s reason to believe they were praying to God to help them. No doubt, they knew of the promises given to them through Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Promises handed down to them through the generations of godly Israelites. Promises they were holding onto during those terrible times. If it were not for God’s promises the Israelites would have had nothing to hope for, nothing whatsoever. It’s tragic when a believer loses sight of the promises God has given to all His children. Promises to love, protect and bless us and the promise of the joy of living eternity in His glorious kingdom and so much more. Our ability to stand firm in the faith comes from taking to heart His promises, they truly are an anchor for the soul, firm and secure.

Exodus 2:1-2

Acts 7:20

Hebrews 11:23

2 Peter 1:3-4 *His divine power has granted to us all things that pertain to life and godliness, through the knowledge of him who called us to his own glory and excellence, 4 by which he has granted to us his precious and very great promises, so that through them you may become partakers of the divine nature, having escaped from the corruption that is in the world because of sinful desire.*

Heb. 6:17-20 *So when God desired to show more convincingly to the heirs of the promise the unchangeable character of his purpose, he guaranteed it with an oath, 18 so that by two unchangeable things, in which it is impossible for God to lie, we who have fled for refuge might have strong encouragement to hold fast to the hope set before us. We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure. It enters the inner sanctuary behind the curtain, 20 where our forerunner, Jesus, has entered on our behalf. He has become a high priest forever, in the order of Melchizedek.*

- II. The circumstances surrounding Moses' birth were orchestrated by God in every detail to fulfill His covenant promises to Israel. In His divine providence, He had Moses' parents from the tribe of Levi born at just the right time. He introduced them to each other, put in their hearts a love for one another and gave them their children. He brought Pharaoh's daughter to the Nile at just the right time and put in her heart compassion for the Hebrew baby she found crying in a basket. He gave his sister, a slave girl, boldness and wisdom in suggesting to her a solution as to what to do with him. He made sure Moses was with his mother in the most important formative years of his childhood to be taught about God and His covenant promise to them. He then had him educated in the ways of the Egyptians to prepare him for the awesome responsibility of leading His people out of Egypt. All that took place at a time when Israel needed a savior to deliver them from their bondage to slavery. It gives us a powerful example of God's providential involvement in the affairs of mankind, especially in the lives of those who know and love Him. He truly does work all things do the good of those who love Him, those He has called according to His purpose (Rom. 8:28). Do you believe it?

Ex. 2:3-10

Lk. 12:6-7

Acts 7:22-24

tēbâ- tay-baw' ark, vessel which Noah built, basket vessel in which Moses was placed.

Divine providence is the governance of God by which He, with wisdom and love, cares for and directs all things in the universe. The doctrine of divine providence asserts that God is in complete control of all things. He is sovereign over the universe as a whole (Psalm 103:19), the physical world (Matthew 5:45), the affairs of nations (Psalm 66:7), human destiny (Galatians 1:15), human successes and failures (Luke 1:52), and the protection of His people (Psalm 4:8). This doctrine stands in direct opposition to the idea that the universe is governed by chance or fate (gotquestions.org).

- III. According to Ephesians 4:11-12, God enables and equips believers to build up the body of Christ through the grace gifts they've been given. It is a process God puts us through so that we may serve Him and His precious bride the church well. In like manner, Moses too had to go through a process of being enabled and equipped to serve Israel in the capacity of a prophet, priest, teacher and pastor. A radical change had to come about for that to happen. He was already a powerful leader, a military man and well educated, but he had to be emptied of himself in order to fully appreciate and fear (revere) God in ways that would move him to surrender his will to Him. God had to teach him to work out his salvation with fear and trembling as he worked in him to will and to act according to his good purpose (Phil. 2:12-13). It took years for that to happen, but the changes that came about in his heart were well worth the privilege and result of being used by God to save his people. Like with Moses, we too *are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them (Eph. 2:10).*

Ex. 2:11-25

Heb. 11:24-26