

**I Need a Hero - Old Testament Characters
That Teach Us New Testament Truths
(Part 4) Moses, a man who stood up to Crisis
(Ex. 3:10)**

Introduction: On any of the list of the world's greatest men, Moses would have to be included. The Old Testament describes him as a heroic leader and a real man of God who brought the people of Israel out of bondage and into a special relationship with God. His story can be found starting in Exodus 1 through Deuteronomy 34. He is accredited with being the author of the first five books of the Bible, two recorded songs and a Psalm. He is noted as a man who stood up to crisis. Because we face many of the same crisis Moses did in our own lives, he is our hero today. We can learn from his model how we too can be people who can stand up to crisis in our lives.

I. The crisis at the birth of Moses: (Ex.1-2:11) since Joseph's death, the Israelites have grown to a large population of people in Egypt.

Many years have passed and the present Pharaoh (One who did not know Joseph), (Ac.7:18) feared the power of this large group of people in his land.

A. The burdening of the people – (Ex.1:8-12)

B. The birth of Moses – Moses life began under Pharaoh's judgment of death. (Ex. 1:15,16)

1. Moses was raised in a royal palace – (Ex. 3:4 - 10) Adopted by Pharaoh's daughter, she raised him as her own son.
2. Moses realized he was an Israelite – and daily he made it his business to go out among his people and survey their oppression. (Ex.2:11)

There comes a time in every serious Christian's life that we must stand up and settle our own identity crisis – We must refuse to follow the world and chose to follow Christ!

II. The crisis brought on by Moses: (Ex.2:12-3) Moses had more than identified with his people, he had also identified with their God. Because of this Moses wanted to do something for his people and God. (However),

A. Moses was acting on God's will, but not in God's way – (2:11b – 12) By the time Moses turns 40 he is convinced God has set him up to be the deliverer of the Israelites from Egypt.

1. At some point (unrecorded in scripture) apparently God has revealed His plan or Moses had assumed it.
2. Moses plan was to give confidence to the Israelites that God would use him to deliver them. Instead all this did was confuse them (Ex. 2:13,14; Ac.7:25).

We too like Moses often have to endure crisis situations that we bring upon ourselves when out of the very best of intentions we do right stuff in a wrong way.

B. Because Moses did not act in faith, the result was a failure

Now Moses because of his flesh is out of the place God wanted him and not able to fulfill the purpose for which God was grooming him.

This also what happens to us when we walk by the flesh instead of by faith.)

III. The crisis at a burning bush for Moses: (Ex. 3)

1. **God wasn't done with Moses** - God wasn't done with Moses because of his mistakes any more than He is ready to discard you because of your mistakes.
2. **God was developing Moses** – God was teaching Moses he needed God far more than God needed Moses.

Our value soars when we are operating in the master's hand!

IV. The crisis of bearing the leadership role of Moses: (Ex. 4:27-40:38)

1. Moses was a godly leader whose life end was marked by tragic loneliness, yet grace. (Num.20:1-13) For this, Moses would see, but not enter the promise land.
2. Deut.34 records the death of Moses with one attendee – God. As he was all his life, God was with Moses in his death, and He buried this godly leader.

The crisis that come to us form bearing the godly leadership role can be tough and taxing – but as God was with Moses, so He will be with every one of us who are called upon to be godly leaders at home, church, etc. all the way to the end of our journey.)

Conclusion: With Moses as our hero and a great model, we can see how we too must stand up to those times of crisis in our own lives.