

Prayer List

Gene
Veda
Wallace
Sheila
Ophelia

Services:

Sunday

Bible Class 9:00 a.m.
Assembly 10:00 a.m.
Assembly 11:00 a.m.

Wednesday

Bible Class 7:00 p.m.

Elders:

Brad Behrens - bradbehrens@pinolechurchofchrist.com
Michael Odom - MichaelOdom@pinolechurchofchrist.com
Ernie Sprinkel - preacher@pinolechurchofchrist.com

This Week's Question:

Who said "A star shall come forth from Jacob,
A scepter shall rise from Israel,"

Answer To Last Week's Question:

Hebrews and James - He 11:31; Ja 2:25

Published by the church of Christ which meets at 755
Pinole Valley Road, Pinole, CA 94564, Phone (510)
724-1994, (Mailing address: church of Christ, P.O.
Box 453, Pinole, CA 94564)

Pinole Tidings

www.pinolechurchofchrist.com

Vol. 15, No. 14 - January 19, 2014

Lessons From Moses' Journey of Faith

Bill Robinson, Jr.

Moses' journey of faith is most impressive. The biblical record of his life is deeply moving—especially, as we visualize and imagine the scenes of drama and phenomena unfolding frame by frame as he ascends to the post of leader and serves faithfully in that unique role as the prophet, foreshadowing the Messiah (Deuteronomy 18:1ff).

The inspired history of Moses' life provides us with wonderful glimpses of his character and personality. The Holy Spirit gives testimony in a parenthetical aside, "that the man Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth." (Numbers 12:3) Certainly that inspired statement should be believed as true. However, it could not be appreciated, much less understood, without the Old Testament record of his life. Even more impressive to is that in other places, both in the Old and New Testament, centuries after Moses' death, his character and integrity is a benchmark which gives occasion for further inspired testimony to be borne

about him by others who never knew him. He is a hero to those who want to trust in God.

One such passage that stands out to is found in a sorrowful passage, Jeremiah chapter fifteen, verse one. Jehovah had rejected Jeremiah's prayer for Israel (14:11–18), as well as Israel's own hollow confession and empty plea (14:19–22). To emphasize how irrevocable His judgment was against Israel because of their sins, Jehovah declared, "Even if Moses and Samuel stood before Me, My mind would not be favourable toward this people. Cast them out of my sight, and let them go forth." (15:1) Moses on occasion had made intercession for a rebellious and idolatrous Israel. He had turned God's heart back toward the faithless nation and saved them from the judgment of God's wrath (Exodus 32:11–14, 30–32; Numbers 14:13–19; Deuteronomy 9:13–29).

In light of this reference to Moses from Jeremiah, we should not be surprised to find Moses' life referenced for Christians today in that honor roll of the faithful in Hebrews 11. Read it carefully and imagine the scenes which are being depicted. "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king's commandment. By faith Moses, when he was come to years, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompense of the reward. By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing

him who is invisible. Through faith he kept the passover, and the sprinkling of blood, lest he that destroyed the firstborn should touch them. By faith they passed through the Red sea as by dry land: which the Egyptians assaying to do were drowned." (vv. 23–29)

Space does not permit an exhaustive discussion of all this passage sets before us, as it spans the whole of Moses' life and sums it up with one word—FAITH! I wonder sometimes as a father, husband, friend, and brother if I am as impressed with the meaning of "by faith" as I should be? Moses' faith in God began with the fearless faith of his parents of whom the text says they did not fear the King's command (v. 23). Should we be surprised then, as he grew up and was able to choose God for himself that the text says he did not fear the wrath of the king (v. 27)? Isn't it interesting that there is no personal statement or formal declaration of Moses' refusal to be called Pharaoh's son? However, it is clearly understood in his choice to identify himself with the people of God and the God of his people, as he lived by faith in contradistinction to all the Egypt could promise!

Yes, the journey of Moses' life lived by faith is impressive. It speaks to that of which the life of faith is all about: making right choices and refusing the wrong; of putting loyalty to the unseen God ahead of the very visible and often felt scorn of a world which does not give one whit if we should go to hell, much less to heaven; of learning to look to the end of things from the beginning and not to be enamored with the here and now! Beloved, "cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward" (Hebrews 10:35).