



CAPITOL COMMISSION™

Third Sermon in the Capitol: Misunderstanding Moses

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David Andersen / PO Box 2020, Chesterfield, VA 23832 / David.Andersen@capitolcom.org

Acts 7:21-29

“But when he was being exposed, the daughter of Pharaoh took him up and raised him herself into a son. 22) And Moses was trained in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and he was powerful in his words and works. 23) But when his forty years’ time was fulfilled, it came up upon his heart to visit his brothers, the sons of Israel. 24) And seeing one being injured, he defended him and took vengeance for the oppressed, striking down the Egyptian. 25) But he supposed that the brothers would understand that God would grant salvation to them through his hand; but they did not understand. 26) Even the next day, he appeared to them as they were fighting and attempted to reconcile them in peace, saying; ‘Men, you are brothers! Why are you injuring each other?’ 27) But the one injuring his neighbor banished him away, saying; ‘Who appointed you to be a ruler and judge over us? 28) Are not you yourself desiring to kill me in the same way as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?’ 29) But Moses fled at this word, and became a stranger in the land of Midian, where he fathered two sons.” (My translation)

“THIS IS A CONSTANT PATTERN IN ISRAEL’S HISTORY—
SPIRITUAL PRIDE COUPLED WITH SPIRITUAL IGNORANCE
THAT CAUSES THEM TO REJECT THE DELIVERERS GOD
SENDS THEM.” JOHN MACARTHUR

Was Moses almost aborted as a baby? How did Moses’ training add to his leadership? Did Moses risk his life to defend his slave brother against an evil master? Why didn’t Moses brothers understand his sacrifice for them? Did their rejection banish their deliverer and continue their bondage? Were the members of the Congress of Israel equally guilty of rejecting their deliverer? Is Jesus’ authority rejected today?

FOCUS ON FUTURE EVENTS / BIBLE STUDIES:

- > FEBRUARY 5: ACTS 7:30-43 *THE THIRD SERMON IN THE CAPITOL: DEPORTATION TO BABYLON!*
- > FEBRUARY 12: ACTS 7:44-53 *THE THIRD SERMON IN THE CAPITOL: JUST LIKE YOUR FATHERS!*

Stephen had preached so powerfully in the “*Synagogue of the Freedmen*”, where probably Sanhedrin member, Saul, and his compatriots from “*Cilicia*” attended, that “*they were not able to resist the wisdom and the Spirit by which he spoke*” (Acts 6:9-10). So they stirred up the Jews and their leaders and drug him before the Sanhedrin on the false charge that “*We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and against God*” (Acts 6:13). Stephen, by his radiant countenance (6:15), revealed that he rejoiced at the opportunity to proclaim the truth to the entire Sanhedrin, the Congress of Israel. Rather than directly answering the charge, he held them spellbound as he recounted before them their supernatural history. As the details were related, these brilliant leaders slowly began to understand through the patterns so clearly revealed in their history that he was irresistibly turning the tables upon them. In Eastern pictorial style, he was developing an irrefutable case before their very eyes, proving that their heroes in whom they took the most national pride as incredible deliverers, had been rejected by their own forefathers in the same way that their most recent heroic deliverer and rejected Messiah had been unjustly and unlawfully killed by the demand of these very leaders in legal murder upon the cross! The sharpest leaders would increase their agitation with every detail of this history.

“IT SEEMETH THAT THE MINISTER OF DELIVERANCE IS
DEAD BEFORE HE IS BORN. BUT THAT TIME IS MOST FIT
FOR GOD TO WORK IN, WHEN THERE IS NO HOPE OR
COUNSEL TO BE LOOKED FOR AT MAN’S HANDS.”
JOHN CALVIN

BIBLE STUDIES

- THURSDAY @ 6:30 AM –PRAYER MEETING – GAB 3RD FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM
- THURSDAY @ 7:00 AM –BIBLE STUDY – GAB 3RD FLOOR WEST CONFERENCE ROOM
- THURSDAY @ 4:30 PM –BIBLE STUDY – GAB ROOM 330 - SENATOR CARRICO’S OFFICE

Virginia

The Third Sermon in the Capitol: Misunderstanding Moses

I. PARALLEL RAISING & INTELLIGENCE ACTS 7:21-22

In exact parallel with Jesus Christ, Moses' life as a baby began with an escape from certain death ordered by the king of the land! They were both provided an escape in Egypt. Both are given the privileges of a king in infancy, as Christ is honored by the wise men or Parthian King Makers, and Moses is raised to be a king in his adoption by the daughter of the king of Egypt. It was a time of oppression for their people when they were both born and raised. Both were born to a Jewish mother of whom were born both male and female siblings. Their names both pointed to deliverance. They were both raised in the time of an expected deliverer and they both knew and accepted their calling to be the deliverer of their people. They were both "called" by God "out of Egypt." In their raising they are both credited with exceptional wisdom in childhood. Both had unusual power as great leaders. Moses was powerful in word as he is credited with originating the first alphabet and is the first writer of Scripture, the "Law of God", and Jesus is the most powerful ever in all language as "The Word" (Jn. 1:1). Even history today claims them as the greatest and most well-known deliverers of their people of all time!

"MOSES WAS QUITE LITERALLY THE MAN WHO GAVE UP A KINGDOM TO ANSWER GOD'S SUMMONS TO BE THE LEADER OF HIS PEOPLE." WILLIAM BARCLAY

II. PARALLEL REJECTION&INGRATITUDE ACTS 7:23-28

As Jesus begins his ministry of deliverance after forty days of fasting and prayer, so Moses begins to deliver his people after forty years. As Moses left the palace to deliver his lowly brethren in bondage, so Jesus left the glories of heaven to deliver His lowly people in bondage physically and spiritually. Both demonstrated an exceptional heart of compassion toward their own people for whom they sacrificed everything. As the intolerant Christ cleansed the temple with physical force, abruptly

ending the tyrannical oppression of the leaders over His people, so the intolerant Moses with physical force abruptly ended the oppression of a tyrannical leader over his brother. Both expected their brothers to "understand that God would give salvation to them through his hand; but they understood not." Both exercised a ministry of reconciliation for their people. As Jesus' people questioned his authority (Mt. 21:23, Mk. 11:28, Lk. 20:2), so the people of Moses often questioned his authority. As their rejection of Moses' deliverance caused him to be banished from his people, so Jesus was not only banished but brutally killed as His people rejected their deliverance and demonstrated their denial of his leadership and authority. Both suffered evil from their people for the good that they had graciously sacrificed to bring them. The greatest pain to their hearts is that their own nation would neither receive their leadership nor trust them.

"BEWARE OF DUPLICATING THE BIGGEST MISTAKE OF HISTORY AND BRUSHING OFF JESUS. FOR CHRIST'S SAKE, ALL UNWORTHY AMBITIONS, DREAMS AND GOALS SHOULD BE BRUSHED ASIDE." DAVID COOK

III. PARALLEL RESISTANCE IN BONDAGE ACTS 7:29

Suddenly Moses realized that his people really didn't want deliverance and rather than following his leadership, they had turned on their own willing and sacrificial deliverer and were accusing him in their own hearts as was related by the accusation, "Are not you yourself desiring to kill me in the same way as you killed the Egyptian yesterday?" Moses then "fled at this word" and the promised deliverance by God is delayed another forty years because of their rejection (Acts 7:30). So, as the nation rejected their Messiah through their leaders in this their third message of warning and the stoning that follows, in forty years their nation will be decimated and their capitol leveled.

Questions to Ponder:

- 1) Are you a bold witness for Christ to the leaders around you as Stephen was to the Congress of Israel?
- 2) Have you in supreme ingratitude for the deliverance from wrath that Jesus has accomplished, still rejected him?
- 3) As Israel delayed deliverance from Egypt and the leaders' rejection of Christ brought judgment, how will you escape?