



Weekly Newsletter – Sunday, February 20, 2022

Office hours: Mon / Wed / Fri 9:00am-3:00pm.

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The Faith of Moses by Author Unknown (edited)

One can hardly begin to think about the relationship between faith and Moses without considering the inspired penman's comments in Hebrews 11:23-28.

By faith Moses' parents hid him for three months after he was born, because they saw he was no ordinary child, and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king's anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.

We learn from this passage that Moses' faith began with his parents who defied Pharaoh's command. That same defiance cropped up in Moses' own life as he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter and when he finally forsook Egypt. These things were not done for defiance's sake, but because Moses was "looking ahead to his reward" and "because he saw him who is invisible." Moses was defiant toward Egypt because he believed in something greater than what Egypt had to offer; He believed in the existence of and the promises of God.

Nevertheless, Moses' faith wasn't always perfect. There were several occasions when his faith wavered. We wonder where his faith went when we witness his flight after the Israelites rejected him as their leader (Acts 7:23-29). We ponder how he could, in the presence of God, doubt himself even as God promised to be with him (Exodus 4:10-17). We pause when we see his noble visage wrinkled with anger at the children of Israel and in disobedience strikes the rock to which God had simply said speak (Numbers 20:1-13). Despite these failings, Moses' legacy is one of faithfulness. Let's notice a few things in that regard.

Moses' faith faltered. We mentioned some of the times when his faith was less than stellar. He had times in his life when he gave up, had self-doubt, and even deliberately disobeyed God. Regardless, with God's encouragement, Moses found ways to return to the Lord. In Psalm 90, perhaps after the return of the 12 spies from the land of Canaan and God's wrath with the disappointing report they brought, Moses prayed, "Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations" (Psalm 90:1). Moses realized that even in times when our faith falters, that it is only to the Lord that we can turn for ultimate comfort and refuge. So, he says, "Relent, LORD! How long will it be? Have compassion on your servants." (Psalm 90:13). Even as Moses' faith faltered, he always came back to God when he realized his wrong. We need to let the true spirit of penitence characterize our faith as well.

Moses' faith followed. From the time that God called Moses to bring His people out of the land of Egypt to the time that Moses' foot set down on top of mount Pisgah, he followed the Lord. We remember many of the trials Moses had to endure: the mocking of Pharaoh's magicians; the rejection of his message by Pharaoh; the complaints of the Hebrew people; the creation of the golden calf by Aaron; the rebellion of Korah, Dathan, and Abiram; the final lack of faith demonstrated by the 10 spies. In each of these times, Moses could have easily thrown in the towel. At one point God Himself told Moses to abandon the children of Israel and let Him make a nation from Moses' himself (Exodus 32:9-10). It was in precisely these times that Moses' faith shined more brightly than ever when he dedicated himself to following the path that God had laid out. Under extreme trial, temptation, and trouble Moses' faith came shining through like a beacon of hope among the fog of despair. What a tremendously faithful follower!

Moses' faith finished. While forbidden to enter the Promised Land, Moses continued to serve God until the time that his life was required. One can well imagine Moses walking up that rocky path to the top of Mount Pisgah and looking over into the land of Canaan. His time on earth was at an end, and he had completed the task God had set before him. Yet his faith looked not finally upon an earthly plateau, but a heavenly one. We find Moses again in the gospel accounts speaking with Jesus about his death (Luke 9:31). We no longer see a Moses that is burdened by the cares of earthly life, but one who is triumphant over death and glorified, providing comfort and peace to The One who would lead His people not out of a physical land of bondage, but a spiritual one. No doubt our Lord took comfort in this conversation when He declared upon the cross, "It is finished." Like Moses, he laid down His burdens of physical existence to take up a glorious heavenly one. Moses' faith was a faith that finished.

What joys and comforts the faith of Moses brings to the faithful child of God! Moses' example gives us much to contemplate. Let us take up his banner of faith in our lives each day as we may falter, follow, and seek to finish the path of faith we each have before us.

Praise & Prayer Requests

Winterfest Attendees: pray for safe travel and hearts to be drawn to a deeper relationship with Jesus.

Rebecca Tucker: having knee surgery on Tuesday to repair a torn meniscus.

Paul King: continue to pray for restored health.

David Blue, R.J & Izzy Purdue: recovering from Covid-19.

Kathleen Book: protection of her job while she is home caring for sick grandchildren.

Greenbank church: Godly guidance for our elders, minister, & deacons as they lead our congregation.

Spanish Ministry: pray for encouragement and growth in this new ministry.

Greenbank missions: Westerholm (Mozambique), Borfay (Liberia), Agbeta (Ghana), Camp Manatawny, Reflect Campus Missions/BHC. Pray for a new mission work that reflects the interest of our members.

If you have an item for prayer or praise, please email it to office@greenbankcoc.org for inclusion in our weekly list. To view previous prayer requests and those on our ongoing lists, please visit the Weekly Bulletins page on our website www.greenbankcoc.org.

Announcements and Events

Greek Class Begins April 6th

This class will be held on Wednesday evenings at 7:00 p.m. in the blue room and will be livestreamed for those unable to attend in person. Please sign up on the list provided on the bulletin board by February 27, or contact the church office, so we know how many books to purchase. Cost of the study book will be about \$20.

Camp Manatawny

Registration is now open for 2022 summer sessions. Receive a discount and a free t-shirt when you pay in full by March 31st. Summer sessions are for students who have completed grades 1-12. Register at this link:

<https://www.manatawny.org/summercamp>

Sunday Meeting Times

In-Person Bible Classes for All Ages @ 9:30 a.m. including a Spanish-speakers class (adults).

In-Person Worship Service – English & Spanish @ 10:30 a.m.

The English service is live streamed with 3 ways to connect:

- 1) **Facebook Live:** <http://www.facebook.com/greenbankchurchofchrist>
- 2) **Greenbank Website:** www.greenbankcoc.org Click on the Facebook Live tab on the menu bar at the top of the page. You do **NOT** need a Facebook account to view the service through our website.
- 3) **Phone In:** (301) 715-8592 Enter Meeting ID 889 4601 8992

BIBLE STUDIES

Singles – Tuesdays @ 7pm – led by Mark DaBaldo; hybrid meeting (in person & on Zoom).

In Person – Wednesdays @ 7pm – John's Epistles led by George Kirkland.

Online – Wednesdays @ 7pm – led by Domingo Reyes. Connect as you would on Sunday.

Spanish (In-Person)– Thursdays @ 6:30 pm – Contact Domingo Reyes for more information.

Ladies – 2nd Saturday each month @ 11am on Zoom – “A Woman Who Doesn't Quit” led by Crystal Reyes.

Men – 3rd Saturday each month @ 10am at Greenbank led by Mark Ray.

3 Ways to Give

We appreciate those who have been able to maintain regular giving.

- 1) **In Person:** You may give your contribution during our Sunday morning worship service, or drop it off at the office on Monday or Wednesday between 9:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m.
- 2) **By Mail:** Send your contribution to 511 Greenbank Road, Wilmington, DE 19808.
- 3) **Online:** PayPal has been set up on our website www.greenbankcoc.org. Click on the “Donate” button and follow the instructions. (Note: there is a small fee assessed from each donation.)

Last Week: Attendance: 129 Contribution: \$5,551 Weekly Average: \$5,208