

# The Story of Passover

## C. The *Beginning* of Deliverance—

### The Call of Moses (Exodus Ch. 3) (Pt. 1)

1. A *Marvelous* Sight (3:1-6)
2. A *Mission* Decreed (3:7-10)
3. A *Misgiving* Expressed (3:11-12)
4. A *Matchless* Name Revealed (3:13-15)
5. A *Miraculous* Prediction (3:16-22)

### The Call of Moses (Pt. 2) (Exodus Ch. 4)

#### 6. A *Mounting* Apprehension (4:1-17)

##### a. Moses' *Fear* of Rejection (4:1)

<sup>4</sup> Then **Moses** said, "What if they will not believe me or listen to what I say? For they may say, 'The **LORD** has not appeared to you.'"

##### b. *God's Response*—Powerful Signs (4:2-9)

<sup>2</sup> **The LORD** said to him, "What is that in your hand?" And he said, "**A staff.**"

<sup>3</sup> Then **He said**, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became a *serpent*, and **Moses fled** from it.

<sup>4</sup> But **the LORD** said to **Moses**,

"Stretch out your hand and **grasp it** by its tail"—so he stretched out his hand and caught it, and it became a *staff* in his hand—

<sup>5</sup> "that they may *believe* that **the LORD**, the **God** of their fathers, the **God** of Abraham, the **God** of Isaac, and the **God** of Jacob, has *appeared to you.*"

<sup>6</sup> **The LORD** furthermore said to him,

"Now put **your hand** into your bosom."

So he put his hand into his bosom, and when he took it out, behold, **his hand was leprous like snow.**

<sup>7</sup> Then **He said**, "Put **your hand** into your bosom again."

So he put his hand into his bosom again, and when he took it out of his bosom, behold, **it was restored** like *the rest of his flesh.*

<sup>8</sup> "It shall come about that if they will **not believe you** or heed the witness of the **first** sign they may *believe* the witness of the **last sign.**

<sup>9</sup> But if they will **not believe** even these two signs or heed what you say, then you shall take some **water** from the **Nile** and pour it on the dry ground; and the **water** which you take from the **Nile** will become **blood** on the dry ground."

c. **Moses' Fear of Inadequacy** (4:10)

<sup>10</sup> Then **Moses** said to the **LORD**,  
“**Please, Lord**, I have **never** been eloquent, neither recently  
nor in time past, nor since **You** have spoken to **Your servant**;  
for I am **slow of speech** and **slow of tongue**.”

d. **God's Response—His Provision of Adequacy** (4:11-12)

<sup>11</sup> **The LORD** said to him, “**Who** has **made man's mouth**?  
Or **who** makes *him* **mute** or **deaf**, or **seeing** or **blind**? Is it not **I, the LORD**?

<sup>12</sup> Now then **go**, and **I, even I**, will **be with your mouth**,  
and **teach you** what you are **to say**.”

e. **Moses' Continued *Reluctance*** (4:13)

<sup>13</sup> But he said, “**Please, Lord**, now **send the message** by whomever **You will**.”

f. **God's Response—A Supportive Helper** (4:14-17)

<sup>14</sup> Then the **anger** of the **LORD** burned against **Moses**,  
and **He said**, “Is there not your brother **Aaron the Levite**?  
I know that **he speaks fluently**.  
And moreover, behold, **he is coming** out to **meet you**;  
when he sees you, he will **be glad** in his **heart**.”

<sup>15</sup> **You** are to **speak to him** and **put the words** in **his mouth**;  
and **I, even I**, will be with **your mouth** and **his mouth**,  
and **I will teach you** what **you are to do**.

<sup>16</sup> Moreover, **he** shall **speak for you** to the **people**; and **he will be**  
as **a mouth** for **you** and **you** will be **as God** to him.

<sup>17</sup> **You** shall take in your hand **this staff**,  
with which **you** shall perform the **signs**.”

7. **A Mobilization towards Egypt** (4:18-20)

<sup>18</sup> Then **Moses** departed and returned to **Jethro** his father-in-law and said  
to him, “**Please, let me go**, that I may **return** to **my brethren** who are in **Egypt**,  
and see if they are still **alive**.” And **Jethro** said to **Moses**, “**Go in peace**.”

<sup>19</sup> Now the **LORD** said to **Moses** in **Midian**,  
“**Go back** to **Egypt**, for **all** the men who were seeking your life are **dead**.”

<sup>20</sup> So **Moses** took **his wife** and **his sons** and mounted them on a **donkey**,  
and **returned** to the land of **Egypt**.  
**Moses** also took the **staff of God** in his hand.

8. **A Message for Pharaoh** (4:21-23)

<sup>21</sup> **The LORD** said to **Moses**, “When you go back to **Egypt**  
see that you perform before **Pharaoh** all the **wonders**

which I have put in **your power**; but **I will harden his heart** so that he will **not** let the **people go**.

<sup>22</sup> Then you shall **say to Pharaoh**, ‘Thus says **the LORD**, “**Israel is My son, My firstborn**.” <sup>23</sup> So I said to **you**, ‘**Let My son go**’ that he may **serve Me**’; but you have **refused** to let him go. Behold, I will **kill your son, your firstborn**.””

### 9. A *Mortal Sin* Avoided (4:24-26)

### 10. A *Merger* with Aaron (4:27-28)

<sup>27</sup> Now **the LORD** said to **Aaron**, “**Go to meet Moses** in the **wilderness**.” So he went and **met him** at the **mountain of God** and **kissed him**.

<sup>28</sup> **Moses** told **Aaron** all the **words of the LORD** with which **He** had **sent him**, and all the **signs** that **He** had **commanded him to do**.

### 11. A *Meeting* with the People (4:29-31)

<sup>29</sup> Then **Moses** and **Aaron** went and **assembled** all the **elders of the sons of Israel**; <sup>30</sup> and **Aaron spoke** all the **words** which **the LORD** had **spoken to Moses**. **He** then **performed the signs** in the **sight of the people**.

<sup>31</sup> So the **people believed**; and when they heard that **the LORD** was **concerned** about the **sons of Israel** and that **He** had **seen their affliction**, then they **bowed low** and **worshiped**.

## Summary

### Moses’ *Fears*...God’s **Response**

#### 1. Moses’ *Fear*→ Rejection

“What if **they will not believe me** or **listen to what I say**?”  
For **they** may say, ‘**the LORD** has **not appeared to you**.” (4:1)

**God’s Response**→ *Assuring* Moses with **Powerful Signs** (4:2-9)

#### 2. Moses’ *Fear*→ Inadequacy (4:10)

**God’s Response**→ *Assuring* Moses that **He** will make him **Adequate** (4:12)

#### 3. Moses’ *continued Reluctance*→(4:13)

**God’s Response**→*Assigning* to Moses his brother **Aaron** for **Support** (4:14-16)

“Is there not your **brother Aaron**...?...**he speaks fluently**...I, even I, will be **with your mouth** and **his mouth**,...” (4:14-16)

# Personal Application

## Overcoming our *Fears* in Sharing the Gospel

1. Like **Moses, we too** can be **fearful** of being **rejected** as we seek to fulfill the ‘**Great Commission**’ *calling* to share the **gospel** in a hostile world. If so, we need to remember that, as with **Moses, God** has also given us *two powerful signs* to **proclaim** to the world, the **cross** and an **empty tomb**

For indeed **Jews** ask for **signs** and **Greeks** search for *wisdom*; but **we preach** **Messiah crucified** (and **resurrected**), to **Jews** a **stumbling block** and to **Gentiles** **foolishness**, but to **those** who are **the called**, both **Jews and Greeks, Messiah** the **power of God** and the **wisdom of God**. (I Corinthians 1:22-24)

2. Like **Moses, we too** may have **fears** of **inadequacy** as we attempt to be a **witness** of the **gospel** of **Messiah**. However, as with **Moses, God** has promised to be **our adequacy**.

When they bring you (my **disciples**) before the **synagogues** and the **rulers** and the **authorities**, do **not** worry about *how* or *what* you are **to speak** in your **defense**, or *what* you are **to say**; for the **Holy Spirit** will **teach you** in that very hour *what you ought to say*.” (Luke 12:11-12)

Not that **we** are **adequate** *in ourselves*.., but **our adequacy is from God**, who also **made us adequate** as **servants** of a **new covenant**,...  
(II Corinthians 3:5-6a)

**All Scripture** is **inspired by God** and profitable for **teaching, for reproof, for correction, for training in righteousness**; so that the **man of God** may be **adequate, equipped** for every **good work**. (II Timothy 3:16-17)

3. Like **Moses, we too** may continue to **fear** and be **reluctant** to follow **God’s calling** in our lives. As in the case of **Moses and Aaron, God** will **oftentimes** send us much needed **help** from **others**, who will come alongside, and give us **strength** and **encouragement** in our **ministry**.

For even when we had come into Macedonia **our flesh had no rest**, but we were **afflicted on every side: conflicts without, fears within**.

But **God**, who **comforts the depressed**, **comforted us** by the **coming of Titus**. (II Corinthians 7:5-6)

## Closing Comments