

## Moses, “Thinking In The Flesh”

Romans 8:5 For those who are according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who are according to the Spirit, the things of the Spirit.

Ex 3-4:17 Moses – Thinking in the Flesh

### Background

Ex 2:1-15 – Early life of Moses (0-40)

Ex 2:11a – Moses takes an interest in his own people – what prompted him?

Ex 2:11b-14 – Moses defends his people by killing an Egyptian – what was he thinking?

Ex 2:15 – Moses flees to Midian

Acts 7:20-25 – Stephen’s summary of the early life of Moses

Acts 7:23 – decided – *anabaino epi ho kardia* – arose upon his heart

- At some point it entered Moses’ heart to identify with his people Heb 11:24-27
- Moses rejected worldly success in Egypt to follow Christ

Acts 7:25 – *nomizo* – Imp.A.I - to suppose, assume – had been assuming, supposing *didomi* – PAI – giving deliverance – at that present time

- At some point God had revealed to Moses his future destiny - deliverer
- Moses made an assumption – He would begin the deliverance on his own
- Moses tried to deliver his people in his own time and own strength

Acts 7:26-28 – Who made you ruler and judge over us?

- Moses felt the sting of rejection and the fear of exposure (7:35)

### Ex 3-4:17 Moses’ 5 Objections

**God:** Vs 1-10 – Introduction to the Mission

1. **Moses:** Vs 11 - Who am I – that I should go to Pharaoh and bring out the people?

**God:** Vs 12 - I will be with you

2. **Moses:** Vs 13 - Who are you? What is your name?

**God:** Vs 14 - YHWH – I am the eternally existing One Vs 15-22 – Instructions for the Mission

3. **Moses:** Ch 4:1 – What if – they do not believe me?

**God:** Vs 2-9 – what is in your hand – Inspirational miracles

4. **Moses:** Vs 10 – I am not a good speaker

**God:** Vs 11-12 – I will help you speak

5. **Moses:** Vs 13 - Please send someone else

**God:** Vs 14-17 – God is angry – Aaron will speak for you

## Can we glean from this exchange, that Moses is reluctant to take the mission?

1. At age 40, Moses became aware of his mission in the plan of God. Act 7:25 – Moses expected his people to understand his mission & cooperate. Heb 11:24-27 – turned his back on Egypt and chose to pursue God
2. Moses made a huge assumption about God's plan – *nomizo*
  - Proceeded to implement the plan in his own time and strength Ex 3:11-12 – intervened between Egyptian and Hebrew – killed Egyptian
  - Nakah – same verb in both occurrences Ex 3:13-14 – intervened between 2 Hebrews fighting – rejected
  - Who made you ruler and judge? God? Moses?
3. Moses' attempt to do God's work for him ended up in failure.
  - Wrong time – neither Moses nor the people were ready – 40 years
  - Wrong strength – God had something much bigger in mind
4. His failure and rejection hurt Moses and caused him to be reluctant to try again
5. Moses was understandably shocked and overwhelmed by God's calling.

## Objections/Solutions

1. Who am I? Moses still remembers his rejection 40 years ago. He tried to be the deliverer in the flesh. His last effort got him 40 years in the desert.
  - **God: I will be with you** – God Himself would be with him all the way
2. Who are you? Moses is imagining being horse laughed by the Hebrews. Tell us again O great deliverer, Who sent you?
  - **God: I am the self-existent, ever existent, always existent One**
3. What if they won't believe? A reasonable question – they didn't believe last time.
  - **God: I will empower you with miraculous signs**
4. I am not a good speaker – I am not able – (No kidding!) Moses is still thinking he must bring about God's plan through his own efforts.
  - **God: I will help you speak and tell you what to say.**
5. Please send someone else – please leave me to live my little obscure life. I don't want to face the possibility of being humiliated again. God: \*x%###!!!!
  - **God do what I have commanded you to do**