

Right Man, Right Mission, Wrong Method

Moses' Anger and Serious Mistake

Exodus 2:11-15

*One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. **Exodus 2:11***

*Glancing this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand. The next day he went out and saw two Hebrews fighting. He asked the one in the wrong, "Why are you hitting your fellow Hebrew?" **Exodus 2:12-13***

The man said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you

thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?” Then Moses was afraid and thought, “What I did must have become known.”

Exodus 2:14

When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well. Exodus 2:15

The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is better than pride. Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools.

Ecclesiastes 7:8-9

Moses was a man of distinct advantage

1. Impressive physique
2. Intellectual training, Hebrew religion

3. Educated in the best Egyptian tradition

The advantage of Intellectual Training

Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action.

Acts 7:22

God wants us to use an intellectual preparation and evangelistic zeal.

Jesus replied: “ ‘Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ **Matthew 22:37**

In spite of his advantages physically and educationally, Moses made a serious mistake: he lost his temper and murdered an Egyptian taskmaster.

One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own

*people were and watched them at their hard labor. He saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his own people. **Exodus 2:11***

*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 pleasures of sin for a short time. **Hebrews 11:24-25***

***Moses made the right decision—
he was loyal to his own people.
Moses made the right choice; he
chose the spiritual over the
material.***

***Righteous anger and indignation
is a symptom of a caring heart.***

**Although Moses' heart was right,
he took the wrong action.**

Glancing this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.
Exodus 2:12

Moses made two serious mistakes

- 1. Moses acted emotionally, not rationally.**

Jesus' anger was controlled and calculated.

It was not just an emotional outburst.

Jesus entered Jerusalem and went to the temple. He looked around at everything, but since it was already late, he went out to Bethany with the Twelve.

Mark 11:11

“For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the LORD.

“As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts. Isaiah 55:8-9

2. Moses acted in his own strength, and not in God's strength.

When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well. Exodus 2:15

Lessons from Moses' anger that we need to learn and practice constantly.

1. A loss of temper usually means a loss of respect.

The end of a matter is better than its beginning, and patience is

better than pride. Do not be quickly provoked in your spirit, for anger resides in the lap of fools.

Ecclesiastes 7:8-9

Better a patient man than a warrior, a man who controls his temper than one who takes a city.

Proverbs 16:32

**2. God's will must be done
God's way.**

**3. Covering sin does not
erase sin.**

**“Be sure your sin will find you
out.”**

*“But if you fail to do this, you will be sinning against the Lord; and you may be sure that your sin will find you out. **Numbers 32:23***

If you do what is right, will you not be accepted? But if you do not do

what is right, sin is crouching at your door; it desires to have you, but you must master it.”

Genesis 4:7

For there is nothing hidden that will not be disclosed, and nothing concealed that will not be known or brought out into the open.

Luke 8:17

4. God's grace is greater than all our sin.

Greater Grace

The law was added so that the trespass might increase. But where sin increased, grace increased all the more, so that, just as sin reigned in death, so also grace might reign through righteousness to bring eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Romans 5:20-21

Jesus' blood cleanses us from our sin.

"Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

Isaiah 1:18