

“Faith of Our Fathers”

Exodus 1:15—2:3; Hebrews 11:23

East Berlin Community Church

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Introduction

- The benefits and value of a godly Christian heritage
- Biblical Examples of men and women who came from godly homes.
- The legacy of Jonathan Edwards
- A Christian heritage can start in any generation

“Faith of Our Fathers” : Moses’ Parents

A. Moses’ Family Life

1. The Identity of Moses’ Parents

- Exodus 2:1-- *“And a man of the house of Levi went and took as wife a daughter of Levi”*
- Numbers 26:58-59-- *“And Kohath begot Amram. The name of Amram’s wife was Jochebed the daughter of Levi, who was born to Levi in Egypt; and to Amram she bore Aaron and Moses and their sister Miriam.”*

2. The “Times” in which they lived.

a. The vast majority of Israelis were guilty of spiritual compromise.

- 1) God had provided safeguards so that the Israelis would not be absorbed into the pagan Egyptian culture.
- 2) In spite of the safeguards, many had adopted and adapted the idolatrous religious practices of the Egyptians.
 - Joshua 24:14-- *“Now therefore, fear the LORD, serve Him in sincerity and in truth, and put away the gods which your fathers served on the other side of the River and in Egypt. Serve the LORD!”*
 - Case in point: Golden calf at Mount Sinai

b. They were engulfed in a moral crisis involving infanticide.

- Exodus 1:15-22-- *“Then the king of Egypt spoke to the Hebrew midwives, of whom the name of the one was Shiphrah and the name of the other Puah; and he said, ‘When you do the duties of a midwife for the Hebrew women, and see them on the birthstools, if it is a son, thy you shall kill him; but if it is a daughter, then she shall live.’ But the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive. So the king of Egypt called for the midwives and said to them, ‘Why have you done this thing, and saved the male children alive?’ And the midwives said to Pharaoh, ‘Because the Hebrew woman are not like the Egyptian women; for they are lively and give birth before the midwives come to them.’ Therefore God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty. And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households for them. So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, ‘Every son who is born you shall cast into the river and every daughter you shall save alive.”*
- 1) PLAN A for the midwives to kill the baby Hebrew boys didn’t work
 - Exodus 1:17-- *“the midwives feared God, and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but saved the male children alive.”*
 - 2) God rewarded the midwives for their faith
 - Exodus 1:20-21-- *“God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and grew very mighty. And so it was, because the midwives feared God, that He provided households for them.”*
 - 3) PLAM “B” instituted: Hebrew parents kill their own newborn sons.
 - 4) Abortion fight today and the push for late-term abortion and infanticide

B. Moses' Family Faith

- Hebrews 11:23-- *"By faith, Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command."*
1. True faith **SEES!** It has **VISION!**
 - Genesis 15:13-16-- *"Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years. And also the nation whom they serve I will judge; afterwards they shall come out with great possessions. Now as for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried at a good old age. But in the fourth generation they shall return here, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."*
 - Hebrews 11:1-- *"substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen"*
 2. True faith **ACTS!** It takes **ACTION!**
 3. True faith **RISKS!** It involves **COURAGE** and **COMMITMENT.**
 - Exodus 2:1-3-- *"And a man of the house of Levi went and took a wife a daughter of Levi. So the woman conceived and bore a son. And when she saw that he was a beautiful child, she hid him three months. But when she could no longer hide him, she took an ark of bulrushes for him, daubed it with asphalt and pitch, put the child in it, and lad it in the reeds by the river's bank."*
 - Psalm 37:5-- *"Commit thy way unto the Lord, trust also in him, and he will bring it to pass!"*

C. Moses' Family Faith becomes His!

- Hebrews 11:24-27-- *"By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. By faith, he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible."*