GOD'S WEAPONS for TRANSFORMATION

Part 3 – Understanding the Painful Path to Transformation

Exodus 2:1-25 & Hebrews 11:23-26

Exodus 2:1 - NLT About this time, a man and woman from the tribe of Levi got married.

The woman became pregnant and gave birth to a son. She saw that he was a special baby and kept him hidden for three months.

But when she could no longer hide

him, she got a basket made of

papyrus reeds and waterproofed it

with tar and pitch. She put the

baby in the basket and laid it

among the reeds along the bank of the Nile River.

The baby's sister then stood at a distance, watching to see what would happen to him.

Soon Pharaoh's daughter came down to bathe in the river, and her attendants walked along the riverbank. When the princess saw the basket among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it for her.

When the princess opened it, she saw the baby. The little boy was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This must be one of the Hebrew children," she said.

Exodus 2:7 Then the baby's sister approached the princess. "Should I go and find one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" she asked.

"Yes, do!" the princess replied. So the girl went and called the baby's mother.

"Take this baby and nurse him for me," the princess told the baby's mother. "I will pay you for your help." So the woman took her baby home and nursed him.

Later, when the boy was older, his mother brought him back to Pharaoh's daughter, who adopted him as her own son. The princess named him Moses, for she explained, "I lifted him out of the water."

One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people.

He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.

The next day, when Moses went out to visit his people again, he saw two Hebrew men fighting. "Why are you beating up your friend?" Moses said to the one who had started the fight.

The man replied, "Who appointed you to be our prince and judge? Are you going to kill me as you killed that Egyptian yesterday?" Then Moses was afraid, thinking, "Everyone knows what I did."

Exodus 2:15a And sure enough, Pharaoh heard what had happened, and he tried to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in the land of Midian.



Principle #1

When life becomes very hard, unfair, painful and is full of suffering (especially when the cause or situation is entirely out of your control), it does NOT mean that you are out of God's will, favor or that He's punishing VOU.

Moses' Uncontrollable Life Circumstances:

- Born into slavery
- Born in a time of infanticide
- Separated from his family
- Raised by his people's oppressors

Hebrews 11:23 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.

Principle #2 If you are a faithful believer and follower of Christ (who is not living in outright disobedience), despite your past sins and your past mistakes, you're exactly where you are, exactly when you are, because God's Plans must come to pass.

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Principle #3 It is God's intent to transform us, grow us, mature us and bless us when we are in the middle of suffering, difficult, painful and unfair circumstances.

Moses' Growth, Transformation and Preparation by God

- He learned the limits of his power
- He saw a preview of the Israelites' rejection of his leadership
- He got married and had a son
- He learned to shepherd
- Moses was led to the place he would meet God face to face

Principle #4 God NEVER wastes pain and He never wastes suffering.

God's Miracles in Moses' Life

- Moses was the only baby that survived death in the Nile River.
- Moses was adopted by Pharaoh's daughter & grew up in the palace.
- Moses' parents raised their son in
- his early years & were paid for it.
- Moses was given the best education available in the world.

Principle #5 God will meet you right where you are.

Hebrews 11:24 By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

Hebrews 11:25 He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

Hebrews 11:26 He regarded disgrace for God's sake, to be of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward.

When we live with God as our foremost priority and with eternity in mind, it will transform our view of this life.

Principle #6 As a believing and committed child of God, you'll eventually end up where you need to be, at exactly the right time you need to be there, because God the Great **Redeemer is eternally faithful!**

Principle #7 God is always with us and is always interested in the lives and circumstances of his children, ESPECIALLY IN TIMES OF PAIN, **SUFFERING AND INJUSTICE.**

Exodus 2:23 Years passed, and the king of **Egypt died.** But the Israelites continued to groan under their burden of slavery. They cried out for help, and their cry rose up to God.

God heard their groaning, and he remembered his covenant promise to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.

Exodus 2:25 He looked upon the people of Israel and knew it was time to act.

Wherever you find yourself today, you're exactly where you need to be, at exactly the right time you need to be there, in order to meet God face to face in this season of your life.

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