



A Smile and a Cry

Exodus 2

Introduction—Struggles Big and Small

- We all face some form of struggle one way or another in Canada...but nothing compared to Moses' parents (i.e. the heartbreak)
- How do we deal with **struggles**, big or small, when they arrive in our lives? (They will come eventually.) What can we learn from Moses' parents?



God's First Move—A Smile



- (Acts 7:20; Heb. 11:23) In the NT Moses was described as **fair** or beautiful, but in Hebrew (Exo. 2:2) the word also carries the meaning of happiness, **cheerful**, joyful, or sweet.
- This one **smile** has changed the world's history.
- Of course this does not mean they would just throw the baby to the Nile if he was not cute.
- Nevertheless, they did not want to harm Moses in any way...but **what could they do?**

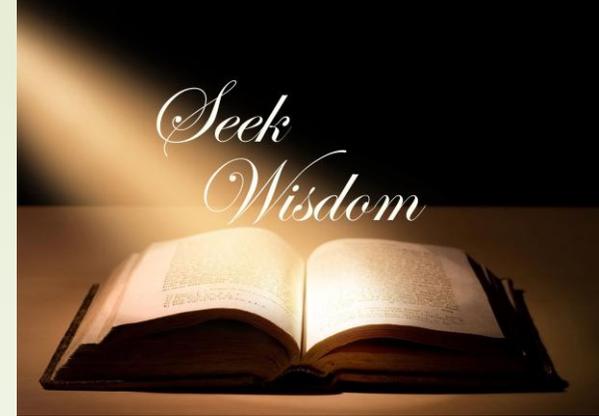
Faith and Wisdom



- In a matter of fact, they DID **obey** the letter of the law. They DID cast the baby to the Nile...
- On the other hand, they were doing **everything** that they could to protect the baby.
- Not just the **basket**, but notice the location and timing as well
- These are decisions that require two things: **faith** and **wisdom**.

What is Wisdom?

- Wise actions are based on **knowledge**. (e.g. rogue wave lifeboat)
- However, just the standard path of **experience** and **education** is not enough...
- **Biblical knowledge** is the key to spiritual wisdom (Pro. 2:1-2; 1 :7).
- (Pro. 9:10) And the fear of the Lord is the **beginning** of true wisdom.
- It is up to us to gain knowledge. (i.e. to grow)



Wisdom + Faith

- ➔ Just being wise will not solve all life's problems, (e.g. Solomon) since there are many challenges that are **beyond** our control, or things in the past or future that we cannot **change**.
- ➔ Nevertheless, I have seen great men or women of God who have Faith in God but lack basic **common sense** as well...
- ➔ The only way for us to face struggles properly is to have both faith in God and wisdom to act.



Faith and Courage



- Do you **believe** in God? (Rom. 1:16) Do you believe in who God is? (Heb. 11:1,6)
- We may have the wisdom to act, but **lack the courage** because our faith is not in God.
- When we leave the outcome in God's hands, we need faith and courage to watch God work as we **wait** on Him. (Psalm 27:14; Isa. 64:4)

God's Second Move—A Cry



- (2:6) It was a **cry** that saved a nation. This is not coincidence of course. Although the baby was just crying because he needed to. And God used that in a mighty way.
- Not just midwives, God can use **babies** too. What about you? Can God use you too?
- When we walk by faith and walk in wisdom, we can **experience** God's plan in action.



Conclusion

- It was the smile and cry of a baby that saved a nation and changed the world history. There is **no limit** to God's plan in action.
- As we face struggles in our everyday lives, we need to remember that we have a God that we can **trust**.
- Moreover, we need to grow in knowledge so we have the wisdom to act in our struggles.
- Are you walking in faith and walking in wisdom today?