

## THE FAITH OF MOSES

### Hebrews 11:24-27

**Introduction:** Everybody has a "role model" at some time or other and in some interest of their life. The Bible is full of men and women who have set the example for others to follow in their relationship with the Lord as well as in other areas of life. Within the pages of the Bible there is the account of a man who gave up what every person dreams of having in order that he might have a right relationship with God. That man was Moses.

### I. MOSES GAVE UP HIS RIGHT TO HAVING THE THRONE OF EGYPT

1. Moses had education, culture, wealth and prominence. He was accustomed to every honor, luxury, and privilege. Egypt was the most powerful country in the world and its throne was within the grasp of Moses.
2. Moses was 40 years old when he made his great decision.
  - Few people in history have been called upon to make such a decision than Moses.
3. Moses made this decision, not in a moment of overt emotionalism, he was not motivated by frustration, he was not a hopeless misfit, he was not choosing the path of God for the rewards that he felt life had withheld from him nor was he turning to God out of boredom or apathy.
4. Moses was not forced to run from the Devil, he did it from choice. He was not weak-minded, he was not weak-willed, he was not a child clinging to the security of some strong order, he was not a nobody seeking recognition and prestige.
  - Moses already had more than most men ever dream of having. YET out of his mature judgment, in the prime of life, he turned his back upon wealth, position and chose instead, faith in God.
5. When men and women of sound judgment reject Christ as Lord and Master, they do it NOT because they find Christian doctrines distasteful, but because they seek to avoid the responsibilities and obligations that the Christian life demands. They are not willing to submit themselves and surrender everything to Christ.
  - Moses considered the claims and obligations of what God demanded carefully.
  - Moses made no hasty examination and then came to a half-considered conclusion under the sudden impulse or emotional reaction.
  - His final choice was not in the nature of a temporary experiment.
  - He carefully burned all the bridges that might have made retreat possible.
  - Don't turn to Christ saying, "I'll try it for a while and if it works, then I'll go on with it and if it doesn't I will have time to choose another way of life."
  - When one comes to Christ, Christ's way, all bridges are burned and there is no turning back.

6. History tells us that in preparing for a major battle, the Romans first burned all their ships for there was no retreat for them. No wonder they won so many battles.
7. In the same manner, Christ demands absolute surrender and devotion. Jesus even said:  
*"...no man, having put his hand to the plow, and looking back, is fit for the kingdom of God."*

## II. MOSES WAS AT THE FORK OF HIS LIFE'S HIGHWAY

1. First, he looked down the broad, bright road that was filled with power, luxury, gaiety, wine, rich in the things that the world counts as pleasure.
2. Moses also looked down the other road and it was narrow, difficult, with suffering, affliction, humiliation, disappointment, hardships, trials, sorrows and pains. But he also saw the reward of doing and being what God wanted.
3. Few of us are ever asked to give up as much for God as Moses did. Few of us have such earthly delights spread before us as did Moses. Moses made a sacrifice but he also won a reward.
4. History tells the story about some of the world's most successful money men who had gathered together. There was the president of the world's largest steel company, the president of the largest utility company, a great wheat speculator, president of the New York Stock Exchange, a member of the cabinet of the President of the United States, president of the International Settlements, the biggest trader of Wall street, the head of one of the world's most powerful monopolies. Together they controlled more wealth than the United States Treasury.
  - These men were at a crossroads as was Moses. Their lives ended much differently than did Moses'. The president of the steel company died penniless, the wheat speculator died in Europe, broke, the president of the New York Stock Exchange was sent to prison, the Cabinet member was pardoned from serving time in prison so he could die at home, the Wall Street trader, the president of the Bank of International Settlements and the head of the world's biggest monopoly, all committed suicide.
  - All these men had money, power, fame, prestige, intelligence and education. Yet they lacked one thing - they did not believe in Jesus Christ. They had no time for God nor faith in His Son.
  - It was through faith that Moses renounced the wealth of Egypt.
  - It was his faith that made Moses know that the rest of his life would be spent in difficulties and hardships but in the end he would be pleasing to God.

### III. THE BIBLE HAS MUCH TO SAY ABOUT FAITH

1. Faith is the only approach to God, *"For he that cometh to God must believe that He is and that He is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him."*
2. Faith is absolutely essential in a relationship with God.
  - *"Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved and thy house."*
  - *"But as many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God even to them that believe on His name."*
  - *"And by Him all that believe are justified from all things, from which ye could not be justified by the law of Moses."*
  - *"But to him that worketh not, but believeth on Him that justifieth the ungodly, his faith is counted for righteousness."*
  - *"Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."*
  - *"For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves; it is the gift of God."*

### IV. DOES FAITH SAVE?

1. Are we actually saved by faith? NO! We are saved by GRACE, through faith. Faith is the "hand" that reaches out and receives the gift of God's love.
  - *"Faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the Word of God."*
2. All of us exercise "faith" every day by accepting things that we have personally not seen or experienced. We hear of it or are taught about it and we accept it without question. Thus it is with Christ. We accept Him on our faith that He is all that we have been told, that we have heard, that we have read about in God's Word.

### V. SOME THINGS INVOLVED IN FAITH

1. Knowledge is vital to faith and that is why one needs to read the Bible. There one learns about salvation, the soul, God's love, Jesus' sacrifice and how faith brings them all together.
  - One may say, "I cannot understand all I read in the Bible" but nobody understands all he/she sees and hears on television either but does not stop watching because not all is understood.
  - There is no one person who understands every word of the Bible, so keep reading and studying it and your faith will be increased.
2. Emotions are also vital to faith. *"The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.."* Desire, love, fear, all are emotions and you cannot remove any of these from life. When one loves Christ, there will be emotions, desire, and fear as well.

3. The will is necessary to faith. "Intellect" says that the gospel is logical. "Emotion" says "I feel love for Christ." "I fear the coming judgment." "Will" is the referee who must make up the mind. He must take the final and lasting decision. It is possible to have the intellectual conviction, the emotional feeling and still not be completely converted to Christ. Faith has feet. Faith without works is dead.

## **VI. HOW MUCH FAITH DOES IT TAKE?**

1. How much faith does God require? Jesus said only the faith as of a grain of mustard seed.
2. What kind of faith is needed? It is not a "kind" but the object of one's faith that counts. What your faith is in or upon. This must be Christ, not ritual, not sacrifices, not morals, not human wisdom, not yourself, but only in Jesus Christ.

## **CONCLUSION:**

1. Faith will manifest itself and one's faith can be tested by one's doctrine. What one believes and how strong one believes.
2. Faith will be seen in one's worship. How one fellowships in his/her church, how sincere one is in worship services and in attendance and giving.
3. Faith will be seen in one's daily life. How one lives from day to day and his/her morals.
4. Faith is not the end of one's conversion but it is just the beginning for one walks daily with the Lord by FAITH.