

The Fruits of God's Teaching in Moses' Life

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If the one most important aspect of the Christian life would be considered, it would have to be (without question) the matter of allowing God to develop and train our 'spiritual character' to prepare us for Eternity in His Kingdom!

Jesus warned us about 'false prophets' however, and that the only way to detect them, would be by their fruits. That has never changed. We can observe the fruits, results, actions, words, and general conduct of many people today, and know without any question, whether or not they have had their Christian characters developed by God. A person who is trained by God, would stand out in a crowd (as we say), for their general deportment that we would see, would be much different from most others around them today.

Anyone can be different in this 'right way' if they choose; it is just a 'question of the will', a conscious decision made to allow God to train them, and to control every aspect of their life.

If a person sincerely desires God's training of their Christian character, they will follow His guidance, be willing to respond as Christ would respond, and, as consequence of meeting everything in a Scriptural way, would receive the same results in this modern age as they did in Bible-time. Their lives will bear the same fruit, and they will have the individual characteristics that Bible Christians had.

The Apostle Paul said (2 Cor.5:17-18) *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation;"* We would not respond, think, reason, nor act like before; "the old has gone, the new has come!" It's an entirely changed life; a different person, and a new personality. All of this is from God, Who 'reconciled us to Himself through Christ and gave us the ministry of reconciliation:'

As a prime example of this 'reconciliation with Christ', and showing the fruits of a right heart attitude, a reference is to a family among the

Israelites---a family from the tribe of Levi. The father's name was Amram and his wife was Jochebed. This is a good illustration of 'showing the fruits' of God's workings, and His teaching, and training (of a truly surrendered heart.)

When one of that family's children was born, there had been a law passed at that time by the Egyptians, that every Israelite male child was to be thrown into the river and killed.

The first indication [or the fruits] of the parents being taught and developed by God was, that they refused to obey such a wicked and unscriptural law. They risked their lives in opposing that law, but their foremost desire was to save the life of their child.

The Bible says that it was by faith (or "by trusting in God alone"), that when Moses was born, he was hidden for three months by his parents, which was in defiance to the king's law. They showed no fear of that wicked ruler, but they did fear God. Therefore, they immediately showed the fruits of His work in their life and the fruits of a right attitude toward Him. (Exod.2:3-4) *"But when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then she placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him."*

That was a divine response; the way a person will act when the Holy Spirit is in control. Those parents immediately knew how unscriptural that law was; how much against God's will that act would be, so they jeopardized their life to oppose it right from the very beginning. They placed the 'Word of God' ahead of the 'laws of men'.

Egypt was a powerful nation and had an advanced civilization. Nevertheless, there was a great example of being taught by God, as there was the fruit of a right attitude toward God and His Word. They refused to disobey the Scriptures to obey the 'laws of man' whenever they conflicted! That is a 'principle of Scripture' from Genesis 1 to Revelation 22.

There are many unscriptural laws in force today; some are subtle, and others are not so subtle. Laws today require a person to wear safety seat belts, but a true believer (who desires

to risk their life on God's faithfulness to protect them), refuses to obey that law and won't use one under any circumstance. Other laws require children to wear helmets to protect them from head injury in the case of an accident, but a Christian doesn't obey that law, and would pay a fine instead, if they had to.

There are laws in almost every state that require liability insurance coverage on vehicles, but a true believer refuses to apply for or purchase any such financial protection, regardless of the penalties or alternatives (and cost savings, for when one makes a decision for a Scriptural reason, God will bear witness and provide for the difference of higher cost in order to stay within His Will).

There are other requirements concerning insurance that try to force people to purchase liability coverage for their employees, or employee compensation insurance, etc., .. but a genuine Christian cannot ever cross that line and take a course of action that would go against the Scriptures. A true Christian cannot buckle on a seat belt, wear a safety helmet, join a labor union, or purchase an insurance policy regardless of the penalties, fines, or consequences. When God says 'No', we must also say 'No'.

These laws (and numerous others today), are unscriptural laws exactly the same as that king's law in Moses' time was, 'to take someone's life', (laws today that try to force people to take a course of action that would be directly against God's will). All such compulsory laws must be disobeyed as they conflict with the will of God. For one to oppose them, is 'the fruit of a right attitude'.

Then, Moses' parents had to risk their own lives in addition to the baby's. This is another evidence {or fruit} of being taught by God, as they placed 'God's Word' ahead of their own lives. That is exactly what Jesus says we must do; (Luke 14:26) *"If anyone comes to me and does not hate his father and mother, his wife and children, his brothers and sisters, yes even his own life—he cannot be my disciple."*

Consider for a moment; that those parents lived about fifteen hundred years before Christ. They had no Bible or written Scriptures, and yet they obeyed the New Testament through God's

training of their 'spiritual characters'. They were not under the Law; they were many years before (New Testament Law that God sent His Son to bring to us).

Then there was another risk; another opportunity to prove God's faithfulness, and His ability to protect the interest and lives of His people (and provide for their needs at whatever the cost or danger). When Moses was only three months old, they placed the baby in a little ark and daubed it with mud and pitch to seal it. There was now nobody to protect him but God alone. And there were other elements against the baby; .. crocodiles, starvation, and nobody but God to take care of him and to protect his life.

That was a clear-cut comparison; of 'God against the world'. The three-month-old baby Moses on one side, and a well-trained nation of people (who thought they knew everything and could do anything), on the other side.

However (as the Pastor said), 'wherever God could find an individual (or group of people) who would 'place Him first' (in their life), (either in the Bible or after the Bible was written), He always conquered their enemies. He made short work of them; God is an expert at stopping the adversaries of His people.'

Every issue was dealt with and taken care of perfectly (down to the smallest detail). Any person who ever 'placed God ahead of unscriptural laws (and even ahead of their own lives), were eventually victorious: God always worked mightily for them (in His time), as God knows when we are ready to be 'spiritually trained' by Him (or not ready to be trained to advance 'on His pathway to Eternity').

And, God worked in that situation to take care of the baby Moses. He sent the Pharaoh's daughter down to the river's edge at just the precise time. She noticed the little boat and the baby. Immediately, her 'maternal instincts' caused her to desire the child, to adore and adopt him, and to take care of him.

The baby's older sister, Miriam, had followed the little boat to see where it went. Miriam spoke with the Pharaoh's daughter and asked if she wanted someone to nurse the child. Wanting that to be done, she agreed to have Moses' own mother to nurse and care for the

child. The Pharaoh's daughter 'gave the baby to his actual mother' until he was old enough to be accepted into the King's palace.

It is easy to see how God worked immediately. The laws and the plans of Pharaoh were turned completely around. Without them being aware of it, God made the Pharaoh and his nation to look very foolish.

We don't know how old Moses was when he entered the palace, but he did receive his education and training in Egypt. The Bible says that Moses was educated in all the learning of the Egyptians, and, was considered the actual son of Pharaoh's daughter. Thus, he was treated as part of the royal family, and had all the wealth, honor, servants, (and social advantages that would be included). All of that would be very attractive from a human standpoint.

But that wouldn't be attractive from a divine viewpoint. Moses, Miriam, and Aaron, were given a much greater heritage and advantage by their parents, when their lives had been committed to God. A perfect example of the fruits one will see in children, when they have 'godly parents'.

When those three children, Miriam, Moses, and Aaron, reached the age of accountability, they followed God and His Word; (not disobeying His Word to follow a less expensive path, or one that seemed easier to follow in the eyes of the world). They did not desire the world's pleasures nor the devil's ways, and they did not disobey their parents. Because those parents were sincere believers in God's Truth, and genuine followers of His ways, their children also followed His ways, which was 'the fruit of God's teaching'.

Though the story happened many hundreds of years ago, the 'principle of trust' and Truth involved, is right up to date, for the very same results and the very same fruits, will be seen in the children of every genuine, Christian parent, today.

When Moses' parents sent him back to Pharaoh's daughter, they did so while fully depending on God to protect him both spiritually and physically, and in every other way, as well. A main point to recognize here, is, that when Moses 'came to the years of accountability, he made the

right choices. A perfect example of the 'fruits of God's training'. It was the results of a father and mother who 'trusted God right'. (Hebr.11:24-25) *"By faith Moses, when he came to the years of accountability, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season."* (not make decisions to follow ways and plans of man as are followed by most people of the world).

Moses could have had wealth, honor, house-stewards, and other good things humanly speaking that are possible to give to another (and which is still so highly esteemed by people today). He was a member of the king's family; he could have had it all. Nevertheless, being inspired by the 'fruits of God's training', he refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh's daughter, *"having determined to endure ill-treatment along with the people of God rather than enjoy the short-lived pleasures of sin"*; (Weymouth). Not everyone is making that choice (the Pastor noted), they would rather have the riches, the servants, the honor, and the world's plans and policies and ways of life (which are Satan's ways), than follow the plan God has for them.

The 'Right Choices' matter; and it is 'the fruit of God's training'.



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