

ONE STORY: MOSES

A superficial reading of the Bible makes it seem like two different Gods.
... a Law-giver of the Old Testament and Jesus of the New Testament ...
HOWEVER ... there are vital linkages we must consider

Joshua wrote: "There has not arisen a prophet since in Israel like **Moses**, whom the LORD knew **face to face**, none like him for **all** the **signs and the wonders** that the LORD sent him to do in Egypt, ... and **all** the great deeds of terror that Moses did in the sight of **all** Israel." – from Deut 34

Yet, God said to Moses: "I will raise up for them **a prophet like you** from among their brothers. I will put my words in his mouth, and he shall speak to them all that I command him. And whoever will not listen to my words that he shall speak in my name, I myself will require it of him." - Deut 18

Some 1500
years later-



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Jesus said: "The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; ... the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment— what to say and what to speak. ... I say as the Father has told me." – John 12

Jesus said: "If anyone keeps my word, he will never see death." The Jewish [leaders] said, "Now we know that you have a demon! ... Are you greater than Abraham, who died? ... Who do you make yourself out to be!?" – John 8

Let's find out in the **One Story** through Moses.

Let's review the Back Story (GENESIS)

- Abraham **believed** in a single God as the ONLY God
 - All three **monotheistic** religions claim Abraham as their Patriarch.
- God gave promises to **Abraham** and then the same to **Isaac** and then to **Jacob**
- Jacob, the trickster, had 12 kids with 4 mothers. That caused problems.
 - Two of the kids of interest tonight are Levi and Joseph
 - Jacob wrestled God upon his long-delayed return to Promised Land
 - God put his hip out of joint (shows up in **Passover**) and called him **Israel**

Joseph' life had a **similar** redemptive pattern to Jesus:

Sins of his family led to his slavery
He was taken to Egypt and prison
He was raised to second to Pharaoh
He had the full authority of Pharaoh
He rescued Jacob's extended family

Human sin led to Jesus' death on Cross
Jesus buried for three days
Jesus raised (already second to the Father)
Jesus has full authority of the Father
Jesus saves believers as his extended family

Fast-Forward 400 Years (The Escape ... The Exit ... EXODUS)

- A new Pharaoh overthrew the government and enslaved Israel
- **Moses**, his brother Aaron, and older sister Miriam from **Levi**
- Moses raised by Pharaoh's daughter and was highly educated
- Moses escaped as a shepherd for decades in the Sinai Desert
- God ("*I am*") met him in a burning bush and sent him back



PASSOVER

- Passover today tells of God's rescue via Moses and many miracles
- Ten Plagues, each a miracle, challenged each of the key Egyptian gods
 - The last Plague was death of the firstborn
- God asked the people to have a departing meal before the escape
 - Unleavened bread – No time for bread to rise. Ready to go.
 - A lamb sacrifice for meal and its blood whacked on door so death literally **passed over** that house (hence: **Passover**)
 - To escape, the family had to go through that specific door.
- Jesus, our Passover Lamb, sacrificed for us, his blood on the cross
 - To escape God's wrath because of our sin, we need his sacrifice
 - Jesus: "*I am the door. If anyone enters by me, he will be saved*"



The Exit foreshadows Salvation

- Passover night occurred and the people left
- Pharaoh sent an army to recapture them
- Question:** Then what happened?



Paul writes: “... our [Exodus] fathers were **all** under the cloud, and **all** passed through the sea, and **all** were **baptized** into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, and **all** ate the same spiritual food, ... Nevertheless, with **most** of them God was not pleased, for they were overthrown [as rebels] in the wilderness.” - I Corinthians 10

The term **baptism** here meant that they were externally under the leadership of God through Moses. Even though God **provided** the exit miracles **to all**, not all were **willing** internally to follow God. Most wanted to go back to slavery.

John writes: “[Jesus] own people did not receive him. **But** to all who did receive him, who **believed** in his name, he gave the right to **become** children of God.”



Moses was born of his own people, and like **Jesus**, his own also rejected him. In both cases, many **believed** and as a result entered the Promised Land.

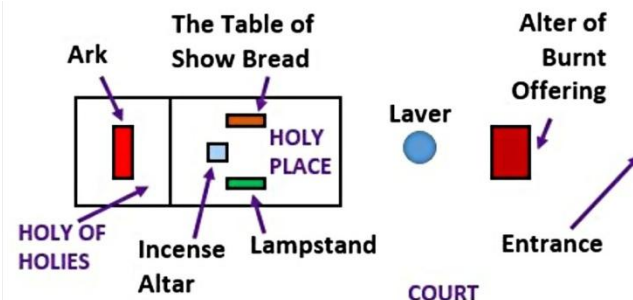
God had Moses guide the next generation. The Promised Land foreshadows Heaven



- The rebellious generation that left Egypt had all died off (like our old sin nature)
- Moses took the second generation to edge of the Promised Land (like heaven)
- Moses recounted the laws (DEUTERONOMY) and had them commit fully to God

The Bible ties it all together: “Without faith it is impossible to please God, for whoever would draw near to God must believe that he [even] exists and that he rewards those who [diligently] seek him. By faith Moses was hidden for three months by his parents... By faith Moses choose to be mistreated with the people of God ... By faith Moses left Egypt, ... By faith Moses kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood [on the doorposts], so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them. By faith the people crossed the [Sea of Reeds] as on dry land, but the Egyptians drowned. Therefore, surrounded by witnesses [such as Moses], let us also lay aside every weight, and sin which [so easily entangles us], looking to Jesus, the founder and perfecter of our faith.” – from Hebrews 11

**God had Moses build the Tabernacle [Tent].
This tent foreshadows the New Covenant in Jesus**



“The **first covenant** had regulations of holiness. For a [large subdivided] tent was prepared. The first section [had the seven-branched] lampstand, the table, and bread. A second section [had the box-like] ark [containing] manna, Aaron's staff, and the [stone] tablets. The priests go regularly into the first section, but into the second only the high priest goes [only] **once a year**[on **Yom Kippur**] ... with blood.

By this the Holy Spirit indicates that the [heavenly] holy places [were still closed ... using] sacrifices that cannot perfect the conscience of the worshiper.

But **Christ** as a high priest entered **once-for-all** into [those] holy places by his own blood, without blemish to God, [to] purify our conscience. Therefore he is the mediator of a **new covenant**, so that those called may receive the promised eternal inheritance.

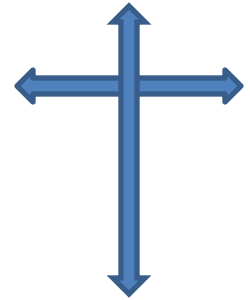
For when the law had been declared by **Moses**, almost everything was purified with blood, and without the shedding of blood there is no forgiveness of sins.

For **Christ** entered into the presence of God on our behalf. But as it is, he has appeared **once-for-all** to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself. “ - From Hebrews 9

God had Moses establish the Day of Atonement [Yom Kippur] Yom Kippur foreshadows Eternal Forgiveness through Jesus

While in the Sinai, Moses explained how to get and stay right with God.

- Four basic rules handle the vertical relationship with God
- Six basic rules handle the horizontal relationship with Humans
- There are 613 specific rules which stem from these ten basic rules



Paul wrote: “For [by the Law of **Moses**] no human will be justified in [God’s] sight, since through the Law [we become aware of our] sin. But now the righteousness of God has been manifested ... (although the Law and the Prophets affirm it)... **through faith** in **Jesus** Christ for all who **believe**. For all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are [only] justified by his grace as a gift, through Christ Jesus, whom God put forward as [the means by which sins are forgiven], by his blood, to be received **by faith** ...” – From Romans 3

The Day of Atonement [**Yom Kippur**] by the high priest within the Holy of holies, (**once a year, every year**), pointed to Jesus as our **final** atonement (**once-for-all**).