



# Jochebed: Moses' Mother

Exodus 2:1-10

# Who was Jochebed?

- Yocheved, “Jehovah is glory”
- She was a daughter of Levi, and the mother of Aaron, Miriam and Moses.
- Moses is an Egyptian name, not Hebrew. It means “a son from the water”
  - Over time it came to mean “deliverer” in Hebrew

# Who was Jochebed?

- She was the wife of Amram, as well as his aunt
  - Ex. 6:20 - “Now Amram took for himself Jochebed, his father's sister, as wife; and she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of Amram were one hundred and thirty-seven.”
  - Amram was the son of Kohath, who was a son of Levi. This would make Jochebed the aunt of Amram, her husband.
  - This kind of marriage between relatives was later forbidden by the law of Moses - Lev. 18:9, 20:17; Deut. 27:22

# Who was Jochebed?

- It is believed that she was an itinerate midwife by occupation, which would make her well acquainted with Pharaoh's decree
- No other details are given concerning her life.
- But from the scriptures, it can be determined that she was a godly mother in a godless land among her people who were forgetting about their God.

# Who was Jochebed?

- Abraham Lincoln once declared, “No man is poor who has had a godly mother.”
- A Spanish proverb reads, “An ounce of mother is worth a ton of priest.”
- Charles Dickens wrote, “I think it must somewhere be written that the virtues of mothers shall be visited on their children.”
- Robert de Lamennais said, “The instruction received at Mother's knee, together with the pious and sweet souvenirs of the fireside, are never effaced entirely from the soul.”

# Her Credentials

- Jochebed was an Israelite, one of God's chosen people.
  - She was of the tribe of Levi from which would come the priests
  - She and her husband Amram dedicated and religious people. They were willing to defy the order of Pharaoh to keep the will of God.
- Nothing will make more difference in the lives of your children than having good, godly examples in the home.

# Her Courage

- The decree of Pharaoh
  - Ex. 1:15-22
  - Jochebed refused to give in to a godless system that would have cost the life of her son.
- We need parents who aren't afraid to take a stand for truth and right in these sinful days
  - Joshua 24:15 - “And if it seems evil to you to serve the LORD, choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve... But as for me and my house, we will serve the LORD.”

# Her Confidence

- Her faith was so strong that she was named in faith's hall of fame
  - Heb. 11:23 - "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's command."
  - Job, David, Daniel, Elijah, and Samuel didn't make the list, but Jochebed did

# Her Confidence

- Resist the world - She placed her son above the will of the world
  - Prov. 6:20-23 - “My son, keep your father's command, And do not forsake the law of your mother. 21 Bind them continually upon your heart; Tie them around your neck. 22 When you roam, they will lead you; When you sleep, they will keep you; And when you awake, they will speak with you. 23 For the commandment is a lamp, And the law a light; Reproofs of instruction are the way of life,”
  - Deut. 6:4-9

# Her Confidence

- Release the child - It took faith to place the child in the river. It was the same instrument being used to destroy the other babies
  - Ex. 1:22 - “So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive.”
- Raise the child
  - Give them all of God you can, and then give them back to God

# Her Charity

- She gave of her self - She poured out her life into the life of her son.
  - That is why it is important for children give their mothers the honor they have earned
  - Ex. 20:12 - “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long upon the land which the LORD your God is giving you.”

# Her Charity

- Lev. 19:3 - "Every one of you shall revere his mother and his father, and keep My Sabbaths: I am the LORD your God."
- Deut. 5:16 - "Honor your father and your mother, as the LORD your God has commanded you, that your days may be long, and that it may be well with you in the land which the LORD your God is giving you."
- Matt. 15:4 - "For God commanded, saying, 'Honor your father and your mother'; and, 'He who curses father or mother, let him be put to death.'"
- Eph. 6:2 - "Honor your father and mother," which is the first commandment with promise"

# Her Charity

- She gave her son - Very literally, Jochebed was raising her son to give him to the Lord
  - John 3:16 - “For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.”
  - 2Cor. 5:15 - “And He died for all, that those who live should live no longer for themselves, but for Him who died for them and rose again.”

# Her Compensation

- Her son became a great man of God.
- He was the man the Lord chose to be the deliverer of the people of God
- He was the one who was destined to be known as the Great Lawgiver of Israel

# Her Compensation

- I doubt she knew what he would become; no parent ever knows for certain. But they must raise each child as if he or she will grow up to be a Moses or an Esther
- True success is not achieved until our children let go of mother's hand and take hold of God's.
- Jochebed remains after all this time as the standard of a godly mother