

WISDOM FROM MOSES
(Exodus 10:26; 14:14; Numbers 32:6, 23)

I. Not an hoof shall be left behind (Exodus 10:26).

- A. Moses had been charged by God to speak to Pharaoh.
 - 1. Pharaoh was oppressing God's people and it was time for them to obtain the inheritance God had promised them.
 - 2. God knew Pharaoh's heart and how he would react to such a request as letting the Israelites go.
- B. We know Pharaoh did not react well.
 - 1. He refused to let them go and added to their burdens.
 - 2. Despite the plagues that had come on Egypt by God's power, he would not let them leave.
- C. On this occasion, following the plague of darkness, Moses again requested for the Hebrews to be free to go worship God.
 - 1. This time Pharaoh said they could go and even take the children, but the flocks had to be left behind.
 - 2. He knew that the flocks were their means of support and food and they would not go far or be gone long without them.
- D. Moses response is classic: "Not an hoof shall be left behind."
 - 1. Moses told Pharaoh that there would be nothing of the people that would be left in Egypt.
 - 2. Everything they had would be gone.
- E. We should learn from this that nothing of ours is to be left in the world, but all should be given to God.
 - 1. When we put our faith in God and turn to Him, it must be with all that we have.
 - 2. We can leave nothing in the world, of which Egypt is a type.
- F. We turn our money, our affections and our actions over to God.

II. The Lord shall fight for you (Exodus 14:14).

- A. The Hebrews had been freed after all the firstborn in Egypt died.
- B. They were journeying towards Canaan and got to the Red Sea when Pharaoh's army caught up with them.
 - 1. Can you imagine what it must have been like for the Israelites to be against the Red Sea and 600 chariots riding down on them?
 - 2. They were most definitely afraid (14:10).
- C. Moses told them not to be afraid because the Lord would fight for them.
 - 1. This Lord had brought the plagues on Egypt.
 - 2. This same Lord had fought for them before and would do it again.
- D. This same Lord fights for His people today.
 - 1. He does not do as He once did, but He cares for us just the same (1Peter 5:7).
 - 2. He stands against sin and will one day right all wrongs.
- E. Remember Paul's wonderful statement...(Romans 8:31).
- F. When Paul was abandoned by all the Lord stayed with Him (2 Timothy 4:16-17).

G. He will do the same for us.

III. Shall your brethren go to war, and shall ye sit here (Numbers 32:6)?

A. The Reubenites, Gadites and half the tribe of Manasseh were herdsmen with large flocks.

B. After they had conquered King Sihon and King Og and their lands, these 2 ½ tribes decided that land was good for their cattle.

1. This land was rich for their cattle.

2. There was good pasture land as well as cities for their family.

C. They decided to ask Moses if they could simply stay on that side.

D. Immediately, Moses challenged these people with a wise question: Shall your brethren go to war and shall you stay here?

1. He let them know that this would be extremely discouraging to the other 9 ½ tribes.

2. It was, in essence, what their fathers had done.

3. They had discouraged the hearts of the people by following the evil report and this action would do as well.

4. He believed this would raise the Lord's wrath against them.

E. Too many in the church today are content to let their brethren do the work of the church.

1. The old saying is 90% of the work is done by 10% of the membership.

2. There are many who are simply happy to show up and go home and then complain when something isn't done the way they think it should be done.

F. 1 Corinthians 15:58.

1. We are to be abounding in the work of the church.

2. There is a need for campaigners, correspondence course graders, teachers, song leaders and other workers.

G. Because of what Jesus has done for us we should be zealous of good works (Titus 2:14).

H. Attendance is great but it does not get the work of the church done.

IV. Be sure your sin will find you out (Number 32:23).

A. These 2 ½ tribes agreed to send their warriors into the land with the rest of the tribes to help them conquer Canaan.

1. They said they would send their soldiers and leave the rest of the people in the cities they built or had conquered.

2. It was agreed that they would continue to fight until the land was conquered and the inheritance received.

B. Moses agreed to this but told them they would be sinning if they did not follow through and that their sins would find them out.

C. There is no way to avoid our sins.

1. We are going to stand at the judgment seat one day.

2. When we do we are going to answer for all that we have done (2 Corinthians 5:10).

D. We may think we have gotten away with something but God sees all and it will stand against us at that final day.

- E. There is no such thing as the perfect crime or getting away with murder with God.