

the climax. All this divine plan is to be accomplished through Moses. Great enterprises need leaders. The test of our enthusiasm for any cause is our willingness to be its instrument.

III. STRENGTHENED.—II, 12. *Who am I.* Moses shrinks from the magnitude of the task of defying Egypt and leading Israel. *Certainly I will be with thee.* This is the cure for Moses' sense of insignificance. *A token*; confirming promise. God-confidence, not self-confidence, is a great requisite of leadership. So God deals with every difficulty that Moses sees,—his insignificance, his lack of visible authority, his lack of impressive power, his lack of persuasive eloquence. Every one of these deficiencies is to be supplied by God. Wherever God demands work, he supplies adequate equipment.

Lesson Questions

What training did Moses find in the wilderness?

Tell about the burning bush.

What did God tell Moses about Israel?

Why did Moses shrink from being a leader?

For Further Study and Discussion

1. Who was to be Moses' spokesman? (Ch. 4 : 14.)

2. What other great man said he could not speak? (Jer. 1 : 6, 7.)

3. Should curiosity be encouraged or suppressed?

4. Is a church building a specially sacred place?

PROVE FROM SCRIPTURE—That God heard Israel's cry?

SHORTER CATECHISM—Ques. 41, 42.

THE LESSON IN DAILY LIFE (Daily Readings)

Monday—Moses the leader of Israel, Ex. 3 : 1-12.

Courtesy and reverence are twin graces, both wholly beautiful. Courtesy sees the greatness of the humblest person. Reverence sees the greatness of God. The bowed head, the softened step, the hushed word, tell that we have seen God, like a mountain, high and white, through "the cottage window of our soul."

Tuesday—The choice of Moses, Heb. 11 : 23-29.

Sacrifice has two hands,—a giving hand, a receiving hand. It brings gifts to the altar. It takes gifts away. When George Matheson, blind preacher, poet, philosopher, laid on the altar, the glory of the sun, God put in his hand a burnished lamp for the blind in soul.

Wednesday—Moses defends the oppressed, Ex. 2 : 11-20.

"I love that grave in the sand," says Alexander Whyte. Why? Because while it hid the evidence of Moses' rashness, it proclaimed his loyalty. In a flash we see that Moses was with and for his people. He had not made the palace the grave of his soul.

Thursday—The divine presence promised, Ex. 4 : 1-12.

Moses made a common mistake. When God called him he thought of what he could or could not do for God, instead of what God could do through him. The miracle of the violin is not what the violin does for the master, but what the master does with the violin.

Friday—Isaiah called to service, Isa. 6 : 1-8.

Once in forty years Moses saw the burning bush. Once in a life time, Isaiah saw the uplifted throne. Christ teaches that every day, there is a flame in the lilies, a throne above them, and a voice from them that frees us from fear and calls us to serve.

Saturday—"Lo, I am with you," Matt. 28 : 16-20.

The heavenly city was the goal of Christian's desire in Pilgrim's Progress, but he had great companionships on the way. Christ is both goal and companion. When Livingstone said, "Anywhere provided it be forward," it was because he knew that the forward way was the only way by which Christ traveled.

Sunday—Strength for the journey, Deut. 33 : 25-29.

"As if a pinion upbore every limb." That is how we travel in the morning. But what about "overcoming life's afternoon," when the heat, the burden and the way are intolerable. Thy strength as thy days. God's equipment for the traveler, like his armor for the soldier, is whole and complete.

A PRAYER

Speak to us, Lord, that we may awaken to danger and to duty. Speak to us that we may speak to others for thee. Give us the vision of thy glory, and teach us what it means to have thee with us, taking possession of our lives, inspiring us to deeds of faith and love. Forgive our idleness, our carelessness, our weakness, and be thou our strength, our song, our salvation. Amen.