

Sunday March 19, 2023

Moses Part 2: Wilderness Adventure Pt B

God Desires to Dwell With Us – Fellowship

The 10 Commandments & The Golden Calf



The Good News Story – Tracing the Scarlet Thread of Covenant Redemption from Genesis to Revelation

Some material adapted from:

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4. Stringfellow, Allen. B. Through the Bible in One Year. Vol. 2. Bible Characters. Hensley Press
5. Jim Townsend. O.T. Highlights. David C. Cook Press.
6. Chris Tiegreen. Story Thru the Bible. NavPress.
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8. <https://jesusplusnothing.com/series/post/Tabernacle1>
9. <http://www.abideinchrist.com/messages/tabernacletype.html>
10. www.jesuswalk.com/moses/appendix_3.htm
11. <https://melissamclaughlin.org/2019/04/30/what-is-the-tabernacle-8-ways-jesus-is-our-tabernacle/>

2. Israel's Exodus from Egypt and Entry into Canaan



As we review the map we are reminded that the Israelites left Rameses, Egypt after the 10 plagues. They made their way to Succoth then to Etham where God provided the Pillar of Cloud by Day and a Pillar of Fire by night to guide them, protect them and show them God was with them. They then moved to Pi-Hahiroth by the Red Sea, where Pharaoh's army chased after them. God then parted the seas and led them over on dry land to the other side. As Pharaoh's army chased after them God destroyed the entire army by flooding them out. The Israelites held a great musical worship service where they praised God for His great acts of power. However they soon began to complain about food and water. God miraculously provided the manna and the quail and then water from the rock. At a place called Rephidim (No. 7 on the map) they met up with a fierce warlike group of Amalekites (descendants of Esau).

In battle God instructed Moses to lift his staff and arms and God would provide victory, as he grew tired Aaron and Hur held his arms and the Israelite army took the victory through God's power.

Now today's story we pick up right after that great victory. The people began to live their normal lives and experiencing the normal problems and conflicts of large groups of people living closely together. Soon people began to inundate Moses with their issues, and he desperately tried to judge between the various parties. It was an overwhelming task. Soon, Moses' father-in-law Jethro (also known as Reuel – meaning friend of God) became wise friend and counselor to Moses. He told Moses the burden was too great and that he needed to divide the burden of judging and arbitration among wise and talented men. This is a foundational moment for governing and political policy.

We now find the Israelites 3 months into their Wilderness adventure, it is summer time (some scholars estimate June of 1445BC or approximately 2550 years after the Creation of the world) and they are in the Sinai Desert at the foot of Mt. Sinai also known as Mt. Horeb (NO. 8 on the map).

Here we come upon the 1st of 3 major events.

1. **The Ten Commandments of the Law**
(Requirements for Fellowship)
2. **The Corruption of the Golden Calf**
(Ruination or Rejection of that Fellowship)
3. **The Construction of the Tabernacle**
(Restoration of that Fellowship)

(Adapted from H.L. Wilmington. Guide to the Bible. P. 69)

1. **The Ten Commandments of the Law**

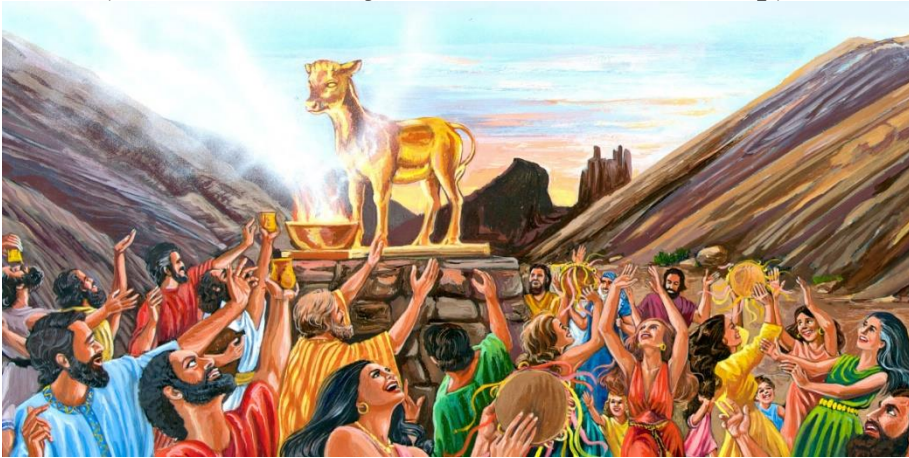
(Requirements for Fellowship)

In Exodus 20 and Deuteronomy 5 we find the well known account of the giving of the 10 Commandments and the 70 laws known as "The Book of the Covenant".

God told the people to gather at the foot of the mountain and to cleanse and consecrate themselves and await for God to give Moses the commands that He had for the Israelites to follow. Moses went up the mountain God gave Moses the 10 commandments and what is known as the Book of the Covenant, a group of around 70 practical laws and guidelines for living. Moses came back down and repeated these laws and the people all agreed to accept this covenant from God. Moses gathered the leaders of the people and set up 12 stones at the base of the mountain, where they offered blood sacrifices and burnt offerings to the Lord. After this Moses went up again on the mountain and God came and brought dark clouds, rumbling thunder, and fire...for 40 days. Then God wrote with His own finger on the stone tablets that Moses had carved what we now know as the 10 Commandments. In Exodus chapters 20-31 is a record of what God said. But, let's jump ahead to Exodus 32, as this sad event takes place before the people actually get the stone tablets delivered to them.

2. The Corruption of the Golden Calf

(Ruination or Rejection of that Fellowship)



In Exodus 32 we find a sad but repetitive trait of the Israelite people... the tendency to fall away and lose their faith quickly under stress. While Moses was on the mountain (40 days) many of the people began to rumble and complain and say that Moses must be dead that God had forsaken them. So some of them said ***“Let’s make gods who will go before us”***. (Exodus 32:1)...So sadly Aaron buckled under the pressure and gathered all the gold jewelry taken from the Egyptians and melted it down to form a Golden Calf. He then announced that ***“These are the gods who brought you out of Egypt”*** (Ex. 32:4). Then proceeded one of the most vile and hedonistic parties of eating, drinking and revelry... Mardi Gras on Bourbon Street on steroids-like crazy!

Now Moses had just (40 days previously) gave them a speech about not worshipping other gods, and not making images to worship. So thought they had not actually seen the Ten Commandment stones at this point, they had already heard Moses tell them.

So this was an act of overt disobedience and rejection of the One True God Yahweh and His authority in their lives. God tells Moses to go down because these “stiff-necked people’ (vs. 9) have sinned and that He is going to destroy them. Here we find a great trait in Moses, he was a merciful and supplicating man. He pleaded with God not to destroy them and to remember God’s covenant promise. The Lord listened to Moses and held back the destruction of the entire people group. However, Moses as patient and pleading as he had been, when he got down the mountain and saw that “there was a party going on”, and that his brother Aaron was the PartyMeister and Chief ‘DJ”, Moses lost it.

The once peaceful and rather docile Moses became unhinged... **He took the two stone tablets** and in anger threw them down and broke them into pieces. He then ground up the stone into powder and scattered it in their water source and made them drink it.



Listen to what he said next in **Exodus 32:21-26**...²¹ *He said to Aaron, “What did these people do to you, that you led them into such great sin?”* ²² *“Do not be angry, my lord,” Aaron answered. “You know how prone these people are to evil.* ²³ *They said to me, ‘Make us gods who will go before us. As for this fellow Moses who brought us up out of Egypt, we don’t know what has happened to him.’* ²⁴ *So I told them, ‘Whoever has any gold jewelry, take it off.’ Then they gave me the gold, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf!”* ²⁵ *Moses saw that the people were running wild and that Aaron had let them get out of control and so become a laughingstock to their enemies.* ²⁶ *So he stood at the entrance to the camp and said, “Whoever is for the LORD, come to me.” And all the Levites rallied to him.*

Well, the party is about to come to an abrupt and disastrous end. What comes next sounds harsh, but you have to really understand the gravity of the peoples sin and the disastrous results sin causes.

The Levites answered Moses call of **“Whoever is for the LORD, come to me.”** Then these faithful committed Levites who apparently had not joined in with the others in pagan revelry, they took their swords and went through the camp and struck down around 3000 of these drunken, stoned out idolaters.

The next day Moses has calmed down some and prays a prayer of intercession and supplication for the forgiveness of the people’s grave sins. God listened to Moses’ prayer but the Holy Justice of God was poured

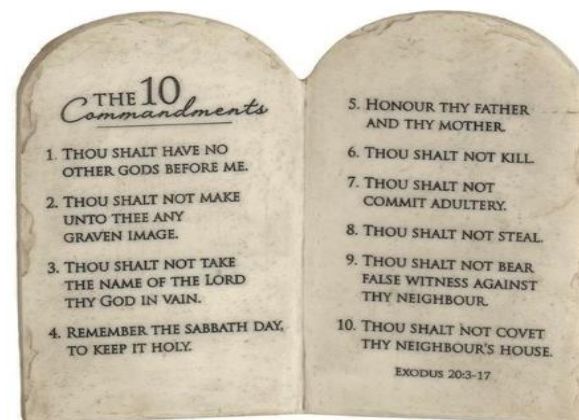
out through a plague on those who had flagrantly disobeyed God.

God then charges Moses to prepare to lead the people to the Promised Land. Moses cries out please God, do not tell us to go if You do not come with us. God then does a marvelous thing to show Moses and the people that He will be with them and protect them. He calls Moses to hide in a cleft of a rock formation and God will pass by and reveal His glory. This was a grace gift to Moses and the people by God to show them that He was real, powerful and present with them. A beautiful and comforting verse is given in

Exodus 33:14... *The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”*

This is a continuous theme through the Scarlet Thread of Redemption and God’s Good News Story. God want to be in a relationship with us, to have fellowship with us, the Dwell Within Us. Emmanuel!

In Exodus 34 we see that God calls Moses once again to the mountain and rewrites the 10 Commandments on stone tablets



Listen to these words...

Exodus 34:4-11...⁴ So Moses chiseled out two stone tablets like the first ones and went up Mount Sinai early in the morning, as the LORD had commanded him; and he carried the two stone tablets in his hands. ⁵ Then the LORD came down in the cloud and stood there with him and proclaimed his name, the LORD. ⁶ And he passed in front of Moses, proclaiming, “The LORD, the LORD, the compassionate and gracious God, slow to anger, abounding in love and faithfulness ⁷ maintaining love to thousands, and forgiving wickedness, rebellion and sin. Yet he does not leave the guilty unpunished; he punishes the children and their children for the sin of the parents to the third and fourth generation.”⁸ Moses bowed to the ground at once and worshiped. ⁹ “Lord,” he said, “if I have found favor in your eyes, then let the Lord go with us. Although this is a stiff-necked people, forgive our wickedness and our sin, and take us as your inheritance.”¹⁰ Then the LORD said: “I am making a covenant with you. Before all your people I will do wonders never before done in any nation in all the world. The people you live among will see how awesome is the work that I, the LORD, will do for you. ¹¹ Obey what I command you today.

The Ten commandments are a vital outline of God’s guidance for us in order to live in right relationship, have true fellowship and to Dwell In Peace with Him and with one another.

The Ten Commandments and their Protective Application:

(Adapted from “The Unfolding Drama of Redemption by Graham Scroggie)

- 1. Thou shalt have no other gods before Me**
(Protects The Unity of God against polytheism)
- 2. Thou Shalt not make unto thee any graven image**
(Protects the Spirituality of God against idol-worship)
- 3. Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord in vain**
(Protects the Majesty of God against defamation)
- 4. Remember the Sabbath day to keep it holy**
(Protects the Worship of God against secularism)
- 5. Honor thy father and thy mother**
(Protects the representatives of God against irreverence)
- 6. Thou shalt not kill**
(Protects the sanctity of life against murder)
- 7. Thou shalt not commit adultery**
(Protects the sanctity of marriage against unfaithfulness)
- 8. Thou shalt not steal**
(Protects sanctity of property against theft)
- 9. Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy Neighbor**
(Protects the sanctity of character against slander)
- 10. Thou shalt not covet**
(Protects the sanctity of the heart against covetousness)

Today’s Take Away

God wants us to live in a right relationship with Him, to have genuine fellowship, and to Dwell in peace with Him and with one another.

If we follow His commands and Love Him and Love Others we will have all three of those things!

Tracing The Scarlet Thread

Revelation 13:8... “And all that dwell upon the earth shall worship Him, whose names are not written in the book of life of the **Lamb slain from the foundation of the world.**”

1 Peter 1:19-21... “^[19] But with the **precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb** without blemish and without spot: ^[20] For He was chosen or foreknown **before the foundation of the world**, but has appeared in these last times for your sake, ^[21] and through Him you believe [confidently] in God [the heavenly Father], who raised Him [Christ] from the dead and gave Him glory, so that your faith and hope are [centered and rest] in God.

{Genesis 2:15 & 3:6,7 set the stage for the need of a
‘Scarlet Thread of Redemption]}

Genesis 2:15...¹⁵ Then the LORD God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to tend and keep it. ¹⁶ And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, “Of every tree of the garden you may freely eat; ¹⁷ but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you **shall surely die.**”

Genesis 3:6,7...⁶ So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food, that it was pleasant to the eyes, and a tree desirable to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate. She also gave to her husband with her, and he ate. ⁷ Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they knew that **they were naked**; and they sewed fig leaves together and made themselves coverings...¹³ And the LORD God said to the woman, “What is this you have done?” The woman said, “The serpent deceived me, and I ate.”

Protoevangelium (First Gospel)

Genesis 3:15... “And I will put enmity (open hostility) Between you and the woman, And between your seed (offspring) and **her Seed**; He shall **[fatally] bruise your head**, And you shall [only] **bruise His heel.**” (AMP)

Genesis 3:21... The LORD God made **clothing from skins** for the man and his wife, and he clothed them.

From the very beginning of human history, it is revealed. When Adam and Eve sinned, God shed innocent blood in order to make them clothes from animal skins (Genesis 3:21). This is a picture of the covering of righteousness that we receive when the Lord Jesus Christ died for us.

Genesis 4:8... Then Cain spoke to Abel his brother; and it happened when they were in the field, that Cain rose up against Abel his **brother and killed him.**

Genesis 4:10-15...¹⁰ And He said, “What have you done? The voice of your **brother’s blood cries out to Me from the ground.** ¹¹ So now you are cursed from the earth, which has opened its mouth to receive your brother’s blood from your hand. ¹² When you till the ground, it shall no longer yield its strength to you. A fugitive and a vagabond you shall be on the earth.” ¹³ And Cain said to the LORD, “My punishment is greater than I can bear! ¹⁴ Surely You have driven me out this day from the face of the ground; I shall be hidden from Your face; I shall be a fugitive and a vagabond on the earth, and it will happen that anyone who finds me will kill me.”¹⁵ And the LORD said to him, “Therefore, whoever kills Cain, vengeance shall be taken on him sevenfold.” **And the LORD set a mark on Cain, lest anyone finding him should kill him.**

Genesis 4:25-26...²⁵ And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and named him Seth, “For God has **appointed another seed** for me instead of Abel, whom Cain killed.”²⁶ And as for Seth, to him also a son was born; and he named him Enosh. Then men began to call on the name of the LORD. [It is through the lineage of Enosh that our Lord Jesus Christ is descended. He is the 6th Great Grandfather of Noah]

Genesis 6:5-8, 14-18, 22...⁵ When the Lord saw that man’s wickedness was widespread on the earth and that every scheme his mind thought of was nothing but evil all the time, ⁶ the Lord regretted that He had made man on the earth, and He was grieved in His heart. ⁷ Then the Lord said, “I will wipe off

from the face of the earth mankind, whom I created, together with the animals, creatures that crawl, and birds of the sky—for I regret that I made them.”⁸ **Noah**, however, **found favor in the sight of the Lord**...¹⁴ “Make yourself an **ark** of gopher wood. Make rooms in the ark, and **cover it with pitch** inside and outside.”¹⁵ This is how you are to make it: The ark will be 450 feet long, 75 feet wide, and 45 feet high.¹⁶ You are to make a roof finishing the sides of the ark to within 18 inches of the roof. You are to put a door in the side of the ark. Make it with lower, middle, and upper decks.¹⁷ “Understand that I am bringing a flood—floodwaters on the earth to destroy every creature under heaven with the breath of life in it. **Everything on earth will die.**”¹⁸ But **I will establish My covenant with you, and you will enter the ark** with your sons, your wife, and your sons’ wives...²² And Noah did this. He did everything that God had commanded him.

Genesis 8:15-22...¹⁵ Then God spoke to Noah, ¹⁶ “Come out of the ark, you, your wife, your sons, and your sons’ wives with you.”¹⁷ Bring out all the living creatures that are with you—birds, livestock, those that crawl on the ground—and they will spread over the earth and be fruitful and multiply on the earth.”¹⁸ So Noah, along with his sons, his wife, and his sons’ wives, came out.¹⁹ All wildlife, all livestock, every bird, and every creature that crawls on the earth came out of the ark by their groups.²⁰ Then Noah **built an altar to the LORD**. He took some of every kind of clean animal and every kind of clean bird and **offered burnt offerings** on the altar.²¹ When the LORD smelled the pleasing aroma, He said to Himself, “I will never again curse the ground because of man, even though man’s inclination is evil from his youth. And I will never again strike down every living thing as I have done.”²² As long as the earth endures, seedtime and harvest, cold and heat, summer and winter, and day and night will not cease.”

Noahic Covenant

Genesis 9:1-9, 12-17...¹ God blessed Noah and his sons and said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth.”² The fear and terror of you will be in every living creature on the earth, every bird of the sky, every creature that crawls on the ground, and all the fish of the sea. They are placed under your authority.³ Every living creature will be food for you; as I gave the green plants, I have given

you everything.”⁴ However, you must not eat meat with its lifeblood in it.⁵ I will require the life of every animal and every man for your life and your blood. I will require the life of each man’s brother for a man’s life.⁶ **Whoever sheds man’s blood, his blood will be shed by man, for God made man in His image.**⁷ But you, be fruitful and multiply; spread out over the earth and multiply on it.”⁸ Then God said to Noah and his sons with him,⁹ “Understand that I am **confirming My covenant with you and your descendants after you**...¹² And God said, “This is the sign of the covenant I am making between Me and you and every living creature with you, a covenant for all future generations: ¹³ I have placed **My rainbow in the clouds, and it will be a sign of the covenant between Me and the earth.**”¹⁴ Whenever I form clouds over the earth and the bow appears in the clouds,¹⁵ I will remember My covenant between Me and you and all the living creatures: water will **never again become a flood to destroy every creature.**”¹⁶ The bow will be in the clouds, and I will look at it and remember the **everlasting covenant** between God and all the living creatures on earth.”¹⁷ God said to Noah, “This is the sign of the covenant that I have confirmed between Me and every creature on earth.”

Genealogy of the Scarlet Thread Continues

Adam, Seth, Enosh, Kenan, Mahalalel, Jared, Enoch, Methuselah, Lamech, Noah, Shem, Arphaxad, Salah, Eber (Hebrew), Peleg, Reu, Serug, Nahor, Terah, Abraham...

The Call of Abraham –

Reaffirmation of God’s Covenant Redemption

Genesis 12:1-3,7...¹ The LORD said to Abram: Go out from your land, your relatives, and your father’s house to the land that I will show you.² I will make you into a **great nation, I will bless you**, I will make your name great, and **you will be a blessing.**³ I will bless those who bless you, I will **curse those who treat you with contempt**, and all the peoples on earth will be blessed through you...⁷ Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “I will give this land to your offspring.” So **he built an altar** there to the LORD who had appeared to him.

Genesis 14:17-20...¹⁷ After Abram returned from defeating Chedorlaomer and the kings who were with him, the king of Sodom went out to meet him in the Valley of Shaveh (that is, the King's Valley). ¹⁸ Then Melchizedek, king of Salem brought out **bread and wine**; He was a **priest to God Most High**. ¹⁹ He blessed Abram and said: **Abram is blessed by God Most High**, Creator of heaven and earth, ²⁰ and I give praise to God Most High who has handed over your enemies to you. And Abram gave Him a **tenth of everything**.

Abrahamic Covenant

Genesis 15:1-6, 9-12, 17,18...After these events, the **Word of the LORD** came to Abram in a vision: Do not be afraid, Abram. **I Am your Shield**; your Reward will be very great. ² But Abram said, "Lord GOD, what can You give me, since I am childless and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" ³ Abram continued, "Look, You have given me no offspring, so a slave born in my house will be my heir." ⁴ Now the Word of the LORD came to him: "This one will not be your heir; instead, **one who comes from your own body will be your heir**." ⁵ He took him outside and said, "Look at the sky and count the stars, if you are able to count them." Then He said to him, "Your offspring will be that numerous." ⁶ **Abram believed the LORD, and He credited it to him as righteousness.....** ⁹ He said to him, "Bring Me a three-year-old cow, a three-year-old female goat, a three-year-old ram, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." ¹⁰ So he brought all these to Him, **split them down the middle**, and laid the pieces opposite each other, but he did not cut up the birds. ¹¹ Birds of prey came down on the carcasses, but Abram drove them away. ¹² As the sun was setting, a deep sleep fell on Abram, and suddenly great terror and darkness descended on him..... ¹⁷ When the sun had set and it was dark, a **smoking fire pot and a flaming torch appeared and passed between the divided animals**. ¹⁸ On that day the **LORD made a covenant with Abram**,

Genesis 17:1-14...When Abram was 99 years old, the LORD appeared to him, saying, "I am God Almighty. Live in My presence and be blameless. ² **I will establish My covenant between Me and you, and I will multiply you greatly**." ³ Then Abram fell facedown and God spoke with him: ⁴ "As for Me, My covenant is with you: you will become the father of many nations ⁵ Your name

will no longer be Abram, but **your name will be Abraham**, for I will make you the father of many nations. ⁶ I will make you extremely fruitful and will make nations and kings come from you. ⁷ **I will keep My covenant between Me and you, and your future offspring throughout their generations, as an everlasting covenant to be your God and the God of your offspring after you**. ⁸ And to you and your future offspring I will give the land where you are residing—all the land of Canaan—as an eternal possession, and I will be their God." ⁹ God also said to Abraham, "As for you, you and your offspring after you throughout their generations are to keep My covenant. ¹⁰ This is My covenant, which you are to keep, between Me and you and your offspring after you: **Every one of your males must be circumcised**. ¹¹ You must circumcise the flesh of your foreskin to serve as a sign of the covenant between Me and you. ¹² Throughout your generations, every male among you at eight days old is to be circumcised. This includes a slave born in your house and one purchased with money from any foreigner. The one who is not your offspring, ¹³ a slave born in your house, as well as one purchased with money, must be circumcised. **My covenant will be marked in your flesh as an everlasting covenant**. ¹⁴ If any male is not circumcised in the flesh of his foreskin, that man will be cut off from his people; he has broken My covenant."

The Covenant thread of Genealogy Continues with Birth of Issac

Genesis 17:19-22...¹⁹ But God said, "No. Your wife Sarah will **bear you a son**, and you will name him Isaac. **I will confirm My covenant with him as an everlasting covenant for his future offspring**. ²⁰ As for Ishmael, I have heard you. I will certainly bless him; I will make him fruitful and will multiply him greatly. He will father 12 tribal leaders, and I will make him into a great nation. ²¹ But I will confirm My covenant with Isaac, whom Sarah will bear to you at this time next year." ²² When He finished talking with him, God withdrew from Abraham.

Genesis 21:1-5...The LORD came to Sarah as He had said, and the LORD did for Sarah what He had promised. ² Sarah became pregnant and bore a son to Abraham in his old age, at the appointed time God had told him. ³ Abraham named his son who was born to him—the one Sarah bore to him—Isaac. ⁴ **When his son Isaac was**

eight days old, Abraham circumcised him, as God had commanded him. ⁵ *Abraham was 100 years old when his son Isaac was born to him.*

**Deferred Sacrifice Of Isaac – A Pre-type and Foreshadowing of the
Substitutionary Sacrifice of Christ, The Lamb of God**

Genesis 22:

The Life of Jacob

The Life of Joseph

Job

Moses