

GOD'S CALL

By Irma F. Matrai

Moses, the great Jewish leader was born in Egypt. At the time of his birth, there was a law passed according to which all Jewish boys have to be killed at birth. Yet, his mother hid him for three months. Then,

... when she could hide him no longer, she got a papyrus basket for him and coated it with tar and pitch. Then placed the child in it and put it among the reeds along the bank of the Nile. His sister stood at a distance to see what would happen to him. Then Pharaoh's daughter went down to the Nile to bathe, and her attendants were walking along the river bank. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her slave girl to get it. She opened it and saw the baby. He was crying, and she felt sorry for him. "This is one of the Hebrew babies." She said. Then his sister asked Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and get one of the Hebrew women to nurse the baby for you?" "Yes, go," she answered. And the girl went and got the baby's mother.

This is how baby Moses was returned to his home and was raised by his parents for a while. Then, "when the child grew older she (the mother) took him to Pharaoh's daughter and he became her son. She named him Moses..." – We read in Exodus 2. (NIV) **Thus, began the training of Moses for his call from God.** For, while at home, he was under Jewish influence. Then, later in Pharaoh's palace – as Pharaoh's daughter's son – he probably was exposed to a good military and civilian education and was able to get an insight into the customs and laws of the palace and the secrets of leadership. All of which, he could make good use of as a leader later. **In other words, God had a purpose with everything in his life; from the strange events of his birth, to the persecutions, his escape, and even further. Meaning that God called him, guided and used him from birth to death. For, our God has a plan for all his children. Therefore, if we listen to, and follow him; he will call, guide, and use us all!**

Then, "One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and... saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew... Glancing this way and that and seeing no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand." – We continue to read. Still he was found out, and – as a result – the Pharaoh was trying to find him and kill him. But at that time, the 40 year old Moses escaped from Egypt and went to live in Midian. Why did God allow him to waste some time

there? **Probably because he needed more training before he was able to lead his people to freedom. He needed to give up his youthful temper and turn into a wise, well balanced adult. For which he had enough time in Midian. In other words, these events comprised God's wise guidance and training also. For – to this day – he does everything in our life, out of love, for our benefit, and for the glory of his name.**

Next, in his new country he married the daughter of the priest of Midian, called Zipporah; started a family; and was tending the sheep of his father-in-law. **Can you imagine how humiliating it must have been for him to – after living in Pharaoh's palace – becoming a shepherd? However, since he spent 40 years in Midian, he had enough time to learn humility also.** Then, how well he learned to be humble became obvious when God finally sent him to Egypt to deliver his people and he expressed his total inadequacy for such an important job. Yet, God chose him to do that even though by then he was 80 years old already. **For, our God can use anyone, even at age 80; who is willing and able to serve him.**

How did that happen? In Exodus 3:1-15 (NIV) we read:

...Moses was tending the flock of ... his father-in-law... and he led the flock... to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight – why the bush does not burn up." When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground." Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God. The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them out of that land into a good and spacious land... So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt." But Moses said to God, "**Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?**" And God said, "**I will be with you.** And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have

sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."... This is what you are to say to the Israelites: **'I AM has sent me to you.'**"

Thus, by the age of 80, Moses became fit to be his people's deliverer. Therefore God personally talked to him and convinced him about his calling. Although by then, he became so humble that he couldn't imagine himself to become such a leader. But God promised to be with him; so that after a few more excuses, and the news that those who were trying to kill him, were all dead; he obeyed his calling.

The life of Moses was not easy. After his birth, they hid him. Later, they put him among the reeds at the Nile river. There the daughter of Pharaoh found him and temporarily sent him home. Next he became the son of Pharaoh's daughter and spent his time in, and was educated at the palace. While at the age of 40, he killed an Egyptian man and escaped to Midian where he got married, started a family and became a shepherd. Finally at the age of 80 he was ready to fulfill his destiny or calling, and led the people out of Egypt. **While God was always and everywhere with him.**

Let us learn from his example, that God has a plan or calling for everyone of us. But first of

all, he asks us – who were born after the birth, death and resurrection of Jesus – that we believe in his Son, invite him into our heart, and ask him to forgive our sins. Then, he moves in through his own Holy Spirit, forgives our sins, and grants us a place in Heaven, we will go to at death. Simultaneously, he asks us to totally yield ourselves to his Holy Spirit in us, who then will rule, lead, train, equip, prepare and finally **call us into the service he had in mind for us even at our birth. Therefore, if we honestly desire to fulfill our calling; let us take the above mentioned steps now. Or at least those, we didn't take so far. So that we may become useful as soon as possible.**

AND WHAT IS HE SAYING?

You say: "I feel all alone."
God says: *I will never leave you or forsake you.* (Hebrews 13:5)

You say: "I'm always worried and frustrated."
God says: *Cast all your cares on ME.* (I Peter 5:7)

You say: "I'm too tired."
God says: *I will give you rest.* (Matthew 11:28-30)

'MEET ME IN THE STAIRWELL'

You say you will never forget where you were when you heard the news On September 11, 2001. Neither will I.

I was on the 110th floor in a smoke filled room with a man who called his wife to say 'Good-Bye.' I held his fingers steady as he dialed. I gave him the peace to say, 'Honey, I am not going to make it, but it is OK. I am ready to go.'

I was with his wife when he called as she fed breakfast to their children. I held her up as she tried to understand his words and as she realized he wasn't coming home that night.

I was in the stairwell of the 23rd floor when a woman cried out to Me for help. 'I have been knocking on the door of your heart for 50 years!' I said. 'Of course I will show you the way home - only believe in Me now.'

I was at the base of the building with the Priest ministering to the injured and devastated souls. I took him home to tend to his Flock in Heaven. He heard my voice and answered.

I was on all four of those planes, in every seat, with every prayer. I was with the crew as they were overtaken. I was in the very hearts of the believers there, comforting and assuring them that their faith has saved them.

I was in Texas, Virginia, California, Michigan, Afghanistan. I was standing next to you when you heard the terrible news. Did you sense Me?

I want you to know that I saw every face. I knew every name - though not all

HONORARY AND MEMORIAL FUND

Sister *Ethel Kish* had encouraged us during the 2009 Convention to establish an "Honorary and Memorial Fund" for the purpose of supporting the missionary initiatives of our young people. Donations from this fund will be allocated by the Missionary and Benevolence Board at its mid-year meetings. The written applications addressed to the MBB should state the goals and the duration of the mission trip, and should include a letter of support from the pastor of the applicant.

The initial deposit is the money donated in memory of *Ernest J. Kish*.

We request donations to the Fund mailed to the Treasurer.

know Me. Some met Me for the first time on the 86th floor.

Some sought Me with their last breath. Some couldn't hear Me calling to them through the smoke and flames; 'Come to Me... this way... take my hand.' Some chose, for the final time, to ignore Me. But, I was there.

I did not place you in the Tower that day. You may not know why, but I do.. However, if you were there in that explosive moment in time, would you have reached for Me?

Sept. 11, 2001, was not the end of the journey for you. But someday your journey will end. And I will be there for you as well. Seek Me now while I may be found. Then, at any moment, you know you are 'ready to go.'

I will be in the stairwell of your final moments.

(Circulated on the Internet)

"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved. (Rom 10,13)

"For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life... Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because he has not believed in the name of God's one and only Son. This is the verdict: Light has come into the world, but men loved darkness instead of light because their deeds were evil. (John 3,16f) (NIV)

Washington (BWA) — Baptist World Alliance President *John Upton* has condemned the planned burning of the Quran by a church in Gainesville, Florida, in the United States, on September 11.

The following is the full text by Upton.

"The Baptist World Alliance stands with our fellow Baptists around the world in denouncing and in expressing our profound distress over the threat of Rev. Terry Jones, pastor of the Dove World Outreach Center in Gainesville, Florida, to burn the Quran. This is a desecration of the sacred text for all Muslims and disrespects the right of all persons to worship according to their own convictions.

"This act is not in the character or spirit of Jesus Christ and misrepresents the true nature of the Christian faith. It is our prayer that Rev. Jones and his congregation will repent of this threat and ask the forgiveness of the Islamic community and discontinue his caustic rhetoric." (BWA Press)

Nem különös?

Nem különös, hogy a húsz dolláros, milyen nagy összegnek tűnik amikor körbe viszik a perselyt a gyülekezetben, és mégis olyan kicsi összeg amikor bevásárolni megyünk vele?

Nem különös, hogy két teljes óra milyen hosszúnak tűnik a gyülekezetben, és milyen rövid amikor tévét nézünk?

Nem különös, hogy a mikor imádkozni kezdesz, olyan nehezen találsz a szavakat, de amikor egy jó barátal beszélgetsz, nem tudnád abba hagyni, mert annyi a mondanivalód?

Nem különös, hogy mindenki szerezte az első sorban kapni helyet a koncerten vagy a sport mérkőzésen, de az imaházban mindenki a hátsó padokat keresi?

Nem különös, hogy ha gyülekezeti eseményről van szó, szeretnénk két-három héttel előre tudni róla, hogy betáblázhassuk a naptárunkba, de ha számunkra fontos eseményről szerzünk tudomást, egy pillanat alatt is eldöntjük, hogy részt veszünk rajta?

Nem különös, hogy milyen nehezen tanulunk vagy osztunk meg valamit Istenről, és ugyanakkor milyen könnyen tanulunk meg és osztunk meg egymással pletykákat?

Nem különös, hogy milyen könnyen elhisszük, amit az újság ír, de gyakran kétségbe vonjuk Isten Ígését?

(Chicagói bulletinból)

Petőfi Sándor

SZEPTEMBER VÉGÉN

Még nyílnak a völgyben a kerti virágok,
Még zöldel a nyárfa az ablak előtt,
De látod amottan a téli világot?
Már hó takarja el a bérci tetőt.
Még ifju szivemben a lángsugarú nyár
S még benne virít az egész kikelet,
De íme sötét hajam őszbe vegyül már,
A tél dere már megüté fejemet.

Elhull a virág, eliramlik az élet...
Úlj, hitvesem, úlj az ölembe ide!
Ki most fejedet kebel-emre tevéd le,
Holnap nem omolsz-e sírom fölibe?
Oh mond: ha előbb halok el, tete mimre
Könnyezve borítasz-e szem födelet?
S rábírhatsz-e majdan egy ifju szerelme,
Hogy elhagyod érte az én nevemet?

Ha eldobod egykor az özvegyi fátyolt,
Fejfámra sötét lobogóul akaszd,
Én feljövök érte a síri világból
Az éj közepén, s oda leviszem azt,
Letörleni véle könnyüimet érted,
Ki könnyeden elfeledéd hivedet,
S e szív sebeit bekötözni, ki téged
Még akkor is, ott is, örökre szeret!

Koltó, 1847. szeptember