

February 1 Answers

- 1) When Moses was about **40** years old, he “refused to be called the **son** of Pharaoh’s daughter,” (most likely Hatshepsut) and he chose to endure **ill-treatment** with his fellow Israelites. Hebrews says he did this “by **faith**,” for he considered “the **reproach** of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt” (Heb 11:24–26). This took courage, humility, and **sacrifice**, for Moses had been destined for earthly greatness. Moses tried to bring relief to his people, thinking they would understand that God was using him to deliver them. But rather than trusting God and **waiting** for His timing, Moses took matters into his own hands and **murdered** an Egyptian. This stands in stark contrast to **Joseph**, who refused to put himself in God’s place and seek revenge on his brothers. How true the saying: ‘It’s never right to do **wrong**, even for a chance to do right.’ Moses fled to **Midian** and found refuge with a man called **Reuel** (Jethro). Moses stayed with him for the next **40** years. **Thutmose III** finally died, and God decided the time had come to rescue Israel. God appeared to Moses in a burning bush and told him to go to the new Pharaoh, **Amenhotep II**, and bring Israel out of Egypt. God told Moses to tell the Israelites, “I **AM** has sent me to you” (Exod 3:14). How appropriate that in a polytheistic culture like Egypt, God announced Himself as the God who IS (cf. Ezek 20:5–8). Moses balked at God’s command and tried to wriggle out of it with all kinds of **excuses**. When he at last simply refused to obey, God became **angry** and told him that his brother Aaron would be his mouthpiece. This turned out to be a mixed blessing: Aaron became a testament to Moses’ lack of faith and would later lead the people astray by making them a golden calf.