

BIBLE WOMEN - MIRIAM - SISTER TO MOSES

EXODUS 15:1-21

From a young woman of great caring and cheer, she falls into a spirit of complaining and God stops using her completely.

I. CARING

- A. She watched God work to protect baby Moses EXO. 1:22
- B. She moved to speak to Pharaoh's daughter EXO. 2:5-10
 - 1. She didn't wait to see if anyone else would
 - 2. She EXPECTED and CAPITALIZED on opportunity

II. CELEBRATING

- A. She was credited by God for the Exodus (MICAH 6:4)
 - 1. From the Levitical tribe (Amram and Jochebed)
 - 2. She was used of God with Aaron and Moses
- B. Children of Israel crossed the Red Sea dry shod
 - 1. God had told them He would (GEN. 15:14)
 - 2. God went WITH THEM 1 COR. 10:1-4
- C. Miriam was called a Prophetess EXO. 15:22
 - 1. Led the women with a hymn of praise
 - 2. Only a handful of women were given that title
 - a. Deborah, Huldah, Isaiah's wife,
 - b. Anna the daughter of Phanuel (Luke 2:36-37)
 - c. Philip's four daughters (ACTS 21:8-9)

III. CRITICIZING

- A. Criticized Moses for marrying an Ethiopian NUM. 12:1
 - 1. Aaron also criticized but she is listed first
 - 2. Later judgement (leprosy) singled her out
- B. Likely that Zipporah died (Daughter of Jethro)
 - 1. Moses only had one wife at a time (EXO. 4:20)
 - 2. Only Zipporah in EXO. 18 / No criticism there
- C. Critical spirits are never satisfied

IV. COMPLAINING

- A. Miriam moves on to complaint in NUM. 12:2
 - 1. She questions God's wisdom in selecting Moses
 - 2. God strikes her with leprosy / Aaron repents
 - 3. Moses pleads with God on her behalf NUM. 12:13
 - 4. She was no longer used / Buried NUM. 20:1
- B. Jealousy (JAMES 1:26 / EPH. 4:31) and PHIL. 4:8

MICAH 6:4 - "For I brought thee up out of the land of Egypt, and redeemed thee out of the house of servants; and I sent before thee Moses, Aaron, and Miriam."

GEN. 15:13-14 - "And he said unto Abram, Know of a surety that thy seed shall be a stranger in a land that is not theirs, and shall serve them; and they shall afflict them four hundred years; (14) And also that nation, whom they shall serve, will I judge: and afterward shall they come out with great substance."

LUKE 2:36-37 - "And there was one Anna, a prophetess, the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Aser: she was of a great age, and had lived with an husband seven years from her virginity; (37) And she was a widow of about fourscore and four years, which departed not from the temple, but served God with fastings and prayers night and day."

ACTS 21:8-9 - "And the next day we that were of Paul's company departed, and came unto Caesarea: and we entered into the house of Philip the evangelist, which was one of the seven; and abode with him. (9) And the same man had four daughters, virgins, which did prophesy."

EXO. 4:20 - "And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand."

JAMES 1:26 - "If any man among you seem to be religious, and bridleth not his tongue, but deceiveth his own heart, this man's religion is vain."

EPH. 4:31 - "Let all bitterness, and wrath, and anger, and clamour, and evil speaking, be put away from you, with all malice:"