

Courageous Faith

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Prepared from the spoken message and lightly edited for readability. Scripture quotations and spoken phrasing are preserved as delivered.

All right, good morning. I want to invite you to grab your Bibles and turn to Hebrews chapter 11.

I've told you before about my love for reading. It started at a young age. Math was never my friend, but books were. I grew up in an elementary school that had a great library. I remember they had about 200 books in their biography section, and I made it my goal to read every biography by the time I left the fourth grade. Now, I don't know if I did it or not, but I certainly tried.

Those biographies captured me as a little boy. It's my favorite genre to read. I can remember reading about great presidents like George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. I remember reading about great athletes like Jim Thorpe and Knute Rockne. I was introduced to adventurers like Davy Crockett.

It was in these little biographies that had a picture on every page that I was first introduced to Harriet Tubman. That's where I heard her story, and it just captured me. It's a perfect illustration for what we're looking at in the passage of Scripture that we're going to be studying today.

Tubman was born into slavery in Maryland in 1822. She had a mom - this is key, all you moms out there - who loved the Lord. She heard her mom pray over her. She heard stories of the Bible from her mom. She was raised in a home saturated with faith and Scripture. Old spirituals that she would sing told the stories of the Bible.

At 13, she was accidentally struck in the head by a weight that was thrown at one of the overseers. They were throwing it at another slave, and it missed that slave and hit Harriet Tubman in the head. She suffered the rest of her life. She had seizures and migraines that plagued her whole life. But she also started having dreams and visions, and she interpreted these dreams and visions as coming from the Lord.

In 1849, at around the age of 27, she learned that she was going to be sold. So she made a choice. This is really important because we're talking today about having a courageous faith, and a courageous faith will be exhibited in how we make choices that we're presented with on a day-to-day basis.

Tubman chose, instead of being sold, to escape slavery. She left behind her family. She left behind her husband. She left behind everyone she knew and everything she knew, and she escaped to Pennsylvania. She found freedom there, and she could have stayed there. She was there for a year and got a job making money, but she did something that's truly remarkable to think about. She decided to go back into Maryland and begin rescuing slaves.

Her story is amazing. She would go by cover of night. She learned to read the stars. She learned to see the flow of the river, and this would teach her which way she needed to go and where she needed to camp out at night. She would often disguise herself as an old woman or an old man. Sometimes she almost got caught, and she would act as if she was a slave running an errand for another master.

For 11 years, she ran what we know as the Underground Railroad. Scholars debate how many trips she took back. Some say 13, and some say as many as 19. But in her time running the Underground Railroad, she set 70 slaves free. She rescued 70 slaves.

In 1861, when the Civil War began, she signed up to help serve the Union Army as a spy and an informant. In one raid in South Carolina, she helped set 700 enslaved people free. In her lifetime, she rescued over 800 slaves.

It's an amazing story of faith. Her nickname - are you ready for this? - was Moses. That's who we're talking about today in Hebrews 11:23-28. In fact, the two biographies that tell her story and get the most press about her life are **Harriet, the Moses of Her People** by Sarah Bradford and **Bound for the Promised Land** by Kate Larson.

Tubman risked her life. She did what seemed irrational - going back into Maryland - and what seemed illogical - escaping slavery, helping slaves, going undercover at night. She did what seemed crazy to do what she felt was the call of God on her life.

She even said as much. She said, "I never met with any person of any color who had more confidence in the voice of God as spoken direct to their soul." She said, "It wasn't me. It was the Lord. I always told him, 'I trust you. I don't know where to go or what to do, but I expect you to lead me.' And he always did."

That is courageous faith. That's the subject of our message today.

If you're taking notes, I encourage you to write this down. I'm going to give you a statement today, and we're going to add a little bit to that statement as we go. The first statement I want to make is this: Courageous faith chooses to obey God despite the cost.

We're going to come back and add to that statement: Courageous faith chooses to obey God despite the cost and despite how crazy it seems. Again, following the Lord and having a courageous faith will oftentimes be irrational. It'll be illogical. It'll feel unreasonable. That's why I use the term "crazy." That's my word.

Then we'll come back at the end and add this statement: Courageous faith chooses to obey God despite the cost and despite how crazy it seems because faith sees what the world cannot see.

There's a lot here. Let's work it out. I'm fired up about this message today. We've got 15 pages, so let's get after it.

Hebrews 11, starting in verse 23. The Bible says this:

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

— Hebrews 11:23-28

We've said this earlier in this series as we looked at Abraham, who's in Hebrews 11, the Hall of Faith. We said that he is the GOAT. He's the greatest of all time. There's more dedicated to him in Hebrews chapter 11 than anybody else.

Well, if Abraham is the GOAT, the greatest of all time, if he's the Jordan of the Hebrews 11 Hall of Faith, Moses is LeBron. All right? The second most is written about him than any other person.

Here's what you need to know. Moses, of course, was the great lawgiver. He was the one who established the sacrificial system. He is the one who showed how we should worship God at the tent of meeting, or at the tabernacle. Moses, in the eyes of the Jewish people, was a huge deal. He was the one who led the Israelites out of Egyptian slavery. He wandered with them for 40 years in the wilderness. He gave them the Ten Commandments, and he brought them to the edge of the Promised Land.

The bottom line is that religious Jews looked up to, listened to, and followed Moses.

Now I want you to think about that in the context of the book of Hebrews. The writer of Hebrews is writing to Jewish Christians who were thinking about going backward in their faith as opposed to going forward. They were facing persecution. They were facing pressure. It just seemed, at this time in their lives, that it would feel very comfortable to revert to their old way of life and their old way of doing religion.

Instead of just Jesus and trusting in him by faith alone, maybe they could go back to the sacrificial system. That was kind of their thought. After all, could anyone really have confidence in their standing before God simply based on what Jesus did? It felt a lot better to go to the temple, make sacrifices, observe the religious holy days, and just be part of that old-time religion, if you will.

The writer of Hebrews writes and says, "Hold up. Don't you dare go back to your old way of living and believing."

In fact, as he begins to write the letter of Hebrews, he's going to say in Hebrews chapter 3, "Jesus is better than Moses." He's going to get to Hebrews chapter 10 and say, "Don't go back to the old sacrificial system. Jesus is the full and final sacrifice."

You don't go back to Moses. In fact, what the writer of Hebrews says in Hebrews chapter 11 is that Moses was looking to Jesus. So if you want to follow Moses, you've got to follow Jesus.

We get to Hebrews 11, the verses we're looking at today, verses 23 through 28, and I want to show you three incidents in Scripture that show Moses and his parents making decisions that we would describe as a courageous faith. Each incident given is an example of courageous faith.

Courageous Faith Despite the Cost

Let's look at the first one. Here's what I want you to note: courageous faith despite the cost. Look again at verse 23:

By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw that the child was beautiful, and they were not afraid of the king's edict.

— Hebrews 11:23

Now, the birth story of Moses is incredible. If you don't know it, this week - I mean, this afternoon - go home and read Exodus 1 and 2. It will blow you away.

Four centuries have passed since Joseph was the prime minister of Egypt. Scripture says there comes a Pharaoh who didn't even remember who Joseph was. He looks around and sees all these Israelites, and they're just multiplying and having these large families. He said, "Enough of this. They're going to overpopulate Egypt and take control."

So he decided to put them into submission and make them slaves. His goal was to make them miserable.

Not only that, but he said, "We've got to take this a step further." So he told some Egyptian midwives, "If you're helping a Hebrew woman give birth, and that baby who is born is a boy, I want you to kill that baby."

Now, Scripture says the midwives wouldn't do it because they feared God more than Pharaoh.

But Pharaoh concocts another plan. Again, this guy's maniacal. He's crazy. He's power-hungry. He comes up with this plan and makes this edict, which had a legally binding decree. To not obey it meant death. He said, "If anybody has a boy, you are to throw that child into the Nile River."

Infanticide. You're to kill that boy.

Well, baby Moses is born. Instead of casting him into the Nile, Moses' mom decides she's going to nurse him as long as she can. Look again at the Scripture. Notice Scripture says in verse 23 that they - his mom, his dad, and probably Moses' older sister - saw that the child was beautiful.

Now, all parents see their children this way, right? I mean, that little baby is born. I've been at a lot of births and in a lot of labor and delivery rooms right after birth, and I've never once heard a mom go, "Look how ugly he is. Looks like his dad." I've never heard that. Everybody thinks their baby is beautiful.

The word "beautiful" here is an interesting word. It's also used in Acts chapter 7, when Stephen is preaching right before his stoning. He begins to tell the history of Israel, and he has some significant remarks about Moses' life. He says that Moses at his birth "was beautiful in God's sight." It's the same word.

It's translated with this idea of being divinely favored. This baby was special, extraordinary. There was something about Moses that, when his parents looked at him, they saw purpose. That's really what this word is getting at here.

Now I want you to put yourself in Moses' parents' place. Can you imagine being confronted with this choice? You either kill your newborn baby boy by throwing him in the Nile River, or you lose your life for disobeying the king's edict.

I can't imagine throwing a baby in a river. When my twins were born - I better be careful. I'm treading here. My wife's on the front row. I'm treading here - I didn't get much sleep for seven months, all right? She didn't get any.

I can remember coming into the office, and I would tell my assistant, "I'm going to the top floor of the balcony. I'm going to lie on the pew and take a nap. I'm going to put my phone right here. If you need me, you just call me."

I was so tired. My wife was really tired, but they didn't sleep. Now, I wanted to throw them in the Nile River a time or two, but I would have never done it, all right? I would have never done it.

I can't imagine being confronted with this choice. Pharaoh is the most powerful man in the world at the time. Again, this decree was not something you could just gloss over or ignore. You don't live to tell about it if you don't do what the king says.

But look at the choice the parents made. The Bible says they were not afraid of the king's edict. Moses' parents chose obedience to God over fear of the king and over fear of death.

This phrase, "they were not afraid," indicates a decisive action, like they made a calculated decision: "If it costs us even our lives, we're not going to do what the king tells us to do."

They made up their minds that, no matter what the cost was, they were not going to obey. That is courageous faith.

It made me pause and ask myself this question, even in writing the sermon: Do I have a courageous faith?

This action of Moses' parents is a clear sign of what we would call civil disobedience today. We need to wrestle with this question as New Testament followers of Christ: When is it right to put our foot down when authority, government, or our job asks us to do something that clearly crosses the lines as it relates to Scripture?

We need wisdom. We need discernment. When do we say, "I'm not going to do that. I'm not going to go there. I'm not going to bow down"? Those are great questions to consider.

John Stott - I read his book **Decisive Issues Facing Christians Today** in college - says this. It's a great statement: "If the state commands what God forbids or forbids what God commands, then our plain Christian duty is to resist, not to submit; to disobey the state in order to obey God."

That's a great grid to consider.

The majority of the time, as citizens of this country, Scripture is very clear. First Timothy 2 calls us to pray for those in authority over us. Scripture calls us to pay. Matthew chapter 22 and Romans 13 say you give to Caesar what is Caesar's, and you give to God what is God's.

We are to obey the mass majority of the time. Scripture tells us in Romans 13 and 1 Peter 2 that God has established and ordained the authority he has placed over us, whether we agree with that authority or not. So the mass majority of the time, we're to pray, pay, and obey.

However, whenever authority commands us to do something or decrees something that goes against the plain teachings of Scripture, or calls us to contradict Scripture, this is where we say with Peter:

We must obey God rather than men.

— Acts 5:29

We don't do it. We draw a line in the sand. We say, just like Moses' parents did, "Not happening." We stand firm, even if it costs us our lives in our day, or even if it costs us a promotion.

You businessmen and businesswomen, if you're asked to do something by your employer - falsify records, participate in discrimination that would violate biblical justice, or lie to customers - you can't do that. You've got to draw a line.

If our school systems try to require our children to participate in activities that contradict biblical sexuality and what the Bible says about sexual identity, we have the right - I dare say, a responsibility - to say, "No. We're not going to do that. We're not going there. It's a line in the sand."

If the government mandates that we violate our conscience, just go back and listen to our Daniel series. We're living in Babylon, and sometimes we must say, "We're not going to bow down. We will not comply."

Moses' parents made this decision, and the Bible tells us how they made it: by faith. It was a courageous faith despite the cost to their personal well-being. We believers need to be prepared in this day and age to make that same decision.

Courageous Faith Despite How Crazy It Seems

Secondly, I want you to note courageous faith despite how crazy it seems. Look at verses 24 through 26:

By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

— Hebrews 11:24-26

If you've ever wondered whether or not God has a sense of humor, read the story of Moses. God can accomplish his purposes and his ways anytime and any way he wants to.

Moses is born. His mom nurses him as long as she can. They hide him, but then they can't hide him anymore. So they concoct this plan.

His mom makes a little basket. She covers it with pitch, puts the baby in there, and places it in the Nile River somewhere close to where she knows Pharaoh's daughter comes to bathe. She places Moses' older sister nearby, looking around and looking in. This was a whole-family affair.

Sure enough, Pharaoh's daughter comes down one day, and she sees that little baby in that basket. She opens it up, and the Bible says she reasons that this is one of those Hebrew children.

She took pity on him.

— Exodus 2:6

Right as she was taking pity, Moses' sister just happened to be there and said, "Would you like me to go find a Hebrew mother to nurse this child?"

Now, that took a step of faith. Talk about despite the cost - a slave talking to Pharaoh's daughter. But again, God's sovereign, right? We play checkers; he plays chess.

Pharaoh's daughter says, "Yes, I would."

If you're familiar with the story, you know what happens. Moses' sister goes and gets her mom, and she gets to nurse Moses until he's three or four years old. It's just an amazing story.

By the way, it's a reminder that if you and I will choose to obey God, he can turn things however he chooses. He can make anything happen. He's God. He can make anything happen.

So she nurses him probably until he's three or four years old. Don't you know, as that baby sat on his mother's lap, that she was speaking words of affirmation, blessing, and life over that baby? He was special, beautiful, divinely favored. I'm sure she said, "Moses, you're going to be somebody one day. God's got a plan for your life."

It's just a reminder. We're growing like crazy, and we're growing with young families. That children's ministry over there is filling up. Just a commercial break right here in the message: We need more people to volunteer in our children's ministry. We need more leaders.

Here's the deal: You're not just babysitting over there. If you're serving in our children's ministry - and I thank all of you who are serving - you're speaking words of life over these kids. You're speaking words of blessing over these kids. You're teaching these kids Bible stories.

You may have a little Harriet Tubman in your class. You may have a little Moses over there. I just want to thank you for investing in the next generation. If you're looking for a place to serve, we need you there.

Moses grows up, and he has these words of affirmation and blessing carrying with him. Don't think that just because our kids are young, it doesn't matter. Their brains are developing. They're sponges. They're absorbing everything.

Grandparents, you get those little grandbabies and speak God's Word into their lives. Moms and dads, you get those children's Bible stories, speak God's Word, and tell them the stories. I'm telling you, it's growing their hearts.

Moses grows up in Pharaoh's court. He is truly the prince of Egypt. Egypt at this time is cultured, sophisticated, and full of wealth.

We get some insight from Stephen's sermon in Acts chapter 7. Again, this is why you should read the Bible and, in your time alone with the Lord, go wholly through the Bible. You can look at Exodus 2, Acts 7, and Hebrews 11, and the story just comes together like this.

Stephen says:

And Moses was instructed in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and he was mighty in his words and deeds.

— Acts 7:22

So he grew up in the language and customs of the Egyptians. He's bright. He's knowledgeable. And check this: He's also very aware that he may be an Egyptian on the outside, but on the inside, he's a Hebrew. He's an Israelite.

Acts 7:25 informs us that, at the age of 40, he makes a decision. He makes a choice. Again, courageous faith is defined by the choices we make.

Hebrews 11:24 puts it like this:

By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.

— Hebrews 11:24

At 40 years of age, he refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin.

That word "refused" means to disown, repudiate, or renounce. Just like Moses' parents made a deliberate decision - "We're not throwing him in the Nile" - Moses came to the point in his life where he said, "I'm not going to identify anymore as a son of Egypt."

Commentator Stephen Davey put it like this: "At some decisive moment in time, Moses renounced his royal status and an incredible future. The future prince of Egypt walked away from it all. By doing so, he volunteered for one of the greatest riches-to-rags stories ever recorded in human history."

Recall our statement: Courageous faith chooses to obey God despite the cost and despite how crazy it seems.

It was crazy for Moses to say no to the privilege he lived in and exchange it for the yes to suffer with the Hebrews. On the surface, that decision is nuts. It doesn't make sense. It's illogical and irrational.

Renounce the privileges of Egypt, the possessions, and your future as the prince? Disown that? Repudiate that?

And yet, isn't this the call of Christ on our lives? He said:

If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross and follow me.

— Matthew 16:24

In Luke chapter 14, he's telling his disciples, "You better consider the cost. If you want to be my disciple, you cannot be my disciple if you don't renounce all that you have. You've got to say no to the world."

This is the decision Moses makes. He has everything - comfort, riches, pleasures, and privileges. And check this: He says no to it all.

Talk about a courageous faith.

Some of you are here today, and you need to be like Moses. On the outside, you have it all, and God is calling you today to renounce your old way of life and follow him. There's a cost that comes with it.

If you say yes to Jesus, some of your friends are going to say, "You're crazy. What are you doing?" The ones you used to go out with and the ones you used to do this and that with - when you begin to follow hard after Christ, get involved in church, and come when the doors are open, some of your family members are going to say you're crazy.

But this is what God calls us to do. This is courageous faith.

Don't you know Moses' friends said, "Moses, what are you thinking?" Moses had to wrestle with this. I'm sure he didn't come to it overnight. He had to think through these things. He was 40 years of age when he said, "What am I going to do?"

Oftentimes, when we follow Jesus, courageous faith on the surface is going to feel crazy to us, and it's going to feel crazy to the world.

Listen, we're getting ready next year to launch into a capital campaign, what we're calling a generosity initiative here at Champion Forest. We call it a generosity initiative because what God's put in our hearts is never going to happen unless we're all generous. What he's calling us to and what we're going to begin introducing to the outside world is going to sound crazy. Heck, it's going to sound crazy to some of us.

But just think about the history of Champion Forest. You don't think it sounded crazy when Pastor Robin Guess was a photographer taking pictures out at the Champions Golf Course, and while he was out here, he noticed, "Man, this place needs a church"?

So he decided to start a church. Six people showed up for the first service, and five of them had the last name Guess. They were all his family members.

"It's crazy! What are you doing? Plant a church up on Jackrabbit Road, a little two-lane road that we now know as 1960? It sounds crazy. What do you mean you're going to relocate? You're going to build a 4,000-seat auditorium? That doesn't make sense. That's crazy. What do you mean you're going to go plant another church in Klein, a satellite campus, and 300 people are going to go? Does Klein really need another church?"

And yet, now look at what God's done. We're there at our North Klein campus, we're reaching people left and right, and God's got more for us to do. It's going to sound crazy, but the question is, Champion Forest, will we say yes and exhibit a courageous faith corporately?

Personally, you may be a businessman in the room, and you're offered a promotion. It's going to pay you more than you could ever imagine, but you also know that, to say yes to it, you're going to have to cut some corners. You might not be home as much with your family. Or maybe there's an ethical situation involved in it.

The world would say, "Take that thing. Work out those ethics later." But God, by the power of the Holy Spirit, is saying, "No, you can't do it."

That's courageous faith.

Maybe you're a college student or young adult. You go to the Grove on Tuesday nights. You've been working on a degree, and you're about to graduate. Your parents have paid for your degree. You've got a lucrative job offer and this career before you, but God's just been knocking on the door of your heart. He's been calling you to ministry. He's been calling you to the mission field.

You're going to say no to this career that awaits you to go share Christ overseas or plant a church somewhere in North America. It doesn't make sense on the surface. Your family's going to say, "What are you doing?" Your friends are going to say, "You're wasting your potential."

But what are you going to say? "No. I'm just living for another world."

Courageous faith is going to cost us. It may sound crazy to those around us and to us as well. But we've got to do like Moses and calculate: Is it worth it?

That's what Moses did. He did the math, and he finally came to the conclusion, "You know what? If it means mistreatment with God's people, I would rather choose that than enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin."

Look quickly at verse 26:

He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt.

— Hebrews 11:26

That's an amazing statement right there. He considered the reproach of Christ. Moses was looking to Jesus.

Now, he didn't know the fullness of it, but if you look at Deuteronomy 18:15-18, he prophesied that there was one coming after him who was going to be greater than him.

Moses, in choosing to identify with God's people, is bearing reproach. He is bearing shame, insult, and suffering. They were slaves. In bearing the reproach of God's people - the Messiah would come through God's people - he was therefore bearing the reproach of Christ.

Moses understood by faith that suffering for God's purposes here for a little while on earth is worth more than having all the pleasures in the world for just a little life that, in the grand scale of eternity, isn't that much.

Interestingly enough, this is beautiful. I wish I had time to go into this. Moses bore the reproach of Christ. He identified with Christ by identifying with his people.

You keep reading Hebrews chapter 13. Do you know how we bear the reproach of Christ and identify with Christ? By bearing shame and reproach in this world.

Jesus said, "If it didn't like me, it isn't going to like you." When we live by faith and bear reproach for the shame of Christ, we're identifying with Christ. We're called to do that.

Faith Sees What the World Cannot See

Let's finish up this text. We'll see one more example of courageous faith. We've seen it in Moses' parents. We've seen it in Moses. One more example, and we'll call it a day.

By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

By faith he kept the Passover and sprinkled the blood, so that the Destroyer of the firstborn might not touch them.

— Hebrews 11:27-28

Now, you've got to fast-forward 40 years. That's what's in these verses right here.

At 40, Moses refuses to be characterized as the son of Pharaoh's daughter. One day, he sees a Hebrew being beaten by an Egyptian. He gets mad, and they have a confrontation. It's more than a confrontation. It's an altercation. He kills the Egyptian.

In his mind, if you read Acts 7 and Stephen's sermon, there's an allusion that he thought, in doing that, the Hebrew people would see him as their deliverer. After all, he's the prince of Egypt. He's going to lead us out.

But if you read the story, he kind of gets the Heisman, all right? Speaking of "Gig 'em," great win last night, Aggies. There you go. I had about 12 people ask me to do that.

He gets the Heisman, and not only that, but he's fearful for his life. Now he's killed an Egyptian, and the Hebrews don't like him, so he flees to the desert for 40 years.

Just a side note: Even if you make decisions of courageous faith, don't think in your mind that it's going to work out a certain way, because it may not. Moses thought, "I'm not going to identify with Egypt." He jumps in, and he finds himself for 40 years on the backside of nowhere.

The point is that when we make decisions that exhibit courageous faith, what should bring us joy and purpose isn't how it turns out for us or how we think it's going to turn out for us. Rather, it's simply being obedient to Christ. That's our win.

I like what D.L. Moody said: "Moses spent 40 years thinking he was somebody, 40 years learning he was nobody, and 40 years discovering what God can do with a nobody."

That's what he does. He has this experience with God at the burning bush, where God says, "Now is the time.

I've been doing stuff in your heart for 40 years. You're ready now. Go back to Egypt. Tell Pharaoh to let my people go, and you are going to deliver my people."

So Moses goes back, and you know the story. He tells Pharaoh, "Let my people go."

Pharaoh just hardens his heart. "Who are you? I'm not letting anybody go."

There's plague after plague after plague after plague. Then the very last plague is the death plague.

What is Moses told to do? He is told to tell the Israelites to bring a lamb into their home, sacrifice that lamb, shed its blood, take a hyssop branch, dip it in that blood, and put that blood over the doorframe of their home.

Now, the sacrificial system hasn't been established yet. So when we say courageous faith chooses to obey God despite the cost and courageous faith chooses to obey God even when it seems crazy, this would have been crazy. There's no category for this. Kill a lamb, slay it, and put its blood over the doorframe?

Now, you see the gospel in this, right? We see the gospel. There's a little lamb slain, its blood put over the doorpost and applied to the doorpost. We apply the blood of the Lamb to the door of our home. It's not our goodness that saves us from the wrath of God, from the death angel. Rather, it's the grace of God as we apply his blood to our lives.

It's all right there. It's a beautiful picture.

Moses chooses simple obedience, and the Israelites choose simple obedience. But even in the simplicity of that obedience, it is a courageous faith.

The Bible says in verse 27 that Moses left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king. He led the people out of Egypt with no fear. He said, "Let my people go," and he wasn't afraid because the text says he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

So we're bringing it to a close. Here it is. Let me show you the statements one more time.

Courageous faith chooses to obey God despite the cost.

We add to that statement that courageous faith chooses to obey God despite the cost and despite how crazy it seems.

We're going to add one little phrase to that statement and be done: Courageous faith chooses to obey God despite the cost and despite how crazy it seems because faith sees what the world cannot see.

Look one more time at verses 26 and 27. I want you to underline this in your Bibles. Mark it in your notes.

He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.

By faith he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured as seeing him who is invisible.

— Hebrews 11:26-27

Underline this phrase: "For he was looking to the reward."

By faith, he left Egypt, not being afraid of the anger of the king, for he endured. Underline this: How did he endure? "As seeing him who is invisible."

How could all these courageous-faith decisions be made? It's the last part of that statement: Faith sees what the world doesn't see and what the world can't see.

Moses' parents and Moses saw an eternal reward and an invisible God, and it led them to courageous faith.

Listen to me. If we will put the eyes of faith on what is unseen, the eternal reward, we will not live for the fleeting pleasures of this world. Our eyes are on a different thing. It's an eternal reward. Our eyes are on the invisible.

If we will focus on our unseen reward and our unseen God, whom we've come to know and love because he's changed our lives, and if we will keep the focus on what the world cannot and does not see, we, like Harriet Tubman, will live a courageous faith.

Like Moses' parents, a courageous faith. Like Moses, a courageous faith.

Not a foolish faith. Not a reckless faith, but a faith that lives for the eternal and the unseen.

God, give us a courageous faith for his glory. Amen.