

Excuses

Someone has well said, “Excuses are like noses...everyone has one.” Webster defines the noun “excuse” as “something offered as justification or as grounds for being excused.” When someone is “excused” they are removed from blame or from an obligation to perform. If my parents were to tell me to do a certain chore, I may try to be released from that duty by offering an “excuse” such as “I already have plans” or “coach said we have to be at practice.”

Moses stands as a biblical example of one who was obligated to perform a task designed by God. He was called to go to Egypt, secure the release of the people from bondage and lead them to the land that God had promised them. According to Exodus 3:1-4:17, Moses immediately began to make excuses. He wanted to be relieved from the duty to which he had been called. Each of the excuses offered showed that he lacked faith in his own abilities in some way or another.

However, God did not accept these excuses; rather, He simply told Moses that He would provide what was needed for his success. Success was attained, but only when Moses overcame his lack of faith (manifested in his excuses) and seized the opportunity set before Him in God’s commands.

Brethren, we all have areas in which we attempt to offer excuses. Likewise, we offer them because of a perceived weakness or a lack of faith. May we realize that God needs and demands our service. However, He has not left us on our own merit and will not expect us to do it alone. He has provided what we need to be shining lights in this community and impact Hillsboro for good. May we step out in faith and be the servants He needs us to be to realize our spiritual goals.

A.M. Sermon – Moses: Excuses (Ex. 3:1-4:17)

1. Introduction (Mk. 16:15-16; 1 Pet. 2:9-10; Ex. 3:1-10)
2. “Who am I” (Ex. 3:11-12; Rom. 8:31; 2 Cor. 3:5-6; Phil. 4:13).
3. “What Shall I Say?” (Ex. 3:13-15; 1 Cor. 15:1-4)
4. “What if They Don’t Believe Me?” (Ex. 4:1-9; Rom. 10:17; Jno. 20:30-31).
5. “I am Slow of Speech and Tongue” (Ex. 4:10-16; 1 Cor. 2:1-5)
6. “Please Send Someone Else”

P.M. Sermon – Romans (1)