



“DEALING WITH REGRET”

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INTRO:

I. WATCHING THE END OF THE MOVIE

Numbers 20: 1-13

And the people of Israel, the whole congregation, came into the wilderness of Zin in the first month, and the people stayed in Kadesh. And Miriam died there and was buried there.

Now there was no water for the congregation. And they assembled themselves together against Moses and against Aaron. And the people quarreled with Moses and said, “Would that we had perished when our brothers perished before the Lord! Why have you brought the assembly of the Lord into this wilderness, that we should die here, both we and our cattle? And why have you made us come up out of Egypt to bring us to this evil place? It is no place for grain or figs or vines or pomegranates, and there is no water to drink.”

Then Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the entrance of the tent of meeting and fell on their faces. And the glory of the Lord appeared to them, and the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, “Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle.” And Moses took the staff from before the Lord, as he commanded him.

Then Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock, and he said to them, “Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?” And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock.

And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not believe in me, to uphold me as holy in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them.” These are the waters of Meribah, where the people of Israel quarreled with the Lord, and through them he showed himself holy.

II. A WALK THROUGH MOSES' LIFE

Exodus 1-2

His family took great risk to protect beloved and attractive son

Exodus 2

God allows his mother to raise Moses in Pharaoh's house

Acts 7:22

Moses mastered the Egyptian education system

Exodus 2

Moses kills a man

Moses runs for his life, marries, has children, and herds sheep in the desert

Exodus 3

God speaks to Moses at the burning bush

Exodus 4

God gives Moses confirmation signs

Moses is fearful and offers excuses

Moses takes wife and children to Egypt to follow God's plan

Exodus 5

Moses is rejected by Pharaoh

Exodus 6

God encourages Moses; the people grumble

Exodus 7-12

The 10 plagues

Exodus 13-14

God delivers Israel from Egypt and parts the red sea, providing plunder, and destroying the Egyptian army

Exodus 15 and 16

The people grumble and God provides manna

Exodus 17

The people grumble and God provides water from a rock

Exodus 18

Moses is administratively overwhelmed because he is trying to do everything and gets delegation advice from his father-in-law

Exodus 20

Moses receives the 10 commandments

Exodus 25-31

Moses receives instruction regarding the tabernacle

Exodus 32

Moses has to rebuke Aaron for making the golden calf

Numbers 12

Aaron and Miriam get jealous of Moses' leadership

Numbers 16

Moses faces the rebellion of Korah

III. A SECOND GLANCE AT THE MOVIE'S ENDING

1. Moses grew comfortable, casual, and finally aggressive with the things you used to hold with humility, fear, and integrity.
2. Moses made the moment about himself. Anger has a propensity to be highly self-centered and has a gravity that attracts all "similar" negative memories
3. Moses forgot he was there to lead a people for God. The people would not stand a chance in the idol-infested promise land if they interpreted this moment as a failure of Moses.
4. Moses' life was not a failure (Hebrews 11:23-28). Moses' life was about much more than his story, so his failure bore consequences larger than we might feel fare.

Hebrews 3:1-6, "Therefore, holy brothers, you who share in a heavenly calling, consider Jesus, the apostle and high priest of our confession, who was faithful to him who appointed him, just as Moses also was faithful in all God's house. For Jesus has been counted worthy of more glory than Moses—as much more glory as the builder of a house has more honor than the house itself. (For every house is built by someone, but the builder of all things is God.) Now Moses was faithful in all God's house as a servant, to testify to the things that were to be spoken later, but Christ is faithful over God's house as a son. And we are his house if indeed we hold fast our confidence and our boasting in our hope."