

## RESPONSIBILITY OF MOSES

**Lesson Aim:** Respect and obey your spiritual leaders. The LORD has given them a solemn responsibility to care for your spiritual welfare.

**Suggestion:** Have the students read the Scriptures and answer the questions in the student lesson and insert the following questions where they fit the lesson for class discussion.

**Introduction:** The responsibility of Moses was to provide for the needs of the Israelites and to protect them from danger. This also is the duty of the spiritual leaders of a church, beginning with the pastor. "Obey them that have the rule over you . . . for they watch for your souls" (Heb 13:17)

### **Was Moses responsible to provide water for the Israelites? Ex 17:1-7**

The Israelites came to Rephidim and found no water. They disrespected Moses and demanded that he give them water to drink. He asked the people why they were contending with him, when actually only the LORD could supply them with water. So they were testing the LORD to prove He was with them when they demanded Moses to give them water. The LORD had already proved that He was with them by using miracles to care for them. They also accused Moses of killing them with thirst in the wilderness and were about to stone him. Moses went to the LORD for help and He told him to take the elders and go to a rock in Horeb (Mt Sinai) near Rephidim. He was to take his rod that he used to strike the Nile River and strike the rock. When he struck the rock, an abundance of refreshing water flowed from the rock to quench the thirst of the people and their cattle. Moses called the place Massah (test) and Meribah (contend), because they tested the LORD and contended with him. Our spiritual leaders, who depend on the Lord's word to make right decisions, must be respected and obeyed (Heb 13:7).

### **How was Moses responsible for the defeat of the Amalekites? Ex 17:8-13**

The Amalekites attacked Israel when they were at Rephidim. Moses told Joshua to gather the men and lead them in this battle against the Amalekites. This was the first battle that Israel had against an enemy, but it was far from the last. Moses said that he would go to the top of the hill overlooking the battle and hold up the rod that the LORD had used to defeat Pharaoh. The next morning Moses went to the top of the hill with Aaron and Hur. When Moses held up his rod, Israel prevailed over Amalek, but when his tired arms lowered his hand and rod, Amalek prevailed over Israel. So they had Moses sit on a stone and Aaron and Hur stood on each sides of Moses to hold up both hands. The LORD blessed their act of faith and gave Joshua and his men the victory over Amalek. We learn from this event that Moses' intercession on behalf of Joshua and the men gave them victory over Amalek. We need to enlist the intercessory prayer of our spiritual leaders, who have faith in God, to help us win the battle against all temptations and every enemy (1 Cor 10:13).

### **How did Moses learn to share his responsibility with others? Ex 18:13-26**

Jethro saw that Moses was judging by himself all the people that came to him with problems. He told Moses that he was carrying too much of the load. It was not good for him or the people that had to wait so long to see him. He needed to share the burden with honest men that he could train to help him in this work. A plan was submitted to the LORD and approved by Him. Wise leaders train faithful men who are able to help them do their work. Instead of doing ten men's work, they need to give their work to ten men. More work will be done better and in much less time using this plan (Eph 4:11-13; 2 Tim 2:2).

### **What was Moses responsible to tell the Israelites? Ex 19:3-6, 9, 10-13, 21-25**

Moses was responsible to tell the people what the LORD told him. He told them they would be a special treasure of the LORD above all other people, If they would obey Him and keep His covenant (the Law),. They would be a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. When Moses told them this, they agreed to do all that the LORD said to them. Second, he told the people that the LORD would come to him in a thick cloud so they could hear what He would say to Moses. Third, he told the people to be sanctified and wash their clothes when the LORD would come to them in three days. Moses was to set up barriers before the mount so no one would touch it or they would be killed. The LORD came with thunder, lightning, a thick cloud and a loud voice -- the people trembled. The mount was on fire and it shook greatly. Moses was sent again to warn the people not to touch the mount or they would be killed. Spiritual leaders need to tell the people what the LORD tells them to say from the Bible (2 Tim 3:16-17).