

# Sermon Notes

02/16/25

<sup>18</sup> Then Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, “Let me return to my own people in Egypt to see if any of them are still alive.”

Jethro said, “Go, and I wish you well.”

<sup>19</sup> Now the LORD had said to Moses in Midian, “Go back to Egypt, for all those who wanted to kill you are dead.” <sup>20</sup> So Moses took his wife and sons, put them on a donkey and started back to Egypt. And he took the staff of God in his hand.

<sup>21</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “When you return to Egypt, see that you perform before Pharaoh all the wonders I have given you the power to do. But I will harden his heart so that he will not let the people go. <sup>22</sup> Then say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, <sup>23</sup> and I told you, ‘Let my son go, so he may worship me.’ But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.’”

<sup>24</sup> At a lodging place on the way, the LORD met Moses and was about to kill him. <sup>25</sup> But Zipporah took a flint knife, cut off her son’s foreskin and touched Moses’ feet with it. “Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me,” she said. <sup>26</sup> So the LORD let him alone. (At that time she said “bridegroom of blood,” referring to circumcision.) Exodus 4:18-26

## Details

- Moses is heading back to Egypt.
- Moses has his family with him.
- Moses and his family stop on the way to Egypt.
- Moses brought the staff with him.
- God shows up and is going to kill someone.
- Circumcision seems to be an important detail to the story.
- Moses’ wife performs the circumcision.
- She does something specific with the foreskin.
- Zipporah reclassifies someone into a “bridegroom of blood.”
- The Lord pulled back.

### 1. Who is God there to kill?

“Yahweh met him at the encampment on the way and sought to kill him.”

“<sup>22</sup> Then say to Pharaoh, ‘This is what the LORD says: Israel is my firstborn son, <sup>23</sup> and I told you, Let my son go, so he may worship me.’ But you refused to let him go; so I will kill your firstborn son.”

“As for you, you must keep my covenant, you and your descendants after you for the generations to come. <sup>10</sup> This is my covenant with you and your descendants after you, the covenant you are to keep: Every male among you shall be circumcised. <sup>11</sup> You are to undergo circumcision, and it will be the sign of the covenant between me and you. <sup>12</sup> For the generations to come every male among you who is eight days old must be circumcised, including those born in your household or bought with money from a foreigner—those who are not your offspring. <sup>13</sup> Whether born in your household or bought with your money, they must be circumcised. My covenant in your flesh is to be an everlasting covenant. <sup>14</sup> Any uncircumcised male, who has not been circumcised in the flesh, will be cut off from his people; he has broken my covenant.” Genesis 17:9-14

In both cases, \_\_\_\_\_ is punished. Pharaoh’s firstborn will be killed and the son will be cut off from his people.

The 1<sup>st</sup> born son is traditionally the significant one.

## 2. What is the reason for God showing up to kill someone.

God isn't ok with Moses having two boys who are \_\_\_\_\_.

- a. If Moses' sons aren't circumcised it's because of \_\_\_\_\_.
- b. Once the son is circumcised, God lets him alone or He \_\_\_\_\_ him.

## 3. What does Zipporah do with the foreskin?

The word translated as throw or to touch also means \_\_\_\_\_. The same word is used when God instructs the Israelites to \_\_\_\_\_ of the lamb to their doorposts.

## 4. Who is the bridegroom of blood?

The bridegroom leads us to understand that she is talking to Moses, but it is possible that she is talking to \_\_\_\_\_.

# Christophany

Circumcision and Bridegroom of Blood.

### Circumcision:

“in Christ you have been brought to fullness. He is the head over every power and authority. <sup>11</sup> In him you were also circumcised with a circumcision not performed by human hands. Your whole self ruled by the flesh was put off when you were circumcised by Christ, <sup>12</sup> having been buried with him in baptism, in which you were also raised with him through your faith in the working of God, who raised him from the dead. <sup>13</sup> When you were dead in your sins and in the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made you alive with Christ. He forgave us all our sins, <sup>14</sup> having canceled the charge of our legal indebtedness, which stood against us and condemned us; he has taken it away, nailing it to the cross. <sup>15</sup> And having disarmed the powers and authorities, he made a public spectacle of them, triumphing over them by the cross. Colossians 2:10-15

### Bridegroom:

- In the New Testament, \_\_\_\_\_ is called the bridegroom.

We take those things that need to be cut out of our lives and we hand them to Jesus and \_\_\_\_\_ or \_\_\_\_\_.

# Come to me to have life

What if the \_\_\_\_\_ in your life are actually times when God is giving you \_\_\_\_\_ to get some things settled that you had neglected?

What is weighing you down today? Maybe its not as dark as you thought. Maybe it's actually a moment for \_\_\_\_\_  
He wants to give you a \_\_\_\_\_, one that is grounded in who He is rather than \_\_\_\_\_.