

THE STORY OF MOSES

Aunt Hattie's Bible Stories

by

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There is a free paraphrase of Scripture passages in use quite frequently throughout this book in the interest of youthful minds.
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CHAPTER EIGHT

THE RENEWED CALL

God came again to Moses to renew His call, but after all of the many evidences God had given him of His presence and power, Moses said he did not want to go again to Pharaoh. He was sure the king wouldn't listen.

How kind and patient God was with this man Moses, whom He had chosen! He said:

“See, I have made you as a god to Pharaoh: and Aaron, your brother shall go along and be your prophet. And you shall speak all that I shall command you, and Aaron shall ask Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of his land.”

God also said that he would harden Pharaoh's heart and do many signs and wonders in the land of Egypt.

Did God say He would harden Pharaoh's heart? Then if He did, how could poor, old Pharaoh help doing what he did?

Suppose a teacher in school should ask you, some morning, to do an errand for him and you would say that you did not care to do it. Next morning he would ask you again and you would reply, with more impatience, that you would not do it. The following day, he would repeat the request and, in anger, you would say that, indeed, you never would do it. Now, I want to know whose fault it would be that you were punished? Would it be the teacher's fault or yours?

If you answer, the teacher's, then I'll say that in a sense it was, for if he hadn't asked of you a favor you wouldn't have become angry. But, now, soberly and thoughtfully, whose fault was it that you had this trouble? Of course it was your own, for you were stubborn and willful. You could have gone.

Perhaps this will help you to understand better about God hardening Pharaoh's heart.

God, through Moses, asked Pharaoh to let His people go, but Pharaoh set his heart to rebel against God so that God hardened his heart in the sense that He asked a favor of him and Pharaoh refused.

The source of the difficulty was not God, but Pharaoh — his own wicked, selfish heart.

God continued His message to Moses by saying that Pharaoh would not listen to him and that He (God) would have to lay His hand upon Egypt and remove His people from the land. He said that He would do mighty things to let the Egyptians know that He was God. Conditions look impossible sometimes, but God is able to do the impossible for His own people.

~ end of chapter 8 ~

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