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 THIRTY-FOUR

MOSES AGAIN PLEADS FOR ISRAEL

Moses said to the people, "You have sinned a great sin: and now I am going up again to the Lord to see if I can make an atonement for your sin."

"And Moses returned to the Lord, and said, Oh, this people have sinned a great sin, and have made them gods of gold. Yet now, if you will forgive their sin; and if not, blot me, I pray you, out of your book which you have written."

As though Moses had said, "Lord, forgive this people who have sinned and if you cannot forgive them, then I want to die with them."

It was so much like the New Testament prayer of the Lord Jesus Christ when He cried, "Father, forgive them for they know not what they do."

Jesus Christ did more than Moses. He took our place in death. He died for us.

God answered Moses that only those who had sinned should be blotted out of His book.

How much like Jesus Moses was as he stood before God pleading for his people! God told Moses to go on and lead the people back to their land and He would send His angel to show him the way. He said He could not go with such a stiff necked and rebellious people.

When the children of Israel heard what God said they were very, very sorry for their sin and took off their ornaments and mourned because they had disobeyed.

Now that Israel had sinned Moses moved the tabernacle far off from the camp. All who sought the Lord had to go outside the camp to worship.

Whenever Moses went to this place "all of the people rose up, and stood each man at his tent door."

When Moses entered the tabernacle the cloudy pillar of God's presence descended and rested over the door and God talked to Moses.

Moses told God he was not willing to lead the people to Canaan with an angel as guide. He was not satisfied with anyone but God Himself. He said to the Lord, "**If your presence go not with us send us not.**"

Moses said that the presence of God over Israel was what separated them from the nations of the earth. Isn't that true with us? The thing that separates us from the world and makes us different from the world is the presence of God in and with us.

For Moses' sake, God said He would go with them.

What a peace must have filled Moses' heart when he heard those words!

The closer we walk with God the more we want to know about Him. So it was with Moses. I think he stepped a bit closer to God and perhaps whispered, "I beseech You, show me Your glory."

I think God was pleased to have Moses, His servant, make this request for He told him to go and stand upon a rock. God said that when He passed by He would put Moses in the cleft of the rock and cover him with His hand. When He had passed by He would take His hand away and Moses could see His back.

~ end of chapter 34 ~

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