

Everyday FAITH Family Page

Old Testament 2

Law/Gospel

In this world, I am enslaved by the demands of Satan. **God's Son, Jesus, was born to set me free from the slavery of sin, death, and the devil.**

Bible Words

God gave us eternal life
... in His Son.
1 John 5:11

Just Joking

Who took care of Pharaoh's baby?
An Egyptian mummy.

The Birth of Moses

Exodus 1:1–2:20

Long after Joseph died, a new king arose who did not know Joseph. This new Pharaoh feared the large number of Israelites would team up with Egypt's enemies, so he enslaved them.

Still concerned, Pharaoh ordered Israelite midwives to kill all newborn boys, but the midwives feared God and refused. The Israelites multiplied.

Persistent, Pharaoh ordered the Israelites to drown their baby boys in the Nile River. Instead, one mother floated her son in a tar-covered basket, and stationed his sister to watch from the river bank.

Pharaoh's daughter found the baby and pitied him. The child's sister offered to find someone to nurse the baby, and Pharaoh's daughter ended up paying the child's mother to care for him. When he was older, he became the son of Pharaoh's daughter. She named him Moses.

God used unbelievers and difficult circumstances in His plan to rescue His people. He rescued Moses from the river. He rescues us from sin and death through Baptism. There, God calls us by name, connects us to Jesus' death and resurrection, and gives us faith, forgiveness of sins, eternal life, and the Holy Spirit.

How Can Water Do Such Great Things?

Certainly not just water, but the word of God in and with the water does these things, along with the faith which trusts this word of God in the water. For without God's word the water is plain water and no Baptism. But with the word of God it is a Baptism, that is, a life-giving water, rich in grace, and a washing of the new birth in the Holy Spirit, as St. Paul says in Titus, chapter three:

"He saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom He poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our Savior, so that, having been justified by His grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life. This is a trustworthy saying" (Titus 3:5–8).

Luther's Small Catechism, Baptism, Third Part, © 1986, 1991 Concordia Publishing House.

Prayer

Lord God, thank You for making us Your children in Baptism. Amen.

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