

## Exodus 2:11-12

*Now it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out to his brethren and looked at their burdens. And he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his brethren. So he looked this way and that way, and when he saw no one, he killed the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.*

If you ever read the account in Exodus of God using Moses to lead the children of Israel out of Egypt, or have seen the old Ten Commandments movie with Charlton Heston, then you know that Moses actually killed an Egyptian. But if you read on, then you know that even though Moses didn't think that anyone saw it, and Moses tried to hide it, it was well known to all.

† **Exodus 2:13-15** *And when he went out the second day, behold, two Hebrew men were fighting, and he said to the one who did the wrong, "Why are you striking your companion?" Then he said, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you intend to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" So Moses feared and said, "Surely this thing is known!" When Pharaoh heard of this matter, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian; and he sat down by a well.*

It was known so much so, that even Pharaoh ended up hearing about it, and Moses had to flee Egypt for 40 years before God would use him to start his ministry of delivering Israel from Egypt.

But here is something to think about. Moses killed a man, but did you notice that God did not say, "Man you blew it Moses, and I had great plans for you, but since you killed a man I can't use you. So bad, so sad." But God did not say that, instead God called Moses out from where he was, even though it was 40 years later, to accomplish His plans for Israel.

Those should be encouraging words for all of us, because we all have our testimony of what the Lord brought us out of, and no matter how bad we used to be, we are all a new creations in Christ Jesus, "*old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*"

† **2 Corinthians 5:17** *Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new.*

And we know this, and we even know this scripture referencing it, But do we really believe it? If you say yes, then why are you not living it? Why are you not living as a new creation in Christ Jesus going forward with what He has for you to do?

If you read the account of God talking to Moses about leading the Children of Israel out of Egypt, not once does God or Moses ever bring up Moses killing a man. Moses never said, “*Sorry God, I killed a man so you can’t use me because of my past sins.*” No, Moses’ argument or fear was in himself, not in his past.

† **Exodus 3:11** *But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"*

I don’t need to ask you the question of what you did in your past, because you already know what those things were. The real question is, why are you allowing your past to control your future, especially if you “*are a new creation; old things have passed away; behold, all things have become new*” in Christ Jesus?

We already know that Jesus said that, “*I am the vine, you are the branches. He who abides in Me, and I in him, bears much fruit; for without Me you can do nothing.*” **John 15:5** (underlined for emphasis) So if Jesus has cleansed you of your past, then you can truly say that “*I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me.*” **Philippians 4:13** Regardless of your past and what you have done, even if you killed someone, or had an abortion, or were a Satanist, or gay, or a drunk, or a drug addict, or were \_\_\_\_\_. (you fill in the blank)

So stop focusing on that four letter word “WERE” to define yourself today, and start focusing on the three letter word “ARE” that now defines who you are in Christ Jesus as a Christian and a child of God!!!

† **2 Corinthians 5:17 (KJV)** *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*

† **Galatians 6:15 (NLT2)** *It doesn’t matter whether we have been circumcised or not. What counts is whether we have been transformed into a new creation.*