

“It was by faith that Moses, when he grew up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to share the oppression of God’s people instead of enjoying the fleeting pleasures of sin. He thought it was better to suffer for the sake of Christ than to own the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking ahead to his great reward.” Hebrews 11:24-26 NLT

## [lectio] // HEBREWS 11:17-28

The writer of Hebrews takes some massive liberties with the text of Exodus. Either he knew through oral history or God revealed it to him directly, but there was no way he could know the motive behind Moses’ decisions. Phrases like “he refused to be called,” or “chose to share the oppression,” or “better to suffer for the sake of Christ.” Wow, Moses knew of Christ thousands of years before he existed? Again, scripture is scripture, but it is interesting that we have a New Testament author interpreting and giving practical application to a very old text (and story). This is where the idea of “inspired scripture” comes into play. The Holy Spirit could have easily spoke or shown that to the author. Or, oral tradition could have passed down meticulous notes about Moses’ life. The point Hebrews makes is that all the previous participants in God’s story operated by faith. They did things believing that God was faithful and true to his word. Where are those elements of that kind of faith today? We see the world changing. We see culture sliding faster toward chaos and hatred, division and disobedience. Do we really believe that God sees us and is still writing his story in and through our lives?

## [oratio]

pray as responding to the words, phrase, sentence that God has stirred within you

Dad,

Hebrews is looking back and telling us of great stories of faith that allows the reader (the church) to reframe their understanding not only of the past but also the future. We need that same reframing today in our lives. We look around and see so much pain, so much struggle for answers. Science cannot console! Healthcare and counseling cannot bring peace. Help us oh God! Give us a fresh glimpse of what you are doing and what you want to do in our world through us. Help us see your plan and be encouraged and have an answer for those who are distraught and depressed, but do not know where to turn.

Folks like Leah!

## [contemplatio]

rest in the presence of God, allowing the words revealed to take root