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Bi Old Testament Literature

Professor Armstrong

October 6, 2017

Discuss Moses' relationship to God, his responsibility to the Israelites, his sins and consequences, and his death.

Moses relationship with God begin while Moses was tending the flock of sheep for his father-in-law Jethro. Moses encountered God there when an angel appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush. The author states for the first time in 400 years God revealed Himself audibly to Moses telling him that He was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God followed this announcement with the call to Moses to lead the children of Israel. Moses begin to make excuses that he was unable to speak clearly. He was unsure that the people would believe him that he was sent by God. God made it clear that the people would believe Moses because God said when they ask you who sent you tell them I AM that I AM sent you. Moses continue to contend with God about his ability to lead the people. God reassured Moses with a number of signs: changing Moses shepherd's rod into a serpent, afflicting him with leprosy and took it from him and let him know that Aaron his brother would be his representative.

Moses responsibility to the Israelites was to be the one to intercede for them to God. He had to keep them encourage to serve and believe the God of their fathers. Moses had to settled disputes between the people. As the people wander in the wilderness Moses had to contend with complainers and those that felt they too heard from God. They believed Moses had brought them out in the wilderness to die. They complained about not having the things that they had as slaves in Egypt. The sin that Moses committed was against God's command that he gathered the people

together and speak to the rock. The rock would provide water for the people and their animals. Moses did as the Lord commanded to gather the people, but instead of speaking he smote the rock twice. The Lord told Moses the land that He promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob that He will give unto his seed and He would allow Abraham to see the land, but he will not go over in it. Moses died in the land of Moab and was bury in a valley in that land. No man know where his grave is even until this day.