



**Part 4: Seeing Him Who Is Invisible**  
 Hebrews 11:24-28

“By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be known as the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. He chose to be mistreated along with the people of God rather than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. He regarded disgrace for the sake of Christ as of greater value than the treasures of Egypt, because he was looking ahead to his reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the king’s anger; he persevered because he saw him who is invisible. By faith he kept the Passover and the application of blood, so that the destroyer of the firstborn would not touch the firstborn of Israel.” Hebrews 11:24-28

**Our Invitation: Learn to see Him who is invisible, so that you too can persevere.**

Moses learned, over the course of his life, how to see God with singular focus. As we learn to do the same, we can glean three practices from the life of Moses highlighted here.

- **Consider what you treasure.**
- **Count on God rewarding those who seek him.**
- **Let the love of your people, and Christ’s love for you, compel you.**

**1) Consider what you treasure:**

Son of Pharaoh’s daughter	Identification with the people of God
Treasures of Egypt	Mistreatment and disgrace for Christ
Fleeting pleasures of Sin	Reward from God

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 Power, esteem, wealth, temporary pleasure | Christ, his people, suffering and reward

“Do not store up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moths and vermin destroy, and where thieves break in and steal. But store up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where moths and

vermin do not destroy, and where thieves do not break in and steal. For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.” Matthew 6: 19-21

“He is no fool who gives what he cannot keep to gain that which he cannot lose.” – Jim Elliot

Questions to diagnose what you treasure most:

- Where is your disposable time, mental energy and money spent?
- What gives you hope for the future?
- What is the “one thing” you feel you need to get by?

## **2) Count on God rewarding those who seek him.**

“People who exhibit trust look forward to God’s reward and the coming to pass of his promises. They orient themselves to this world wholly on the basis of their knowledge of God’s future. They make their choices based on what course is expedient for the attaining of God’s promised benefactions even if that course of actions means loss of status, homeland, honor, wealth or even life in this world.” – David A. deSilva, *Hebrews: Grace and Gratitude*

**God rewards those who seek him with the thing they want and need the most: himself.**

## **3) Let the love of your people, and Christ’s love for you, compel you.**

### **Discussion Questions:**

1. Read the passage out loud and recap the sermon together.
  - a. What stood out to you about the sermon this week?
  - b. Are there any thoughts or questions you have been thinking about?
2. When you hear the invitation to “learn to see him who is invisible”, how does it strike you? Does it feel intimidating, confusing, compelling?
3. The first principle we saw from Moses’s life was to consider what we treasure. As you reflect on the following questions, where do you see your treasure is in Christ, and where has it drifted elsewhere?
  - a. Where is your disposable time, mental energy and money spent?
  - b. What gives you hope for the future?
  - c. What is the “one thing” you feel you need to get by?
4. The second principle is to count that God rewards those who seek him. Can you think of a time where you sought God, and he showed you more of himself? Where might God be inviting you to seek him more right now?
5. The last principle was to let the love of your people, and Christ’s love for you, compel you.
  - a. When was the last time you had to have faith on behalf of another person? What did that do for your faith?
  - b. As you seek to persevere, what does it change for you to know that Christ walked the path of faith before you?

### **Additional Notes:**

In verse 26, the phrase “disgrace for the sake of Christ” is literally “he esteemed the reproach of the anointed”. Obviously, Moses was not aware that he was enduring hardship specifically for Christ. However, he was aware that he was spurning the comforts of his life for a future reward that God would give him. Ultimately, this would be fulfilled in Christ, and Acts 3:22 states that Moses prophesied about Christ in Deuteronomy 18: 15. However, there is an even greater parallel here: by giving up a place of privilege for the sake of his people, Moses is pointing forward to the same time of disgrace Christ would suffer for the sake of his people. Christ would leave the riches of heaven in solidarity with his enslaved people, endure the scorn and persecution of humans who rejected him. The result was that his people were set free from their sins. Mysteriously, we are unified with Christ when we suffer, and can trust that our suffering will also end in resurrection.

Verse 27 also presents some difficulty because, chronologically, it seems to be referring to Moses’ fleeing of Egypt after murdered the Egyptian official. This is problematic because 1) Exodus specifically states that he fled Egypt *because* he feared the wrath of Pharaoh. 2) This does not seem to be an act of faith, but of anger. There are two possible solutions to this interpretive issue. First, it could be that the passage is simply not telling his story in chronological order (which often happens in Hebrews). In this case, this refers to the Exodus in which Moses opposes Pharaoh out of faith in God. A second, more complex explanation is to see Moses’s action in killing the Egyptian as a misplaced act of faith. It was full of faith because Moses was willing to risk his place of power in order to defend a defenseless person. While the first option seems more compelling, either is a possibility in the text.

In many ways, Moses’ life embodies the definition of faith laid out for us. In verse 1 of Hebrews 11. “Now faith is confidence in what we hope for and assurance about what we do not see.” The story of Moses explicitly states that he was able to lead the way he did and stand up in the phase of persecution the way he did because 1) hoped in the reward of God and 2) saw him who is invisible. He also embodies the two things that are necessary to please God from verse 6: he believes that God exists, and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. This second point, that God rewards those who seek him, is fundamental to his perseverance. Ultimately, God rewards those who seek him with the thing they want and need the most- himself.