

The Blessed Life
Meek
Matthew 5:5

Are You Under Control?

(part 2 Moses)

Are You Under Control?
Moses



**Blessed are the meek,
for they shall inherit the earth.**

Mt. 5.5: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

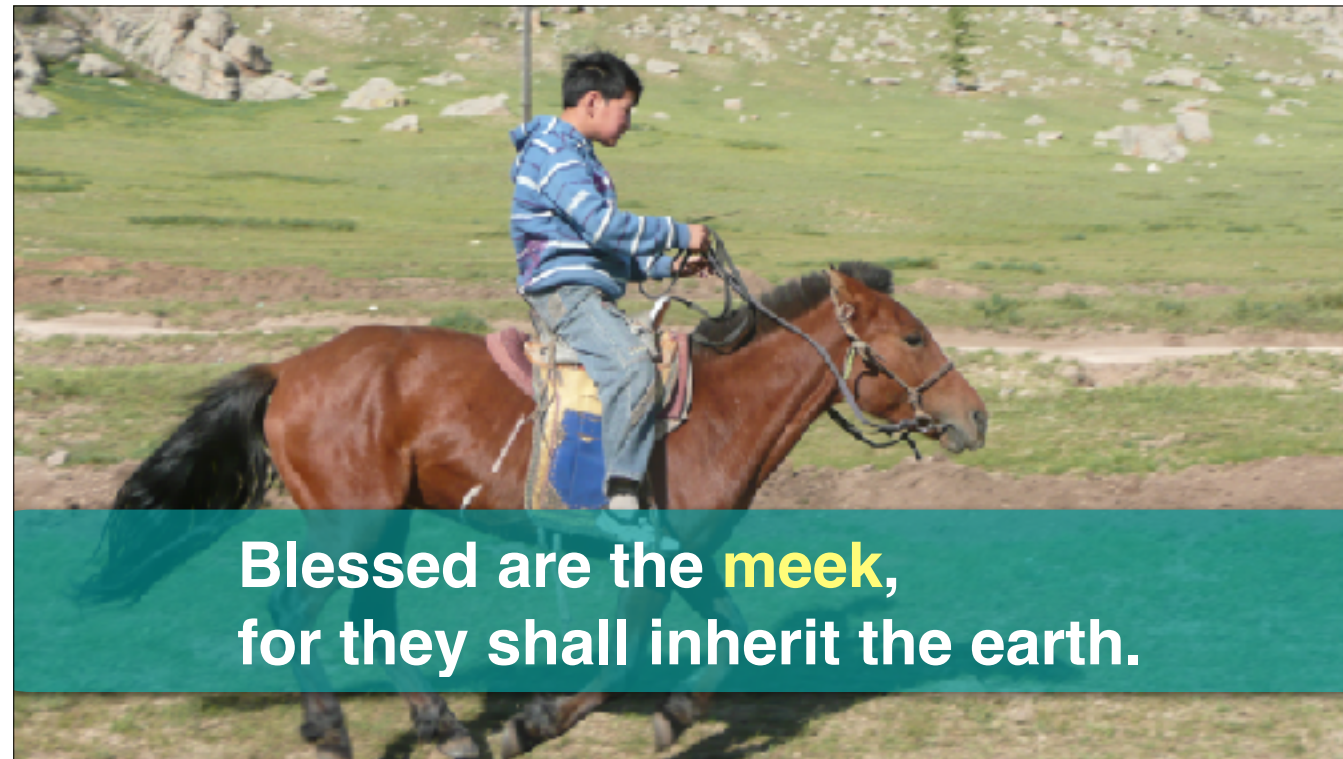
"blessed"

> Happy

= Approved by God



Much deeper meaning: approved by God and therefore favored by God; we are to be congratulated. Applause of heaven (Lucado)



Blessed are the **meek**,
for they shall inherit the earth.

Mt. 5.5: Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.



Well-trained horse is useful.

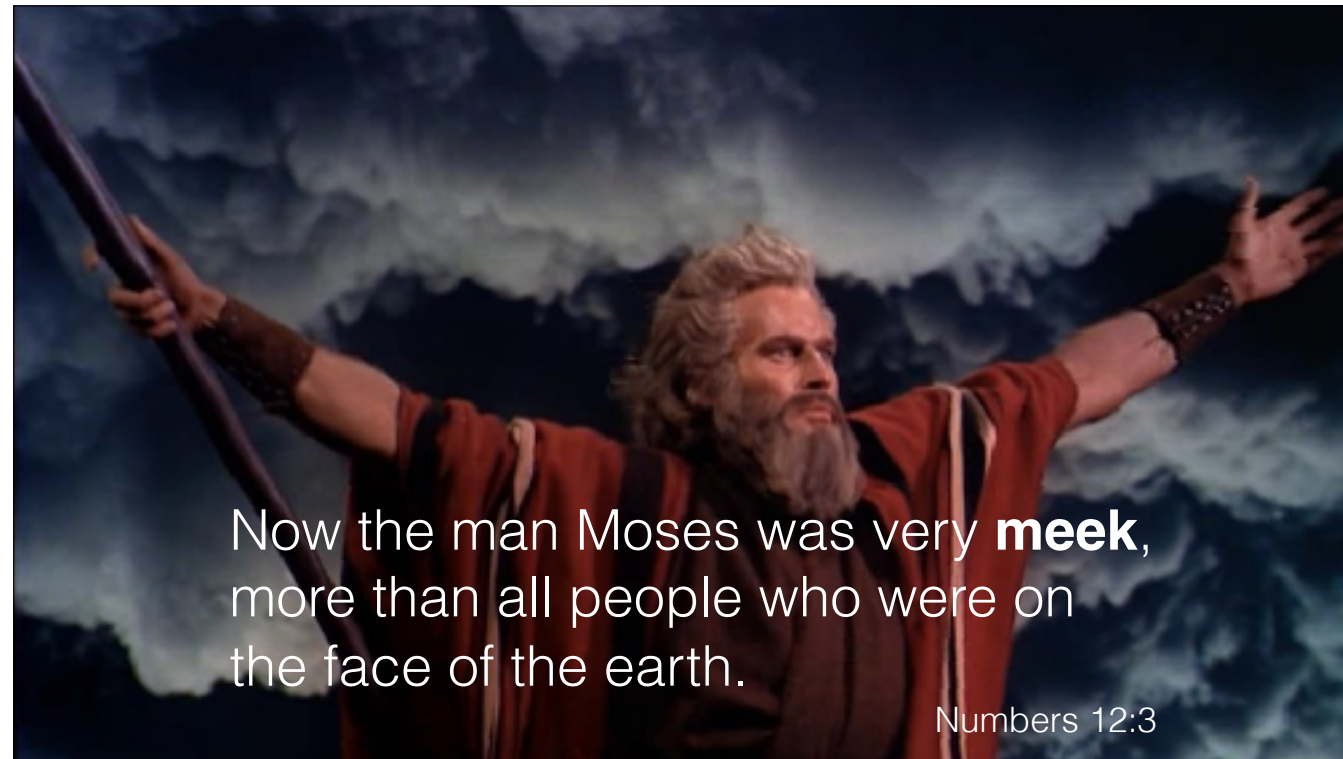
willing to be controlled, use strength to accomplish will of another (even a child!)



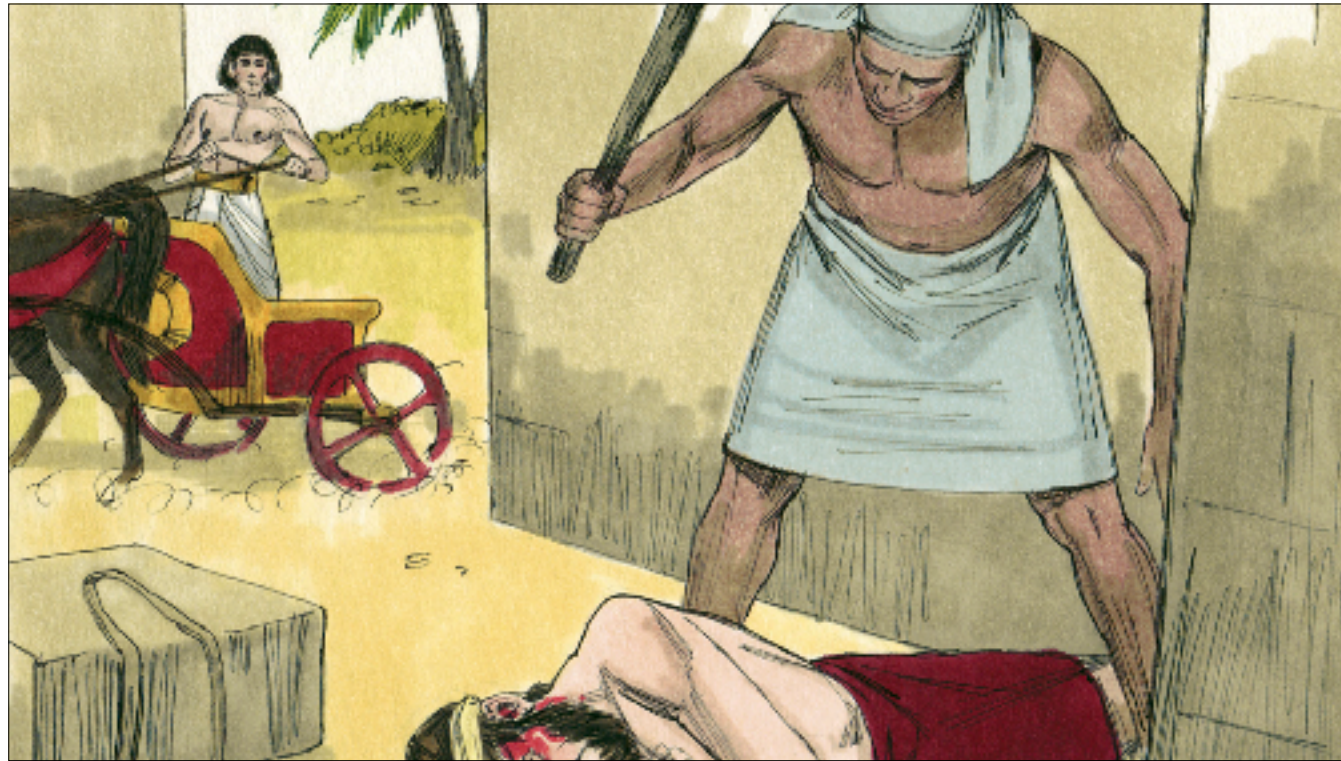
Meek = strength under control

> God's power in me, under His control (Rowdy!).

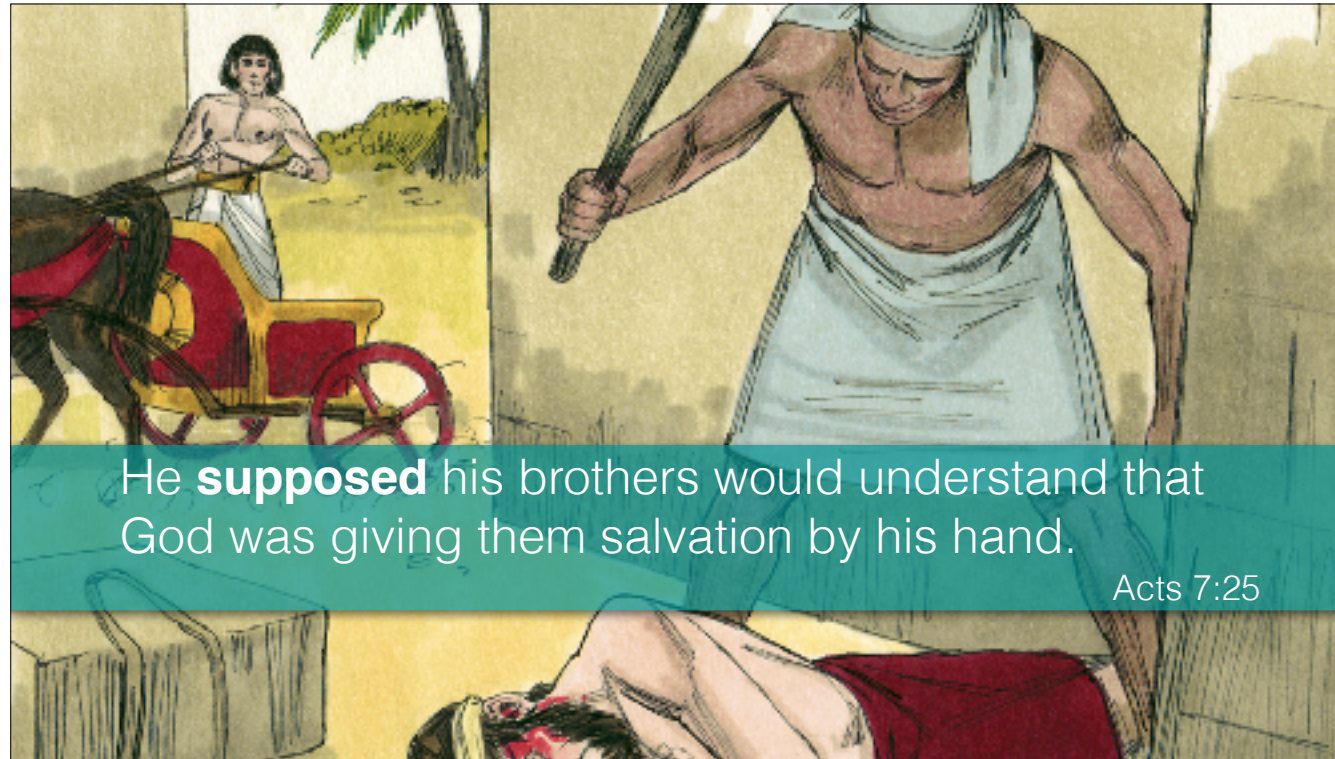
> Living without a personal agenda (Jerry Wood)



- Numbers 12:3: Now the man Moses was very meek, more than all people who were on the face of the earth.
- Leading God's people out of the slavery of Egypt to the promised land, people complaining along the way, blaming, wanting to go back.
- How did he do it?
- What does it mean to be meek?



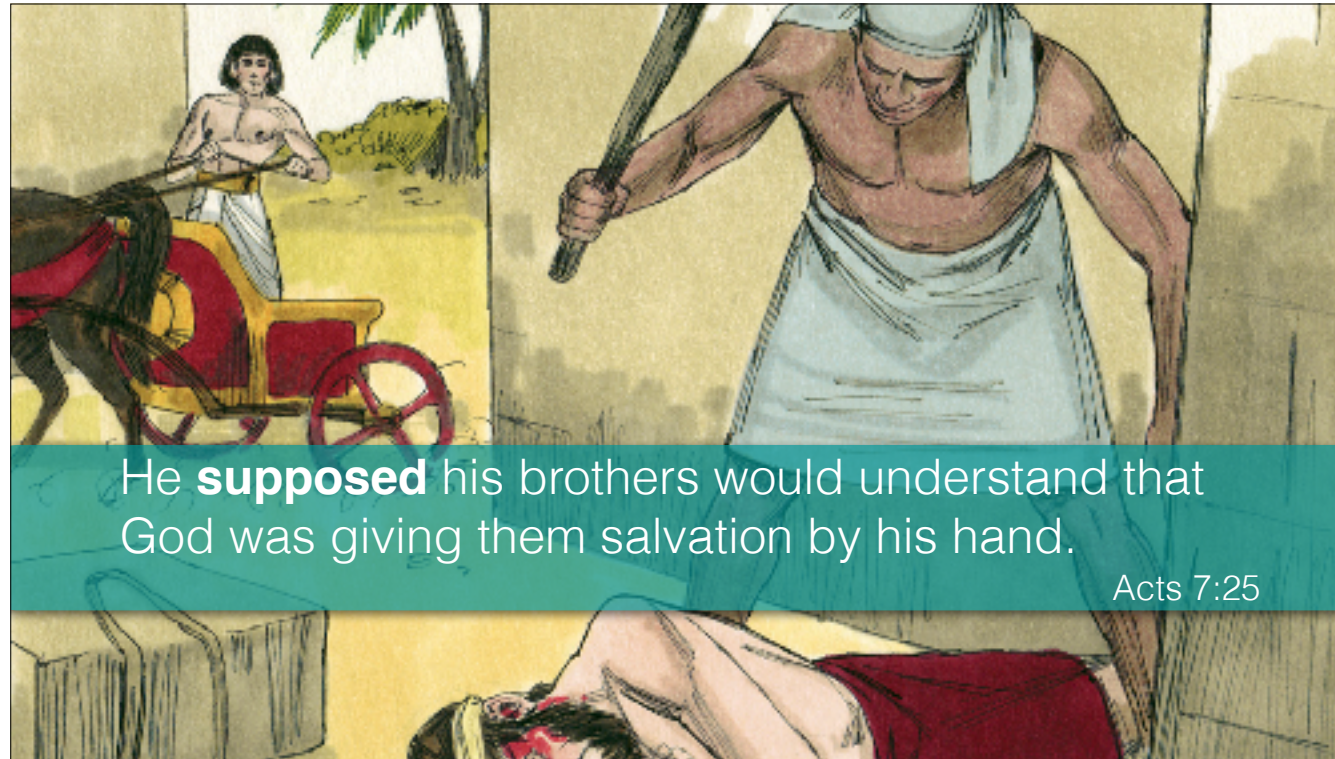
- Exodus 2:11-12 (ESV) 11 One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people. 12 He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, he struck down the Egyptian and hid him in the sand.



He **supposed** his brothers would understand that God was giving them salvation by his hand.

Acts 7:25

- Acts 7:24-25 (ESV) 24 And seeing one of them being wronged, he defended the oppressed man and avenged him by striking down the Egyptian. 25 He **supposed** that his brothers would understand that God was giving them salvation by his hand, but they did not understand.
- Decision to free Israel -- leads to murder and being an outcast
 - without guidance from Jehovah



He **supposed** his brothers would understand that God was giving them salvation by his hand.

Acts 7:25

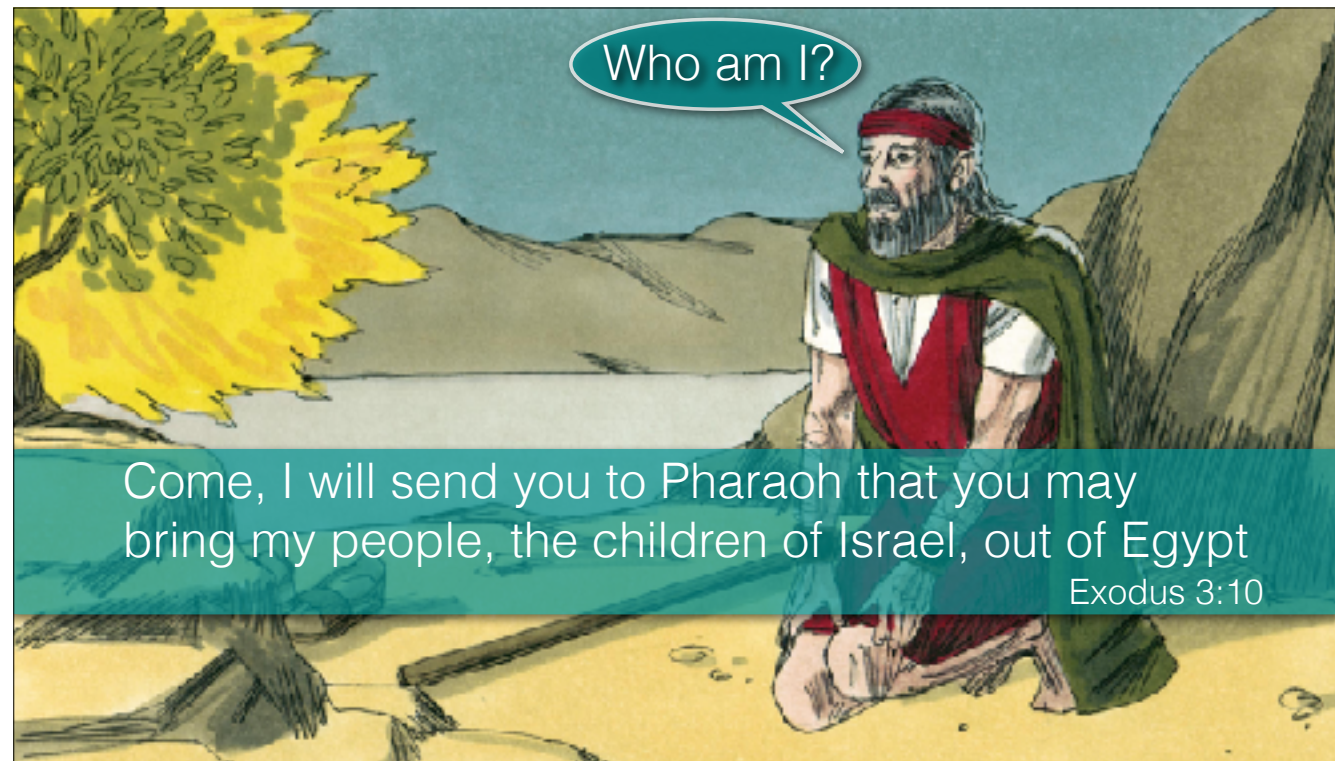
- Moses is willful, presumes on the plans and purposes of God and acts without God's direction
- Strength, but not under God's control
 - "noble purpose"?



- Burning bush -- 40 years later...



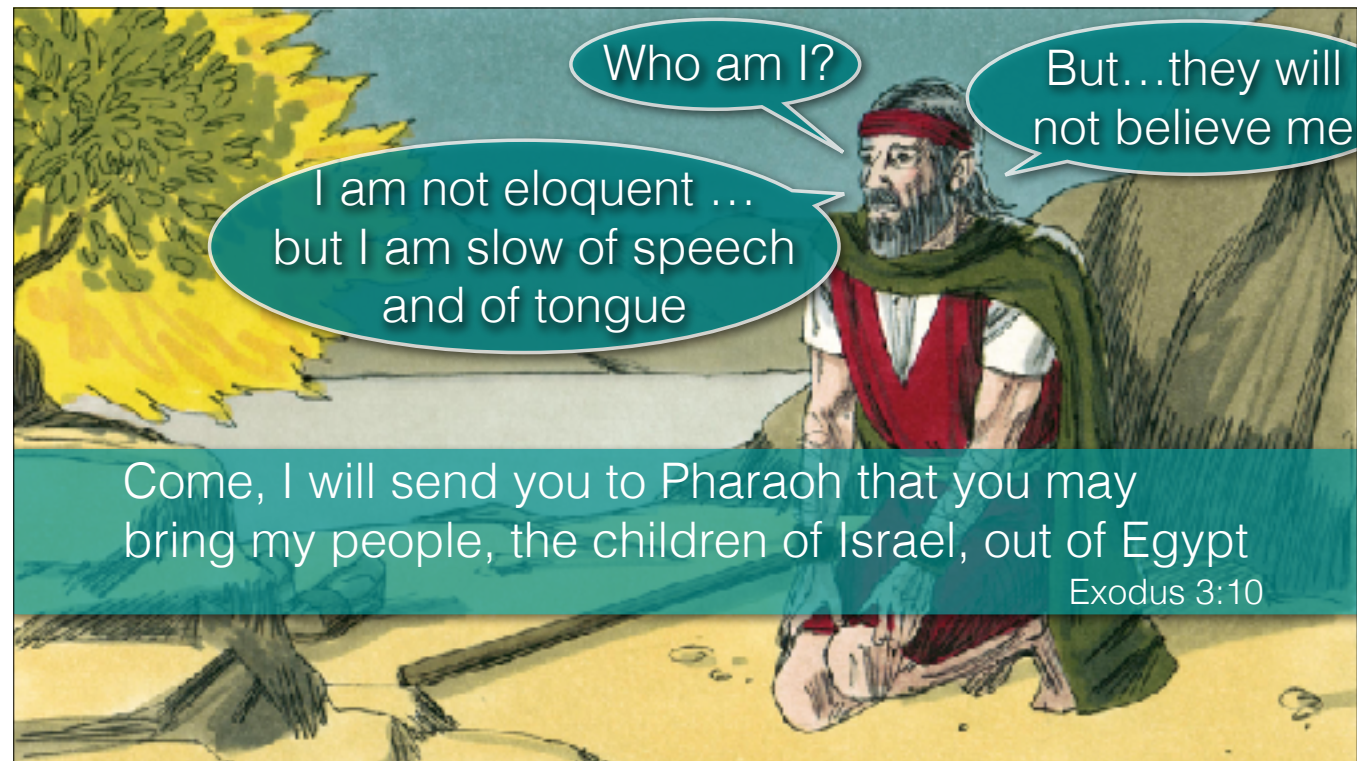
- Exodus 3:7-11: 10 Come, I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”
- with command from Jehovah



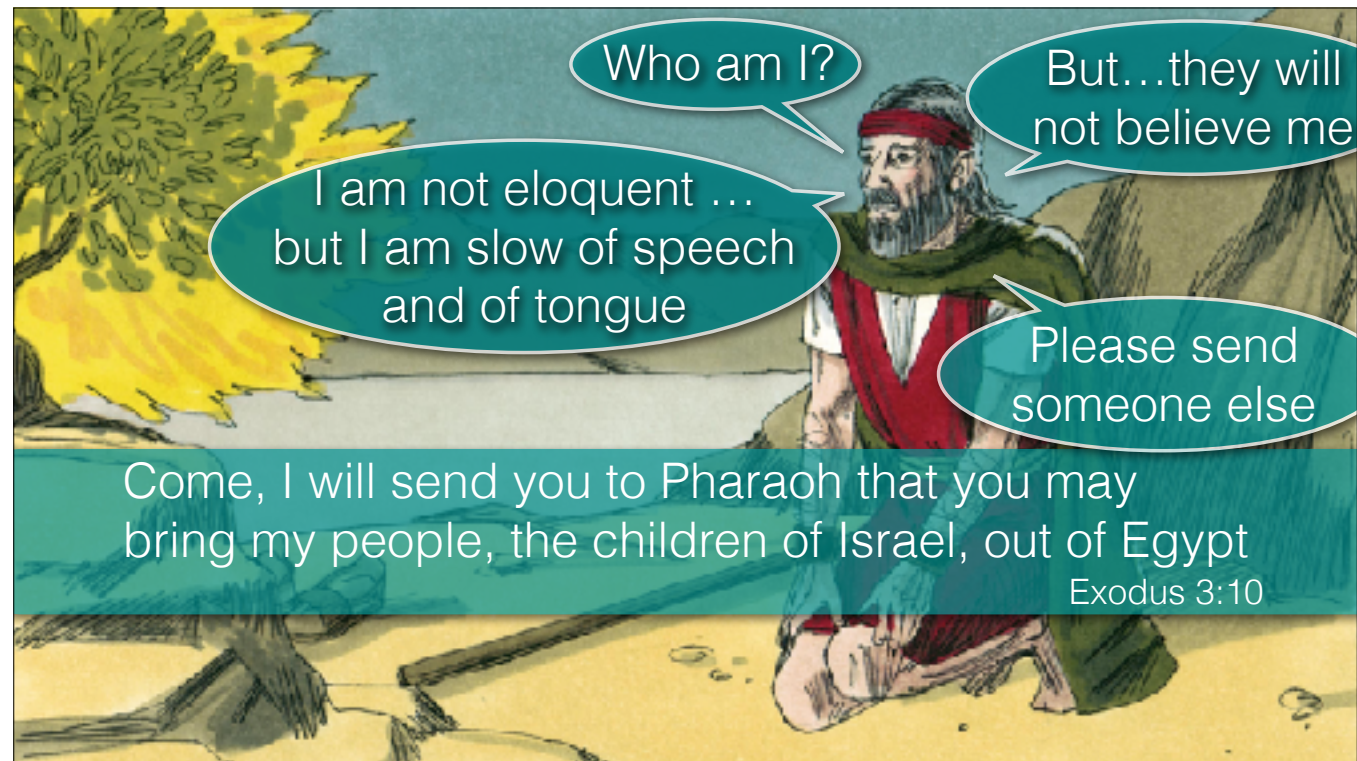
- 11 But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"



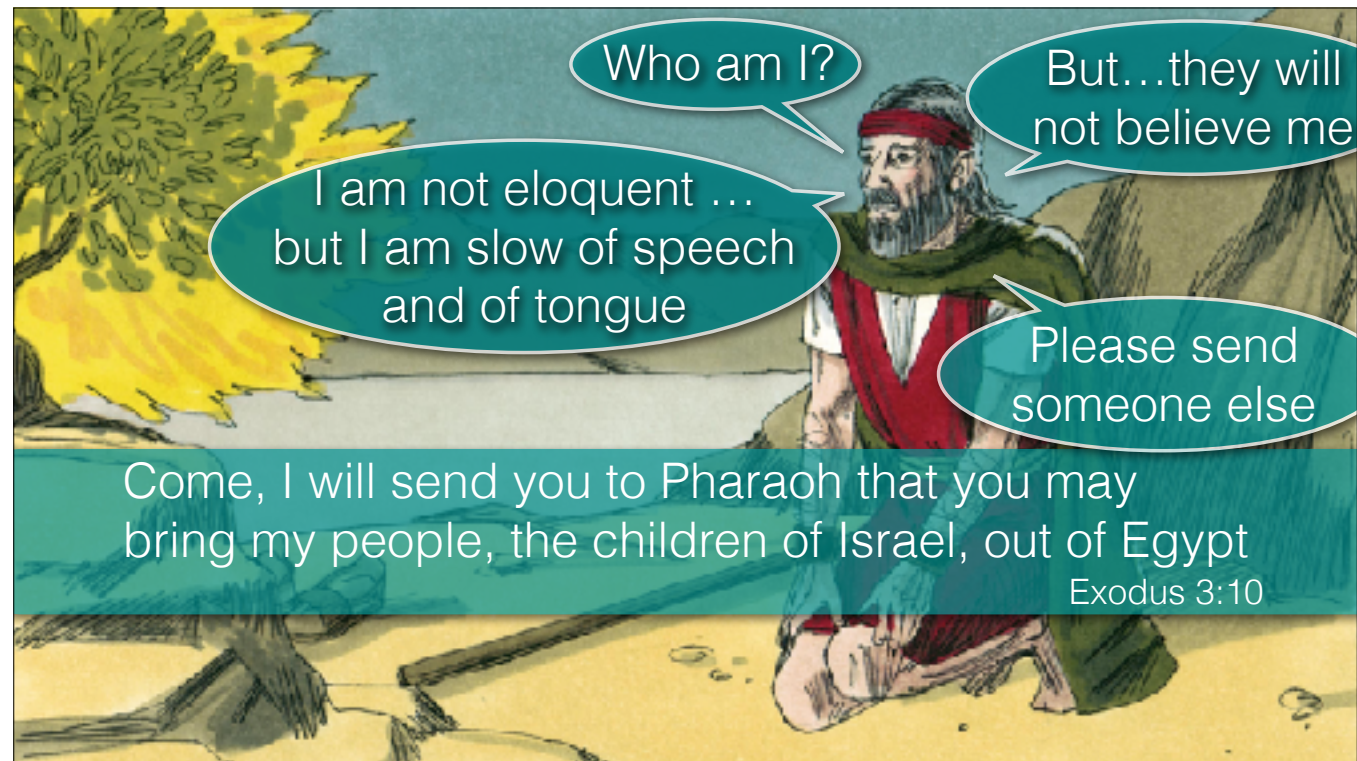
- Exodus 4:1: Then Moses answered, “But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, ‘The Lord did not appear to you.’”



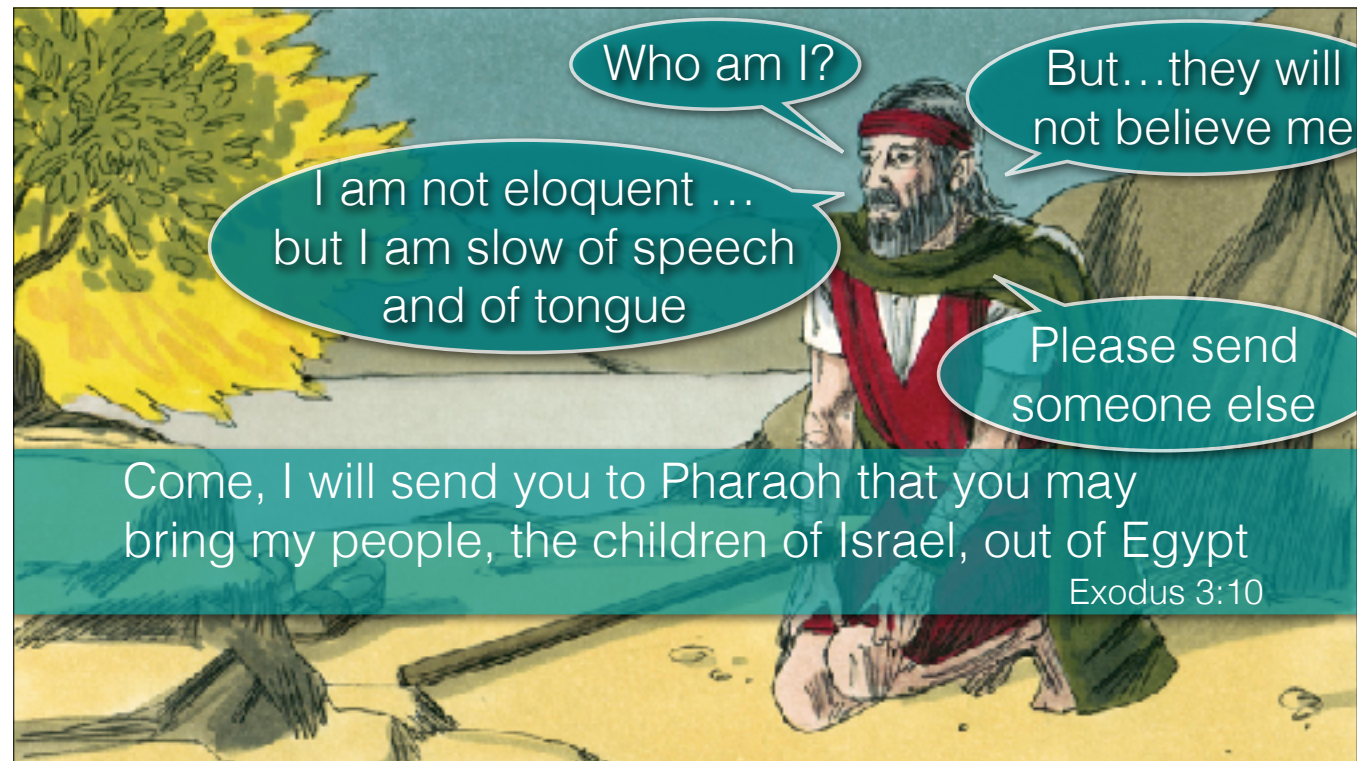
- Exodus 4:10: But Moses said to the Lord, "Oh, my Lord, I am not eloquent, either in the past or since you have spoken to your servant, but I am slow of speech and of tongue."



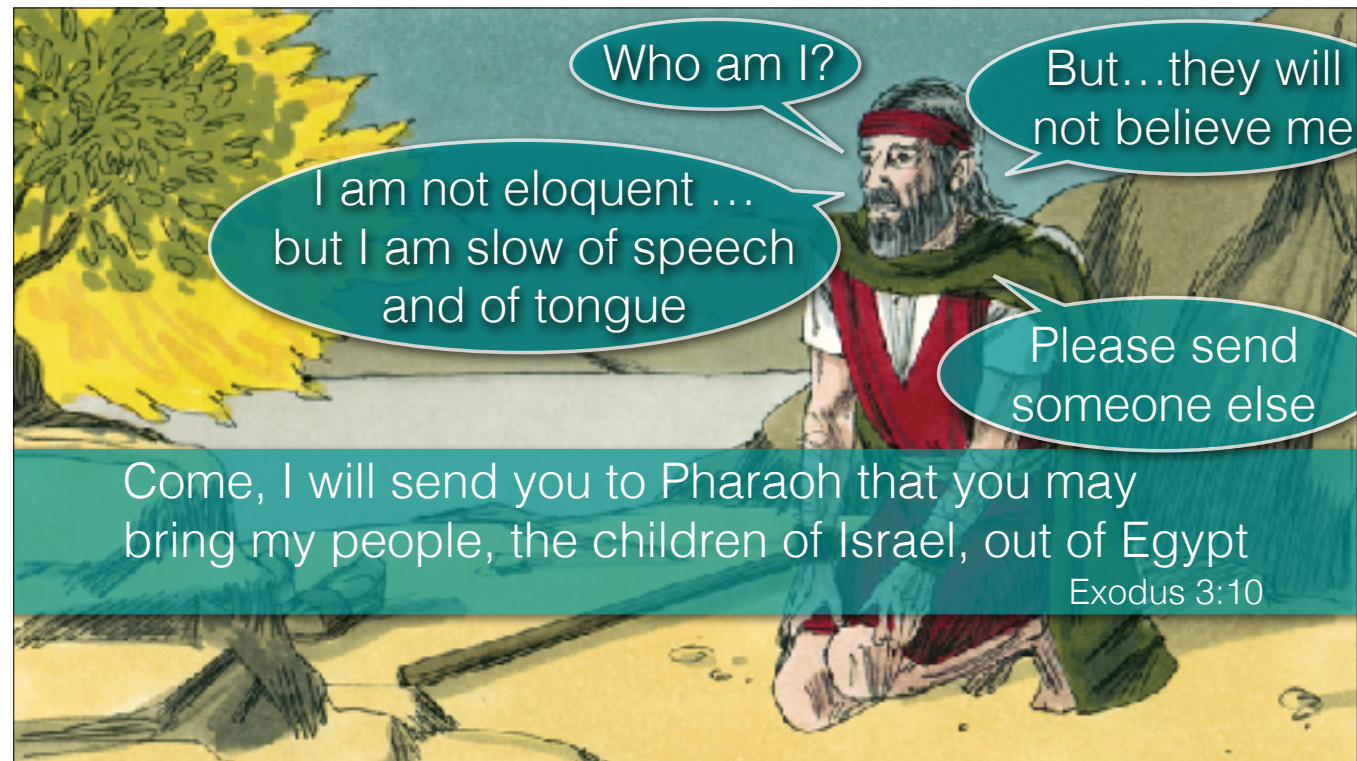
- Exodus 4:13: But he said, "Oh, my Lord, please send someone else."



- Moses sounds like a broken spirit... cannot conceive that God can use him to accomplish God's will.
- Clear command ... many excuses



- God answers each excuse...
 - Who am I? ... "I will be with you."
 - Not Believe ... signs: staff to snake; hand to leprosy
 - Not eloquent ... I will teach you to speak
 - Someone else ... (anger) Aaron



- In spite of God's command, and an answer for every excuse: Moses doesn't want to do as told.
- This is refusing to use my strength (only see weakness) under God's control.



- Moses coming down from Sinai
 - Jehovah
 - Exodus 32:10: Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you.”



O Jehovah, why does your wrath burn hot against your people?

Exodus 32:11

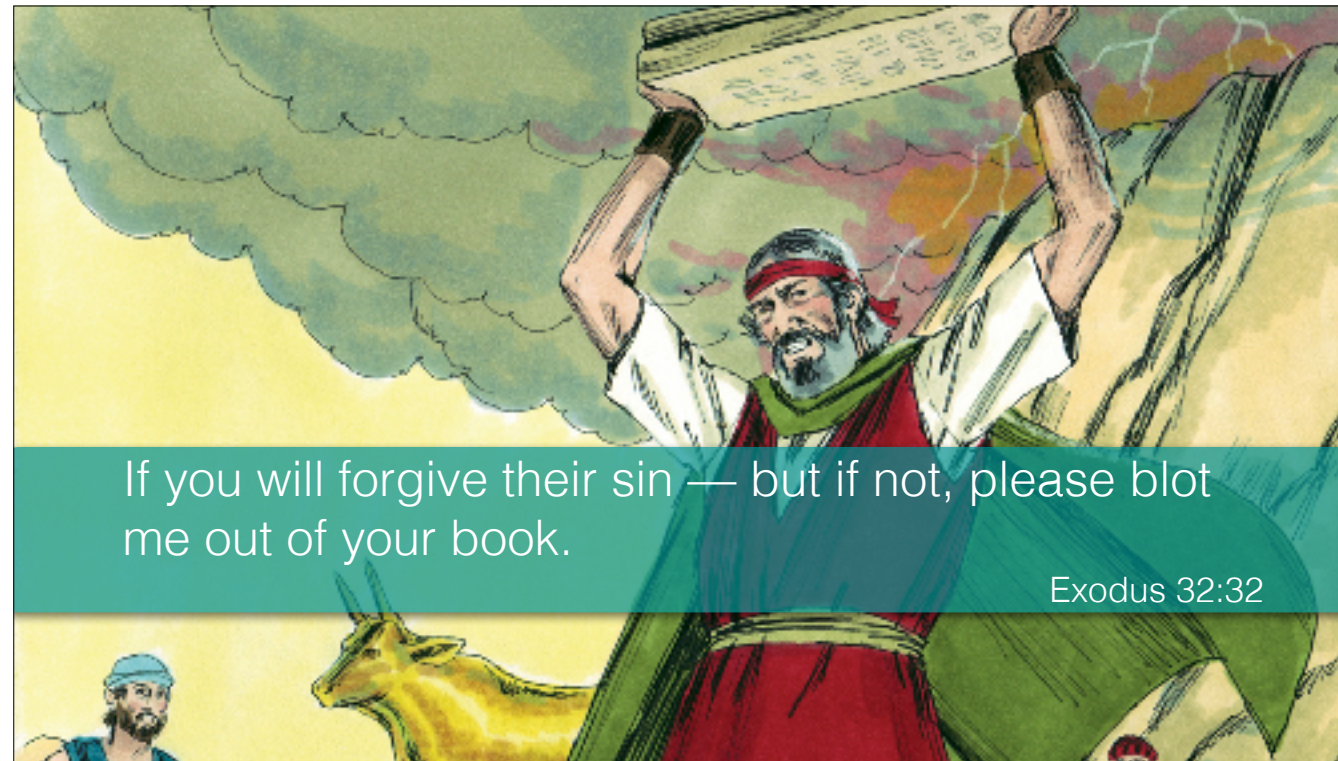
- Exodus 32:11 But Moses implored Jehovah his God and said, “O Jehovah, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand?



- Exodus 32:19-20 (ESV) 19 And as soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. 20 He took the calf that they had made and burned it with fire and ground it to powder and scattered it on the water and made the people of Israel drink it.



- Exodus 32:30-32 The next day Moses said to the people, “You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.”



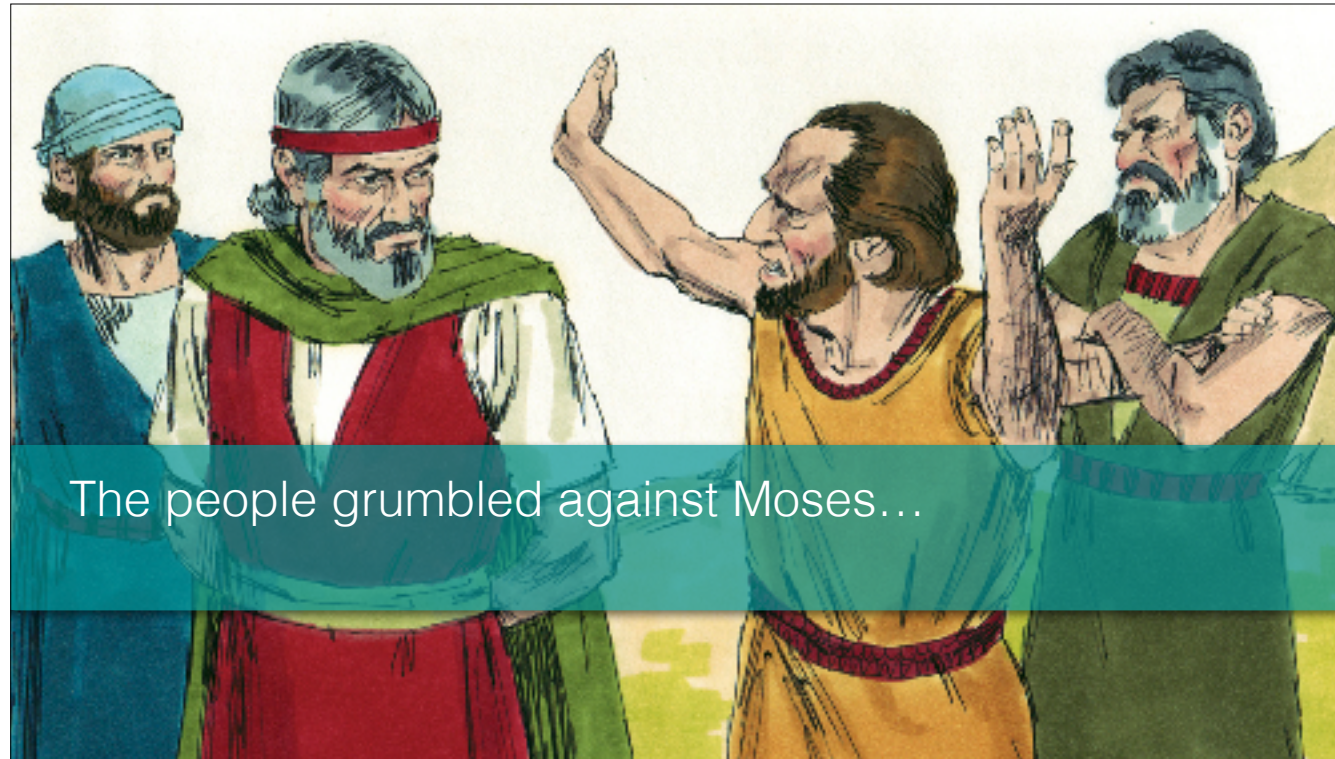
- Exodus 32:30-32: So Moses returned to the Lord and said, “Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. 32 But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written.”



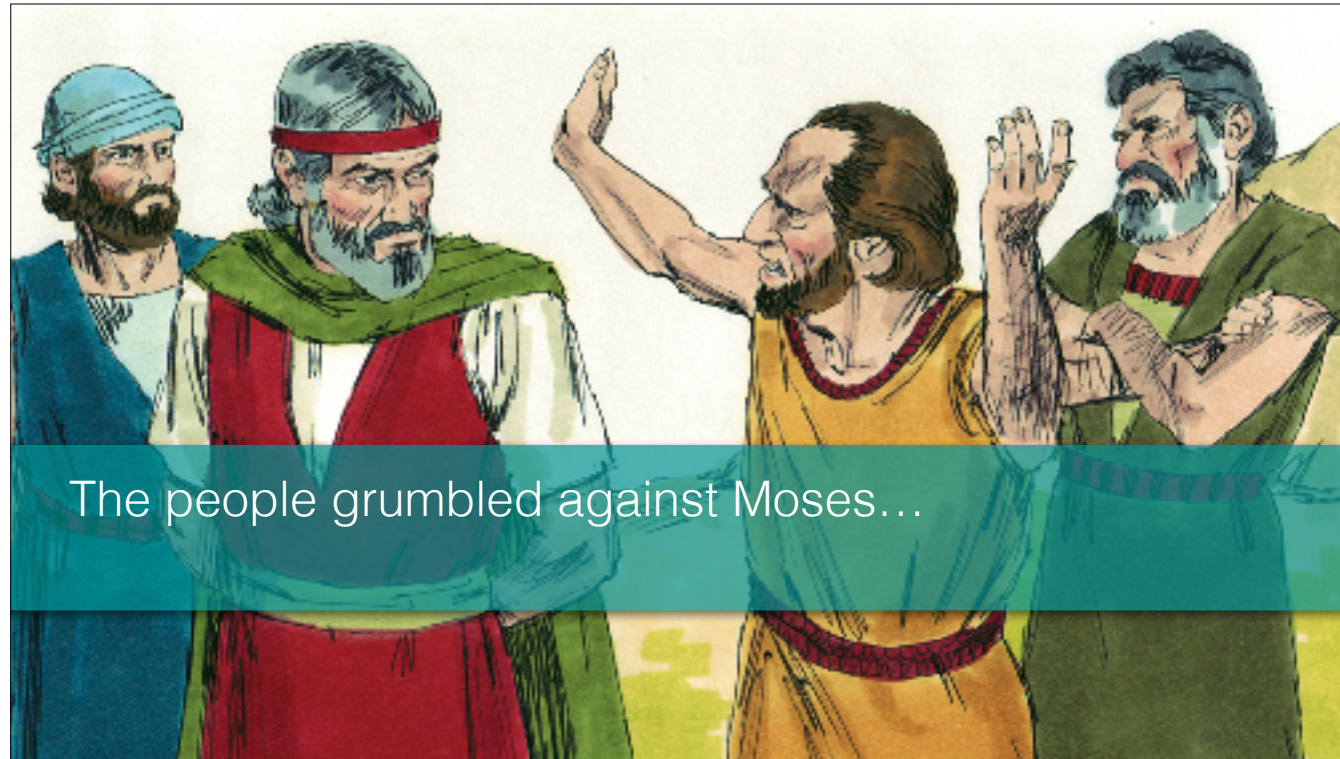
If you will forgive their sin — but if not, please blot me out of your book.

Exodus 32:32

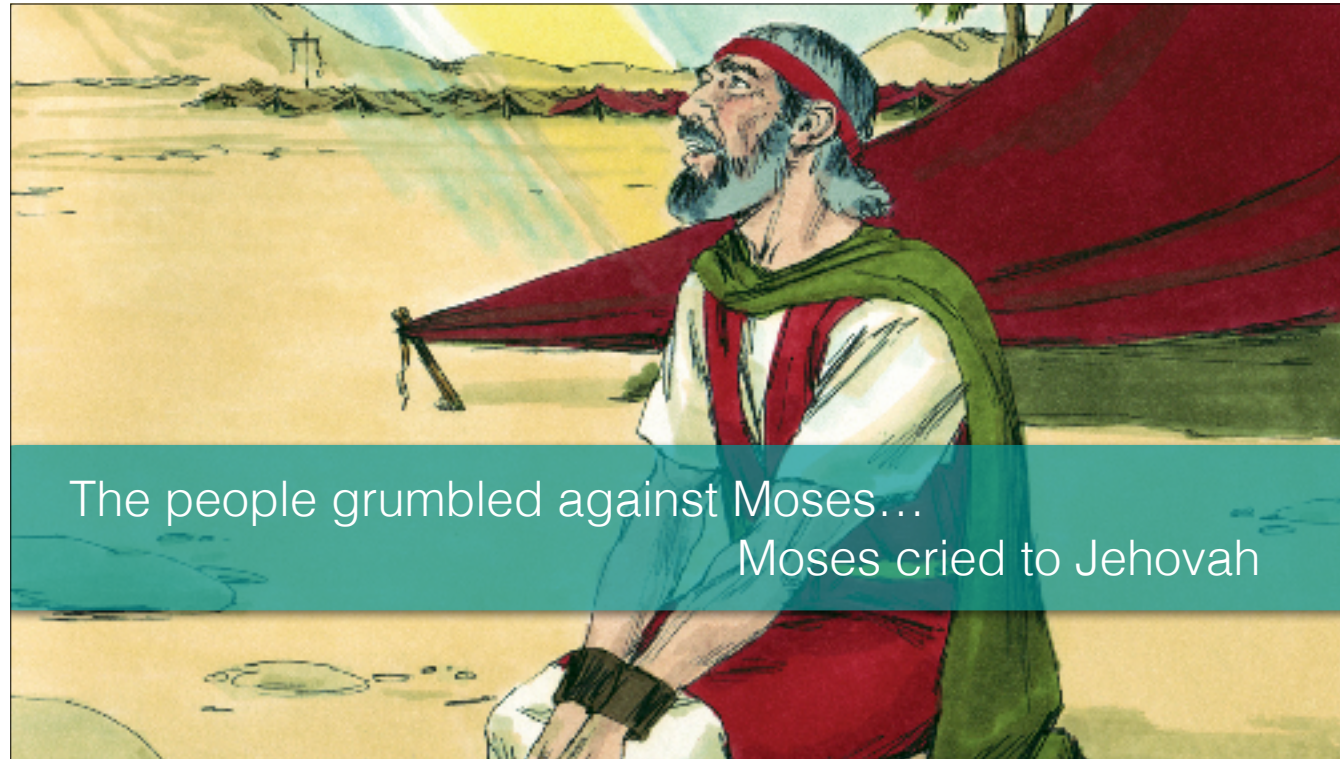
- Meekness?
 - Anger (God and Moses!)
 - Breaking tablets
 - Punishment (melting calf and making drink)
- Meekness?
 - Pleading for the people (twice)
 - Atonement
 - Offering himself
- Strength under control?



- Exodus 5:20-23: 21 and they said to them, “**Jehovah look on you and judge**, ... 22 Then **Moses turned to Jehovah** and
- Exodus 15:24-25: And the people **grumbled** against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” 25 And **he cried to the Lord**, and the Lord showed him a log, and he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.

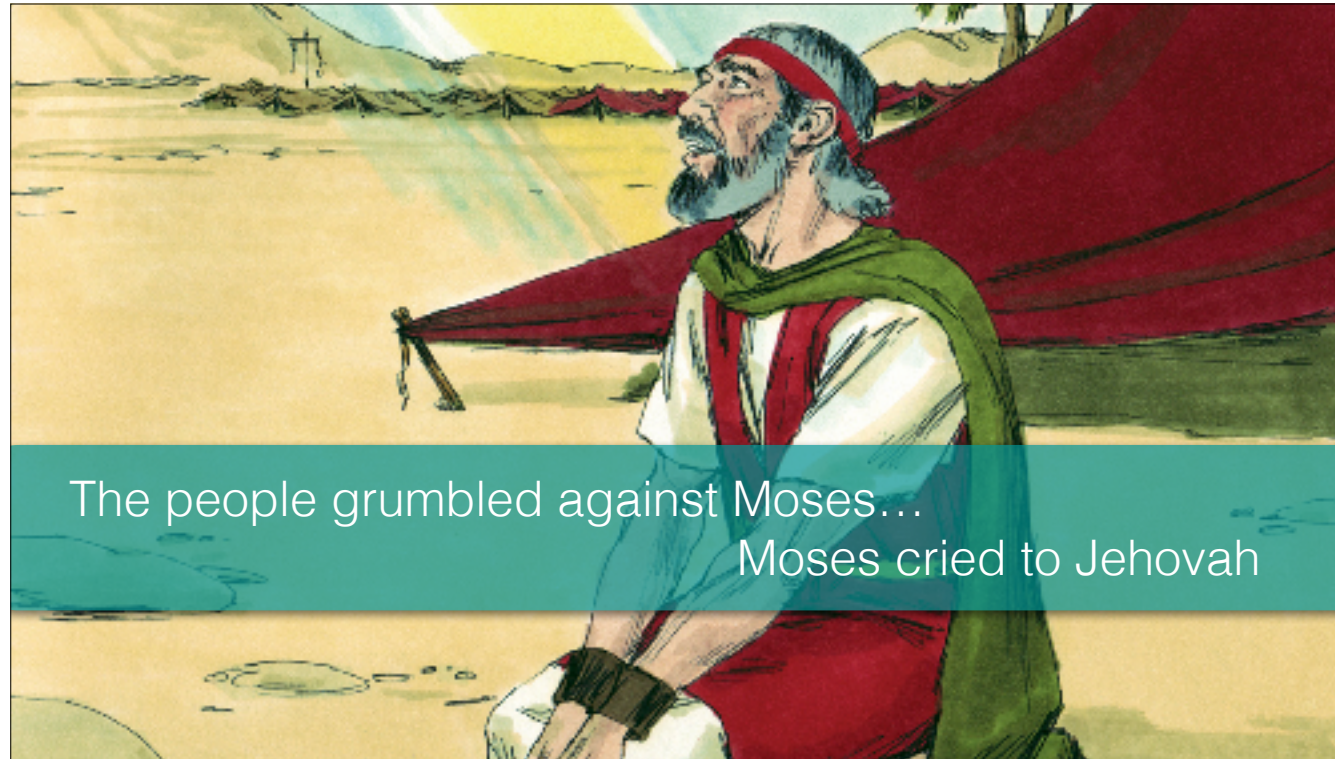


- Exodus 17:2-7: Therefore the people **quarreled** with Moses ... and the people **grumbled** against Moses ... 4 So **Moses cried to the Lord**,
- Numbers 21:4-9 5 And the **people spoke against God and against Moses**, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." ... **So Moses prayed for the people.**



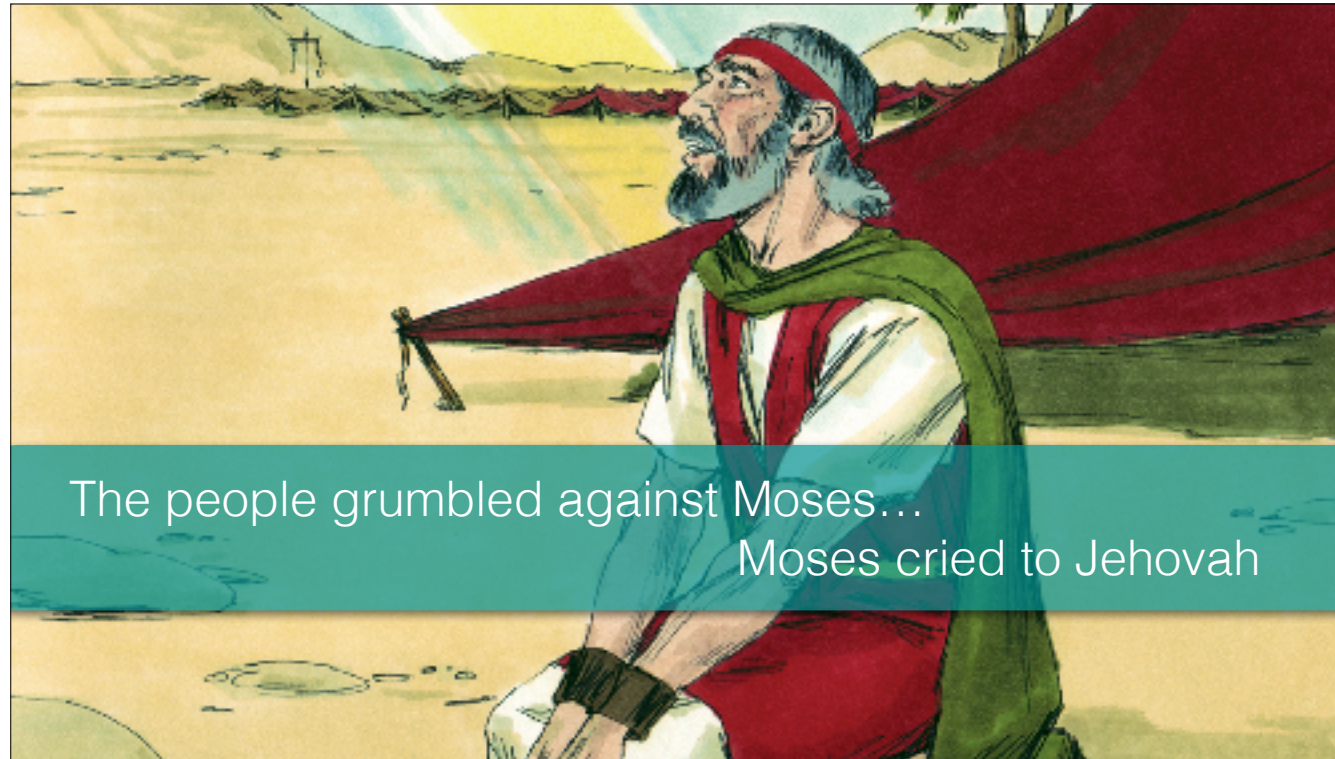
The people grumbled against Moses...
Moses cried to Jehovah

- Exodus 5:20-23: 21 and they said to them, “**Jehovah look on you and judge**, ... 22 Then **Moses turned to Jehovah** and
- Exodus 15:24-25: And the people **grumbled** against Moses, saying, “What shall we drink?” 25 And **he cried to the Lord**, and the Lord showed him a log, and he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.



The people grumbled against Moses...
Moses cried to Jehovah

- Exodus 17:2-7: Therefore the people **quarreled** with Moses ... and the people **grumbled** against Moses ... 4 So **Moses cried to the Lord**,
- Numbers 21:4-9 5 And the **people spoke against God and against Moses**, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." ... **So Moses prayed for the people.**



The people grumbled against Moses...
Moses cried to Jehovah

- Meekness?
 - Moses is being horribly mistreated, accused, blamed and quarreled with
 - Moses doesn't immediately lash out against the people; using his authority/power over them
 - Moses first turns to Jehovah in prayer... seeks God's help, solution.
 - Submits to God's will and accomplishes God's purpose for the people.
- Strength under Control?



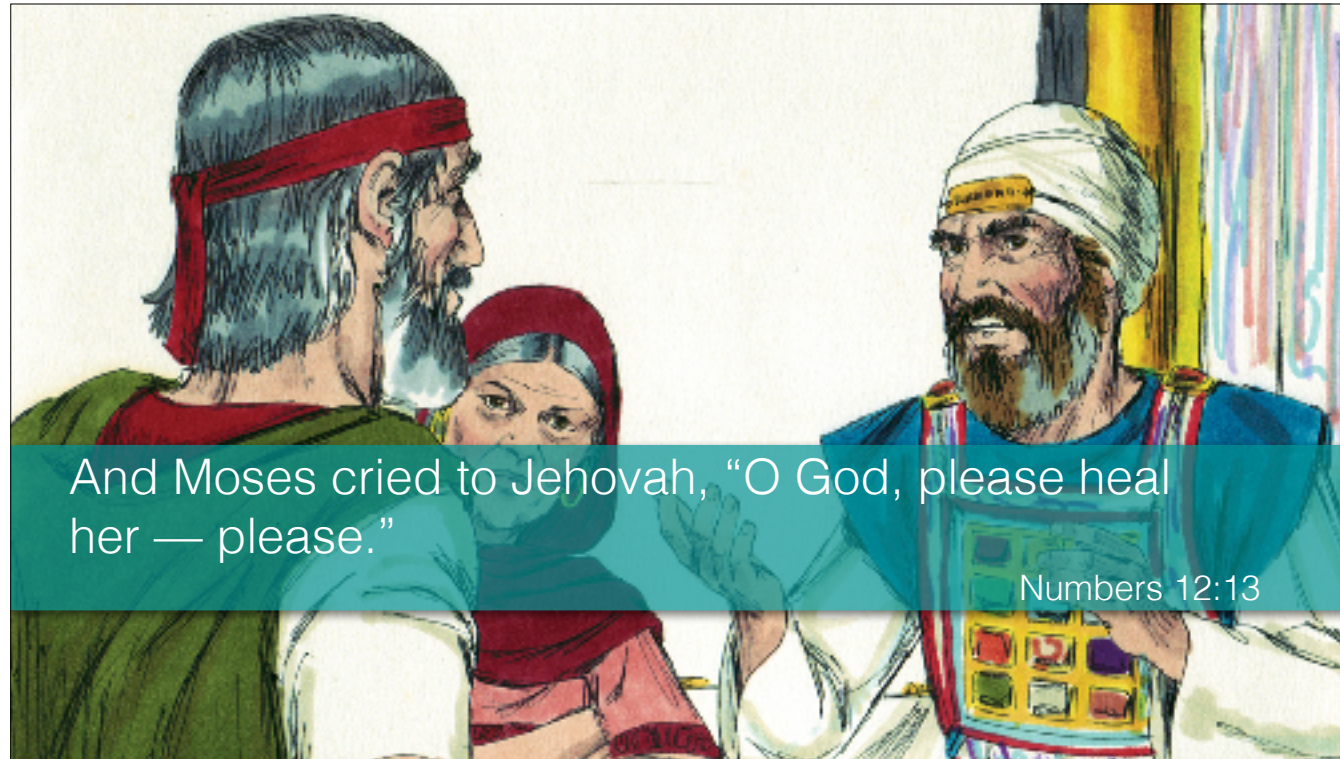
- Confrontation with Aaron and Miriam
- Numbers 12:1-9 (ESV) 1 Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Cushite woman whom he had married, for he had married a Cushite woman. 2 And they said, “Has the Lord indeed spoken only through Moses? Has he not spoken through us also?” And the Lord heard it.



Moses was very meek, more than all people

Numbers 12:3

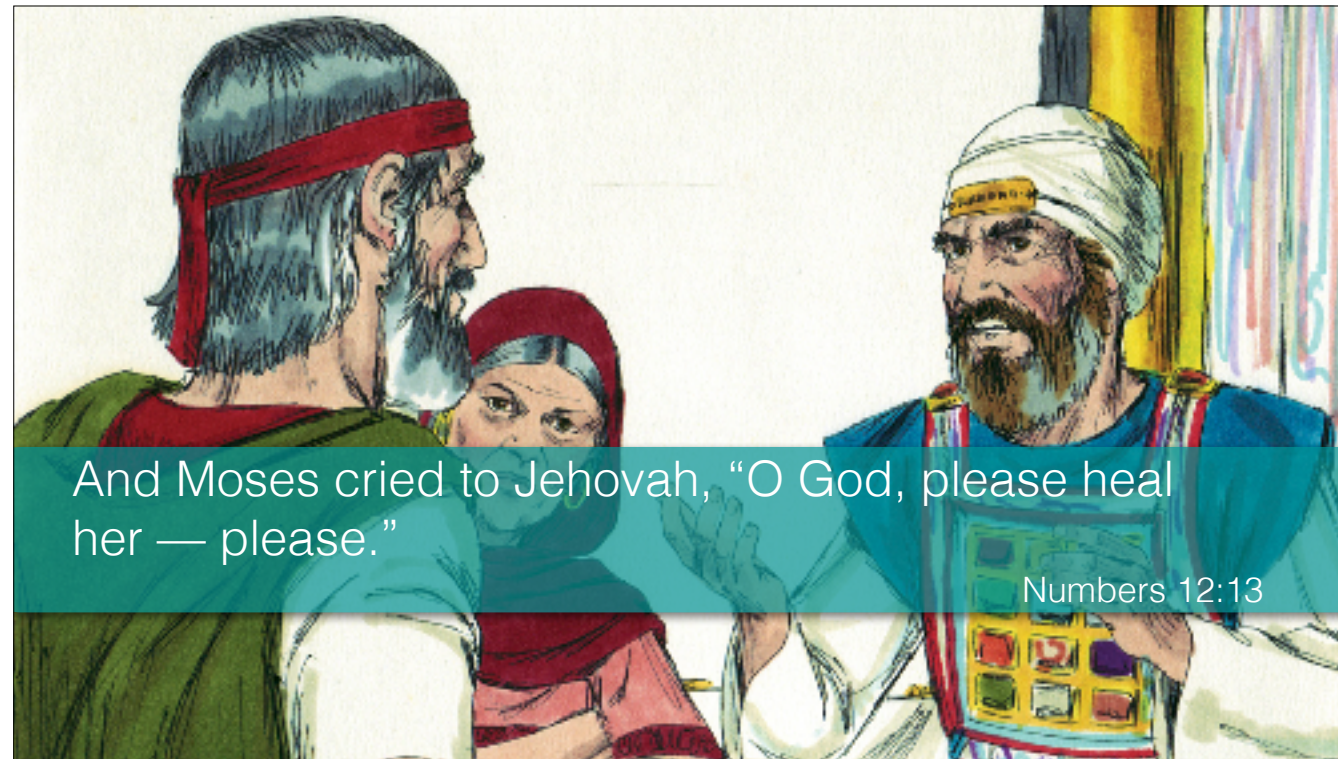
- 3 Now the man Moses was very meek, more than all people who were on the face of the earth. 4 And suddenly the Lord said to Moses and to Aaron and Miriam, “Come out, you three, to the tent of meeting.” And the three of them came out.



And Moses cried to Jehovah, “O God, please heal her — please.”

Numbers 12:13

- Numbers 12:13 And Moses cried to the Lord, “O God, please heal her—please.”



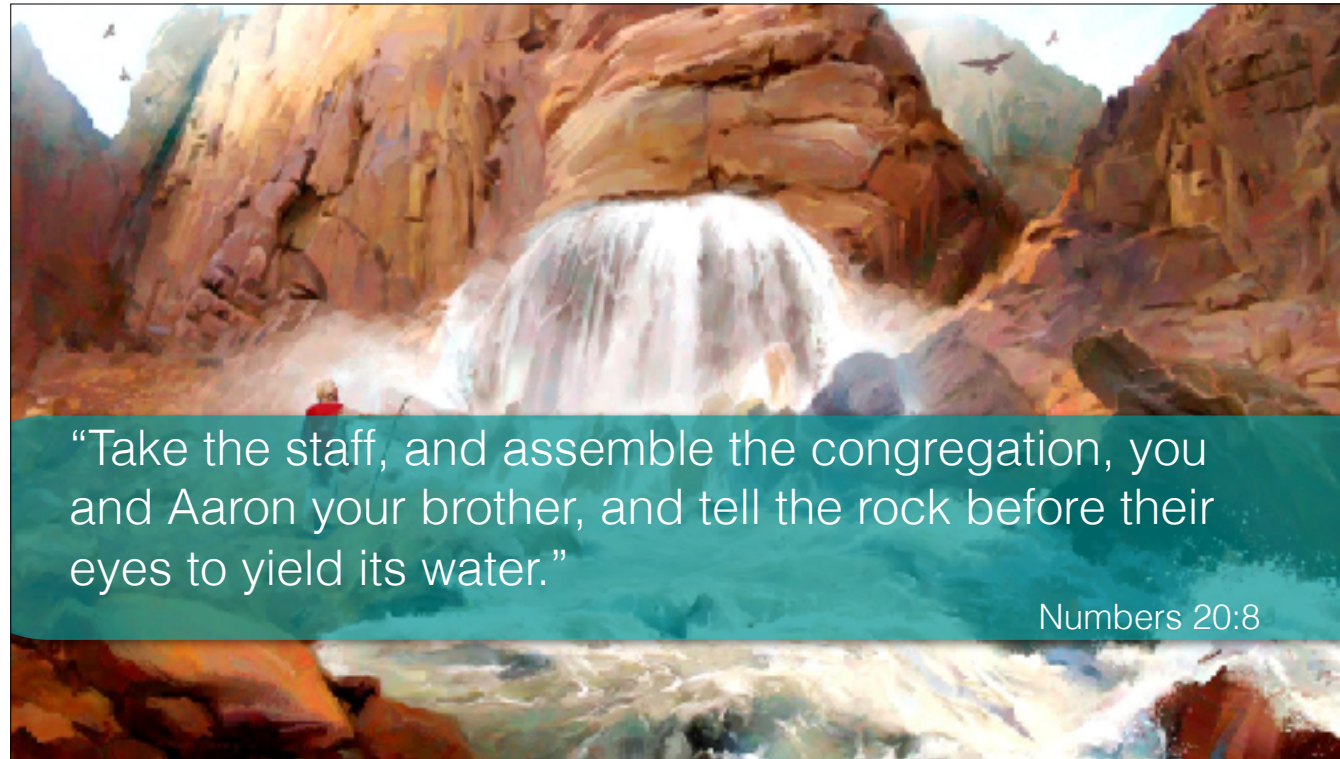
And Moses cried to Jehovah, “O God, please heal her — please.”

Numbers 12:13

- Meekness?
 - Moses is unfairly attacked... by those he loves.
 - Moses doesn't do anything against them... no retaliation; no self-justification
 - Waits
 - Jehovah answers
 - When Miriam is punished... Moses prays/pleads for her
- Strength under control?



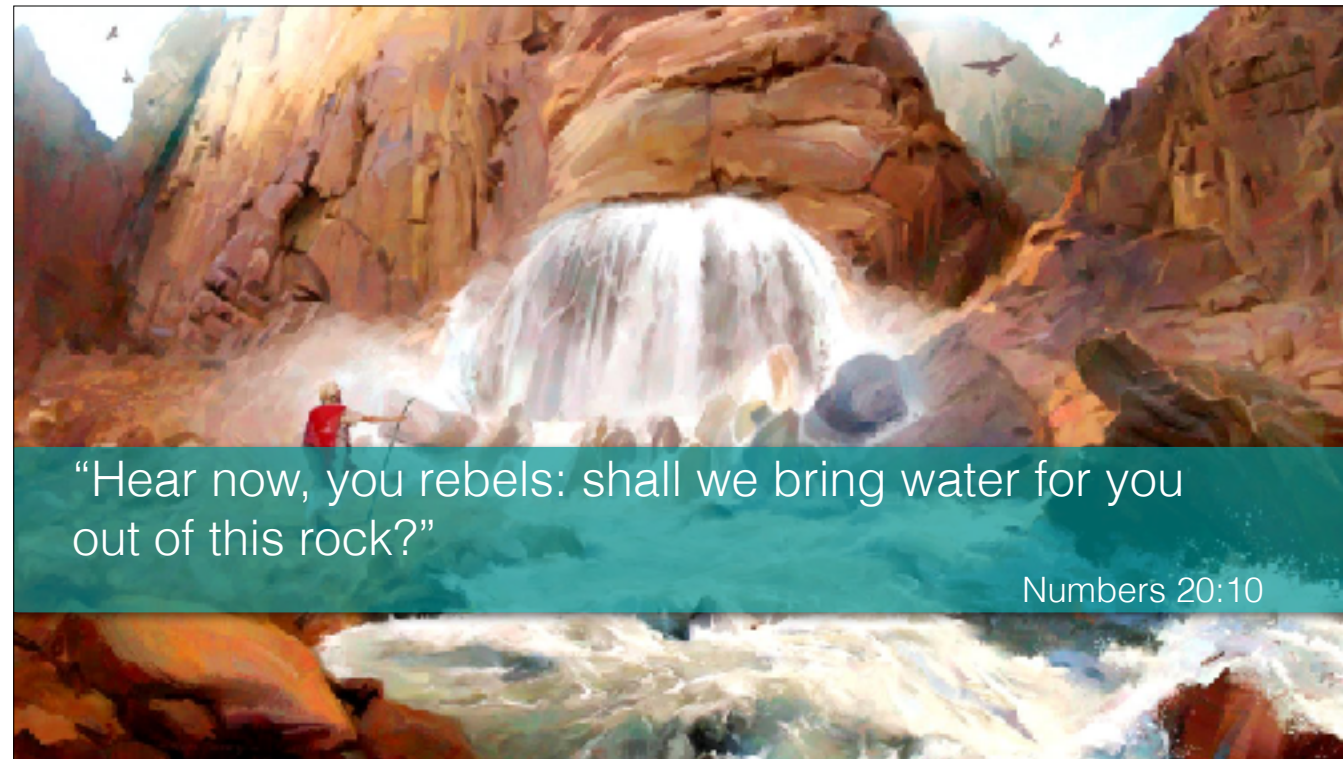
- Numbers 20:2-13: Now there was no water for the congregation.
- And they **assembled** themselves together **against** Moses and against Aaron. 3 And the people **quarreled** with Moses



“Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water.”

Numbers 20:8

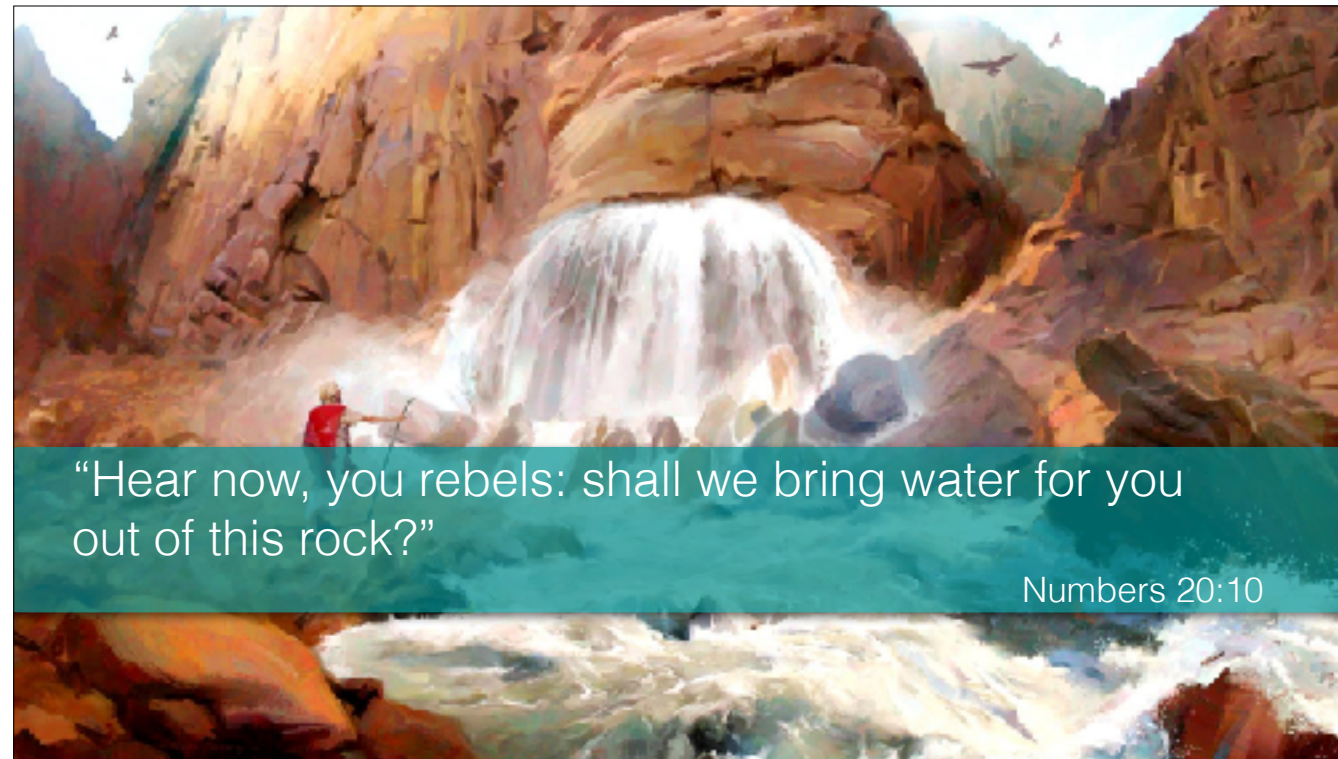
- 8 “Take the staff, and assemble the congregation, you and Aaron your brother, and tell the rock before their eyes to yield its water. So you shall bring water out of the rock for them and give drink to the congregation and their cattle.”



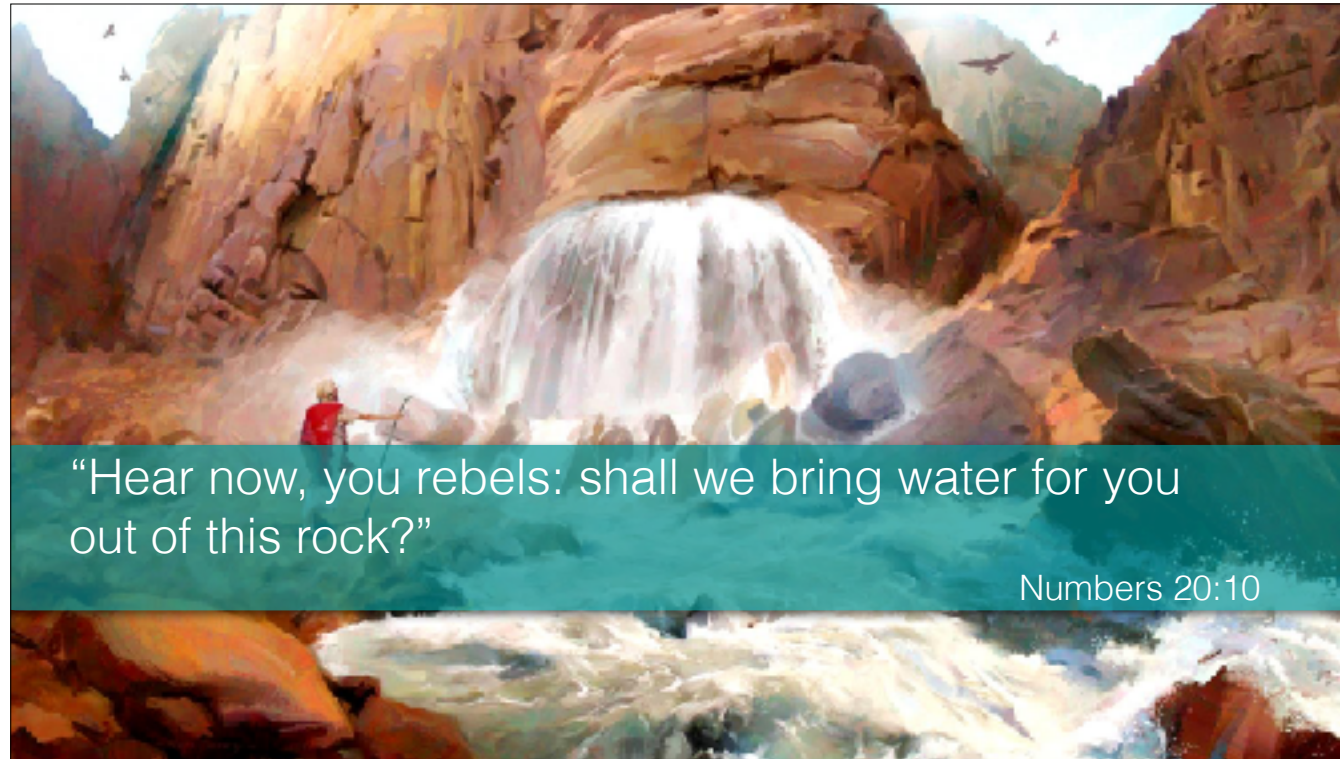
“Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?”

Numbers 20:10

- 10: “Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?” 11 And Moses lifted up his hand and struck the rock with his staff twice, and water came out abundantly, and the congregation drank, and their livestock.



- Moses failed to honor God...
- 12 And the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, "Because **you did not believe in me**, to **uphold me as holy** in the eyes of the people of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land that I have given them."



“Hear now, you rebels: shall we bring water for you out of this rock?”

Numbers 20:10

- Moses allowed reaction to people to lead him to do wrong
- Psalm 106:32-33: **They angered him** at the waters of Meribah, and it went ill with Moses on their account, for **they made his spirit bitter**, and he **spoke rashly with his lips**.

Jehovah

**Fret not yourself
because of evildoers**

Psalm 37



- Psalm 37:1: Fret not yourself because of evildoers; be not envious of wrongdoers!

Jehovah

**Fret not yourself
because of evildoers**

Psalm 37



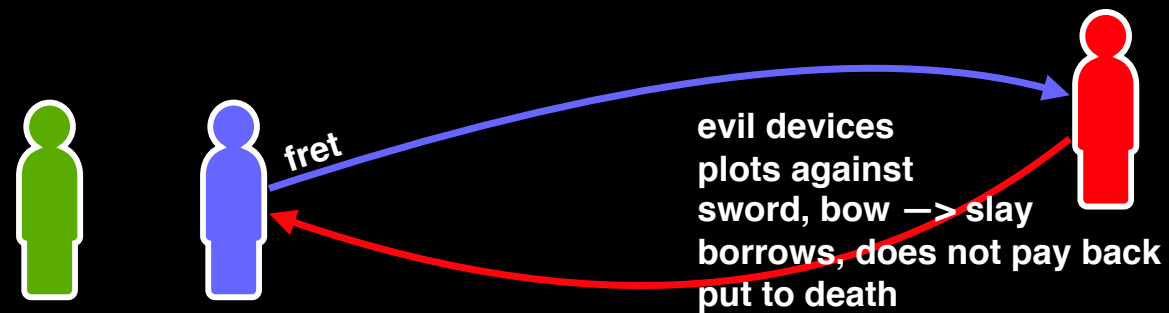
evil devices
plots against
sword, bow → slay
borrows, does not pay back
put to death

- Evildoers... aka: wrongdoers; wicked; ruthless; transgressors
- Evil devices
 - plot against
 - draw sword; bend bows; slay
 - borrows, does not pay back
 - put to death

Jehovah

Fret not yourself
because of evildoers

Psalms 37

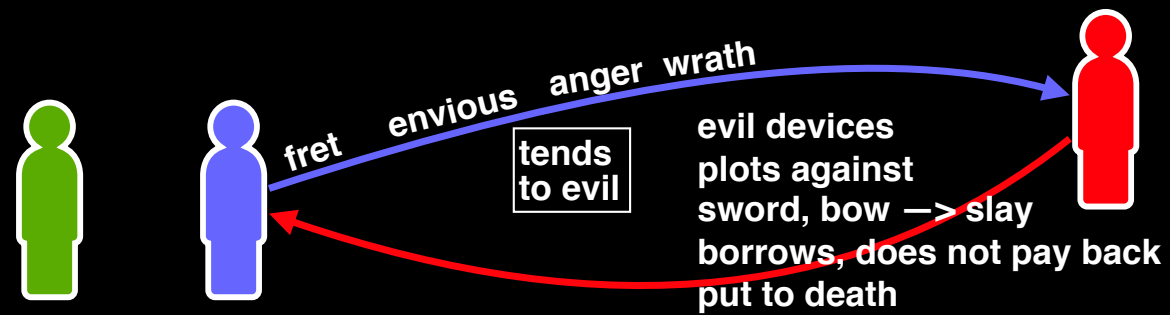


- two possible responses: fret
- Fret
 - BDB: to be hot, furious, burn, become angry, be kindled
 - **heated worry.** Lawson, Steven (2004-01-01). Holman Old Testament Commentary - Psalms: 11 (p. 199).
- What about the success of the evil makes us fret?
 - They prosper, but we don't ... what is God doing?
 - We're hurting, but they aren't ... Why isn't God acting?

Jehovah

**Fret not yourself
because of evildoers**

Psalms 37

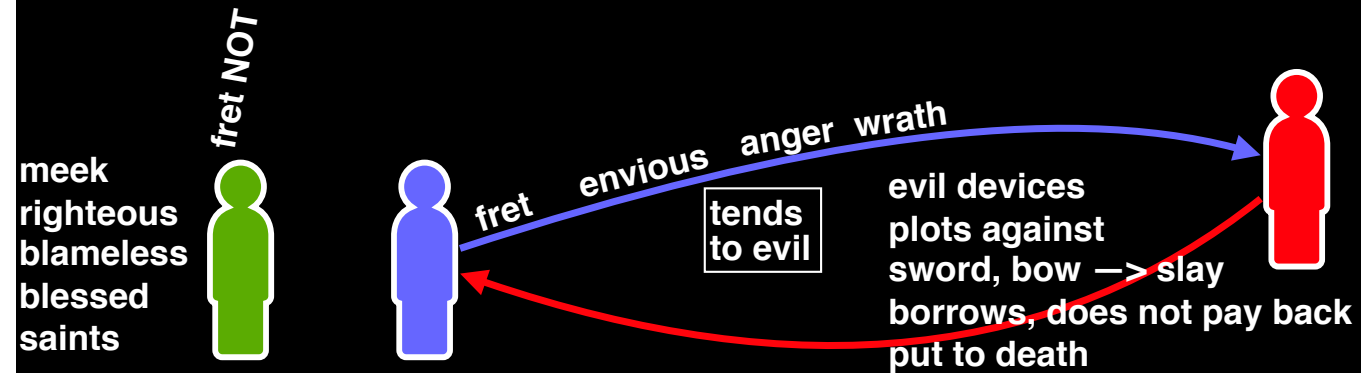


- Fretting leads to...
 - being envious
 - anger and wrath
 - tends to evil

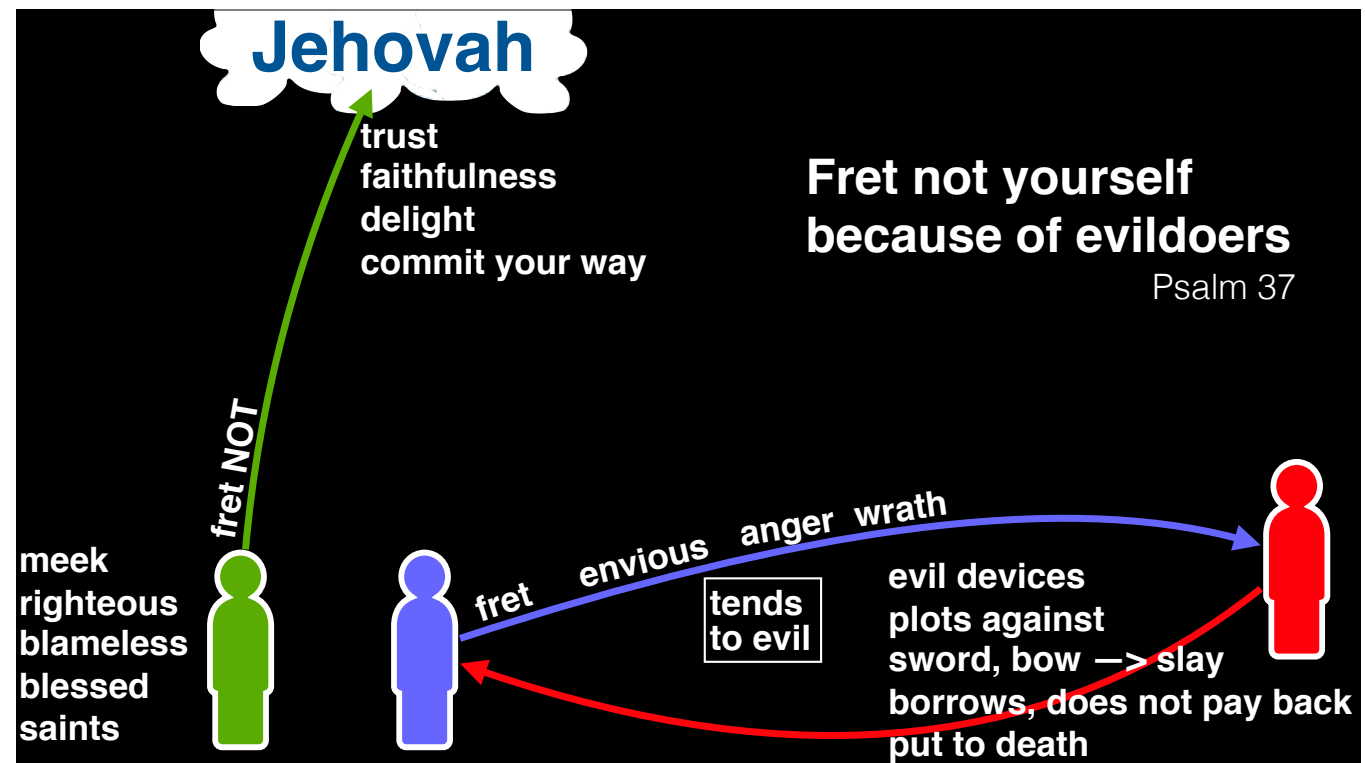
Jehovah

**Fret not yourself
because of evildoers**

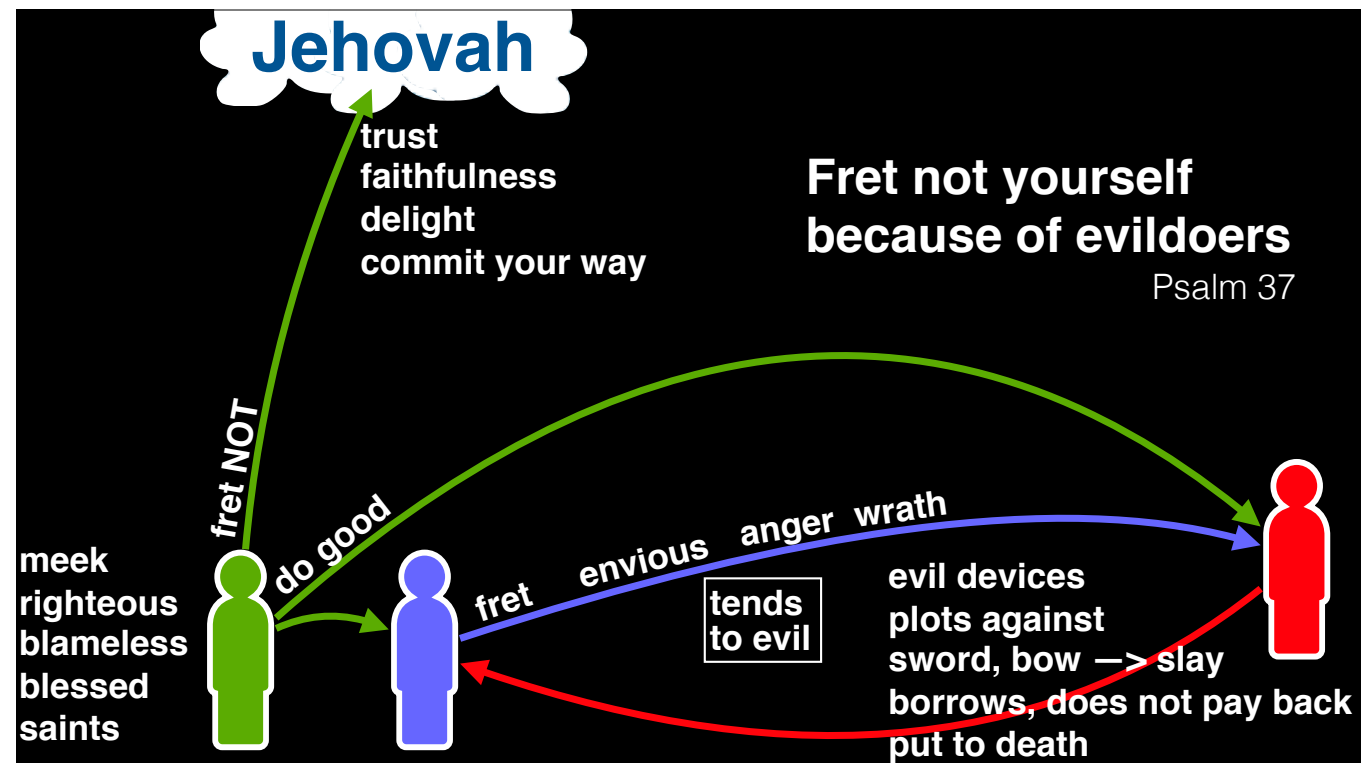
Psalms 37



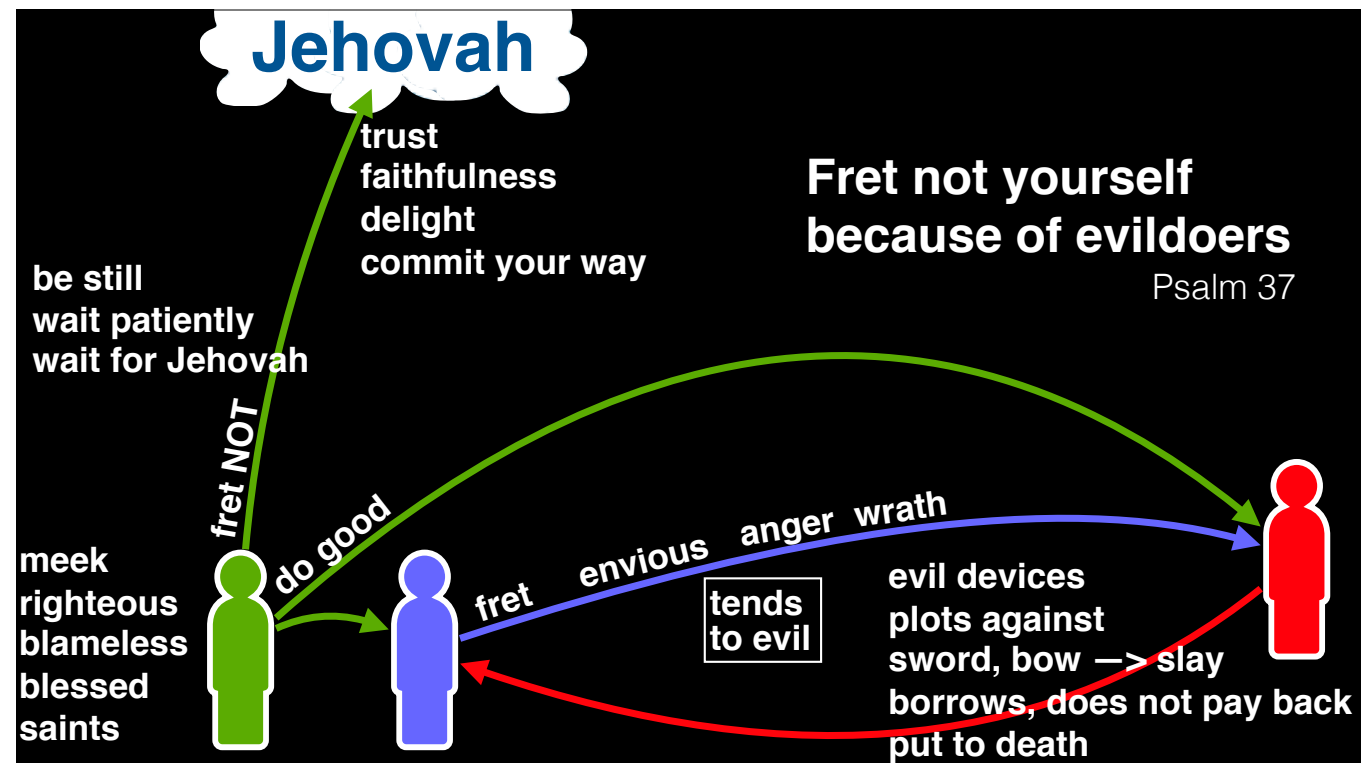
- Or we can choose not to fret...
 - These are those who are meek
 - righteous
 - blameless
 - blessed
 - saints



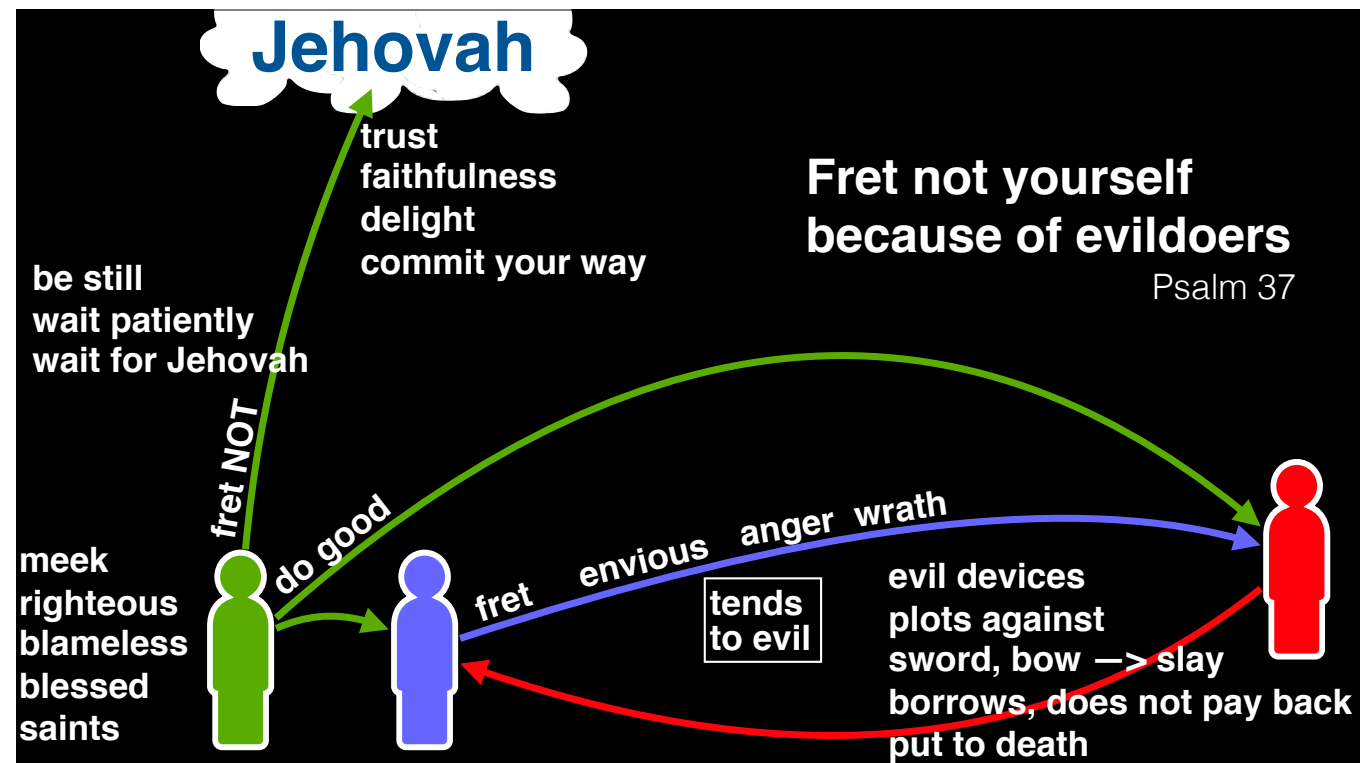
- Trust in Jehovah ... (he will act, 5)
- Befriend faithfulness
- delight in Jehovah
- commit your way to Jehovah



- Do Good (3)
 - righteousness (6)
 - little of the righteous (contentment) (16)
 - generous, gives (21)
 - lending generously (26)
 - utters wisdom; speaks justice (30)



- Be still (7)
- Wait patiently (7)
- Wait for Jehovah (34)
 - keep his way



- Strength under control
 - See the wrong... even “concerned”
 - But trust in God and wait for him to act
 - Be still... don’t try to solve this myself
- 11) But the meek shall inherit the land, and delight themselves in abundant peace.



- What does meekness have to do with righteousness?
 - Moses reminds us of danger
 - young & strong: impulsive, fail to understand God's will, presume.
 - failures: fail to obey God, seeing myself as weak, insufficient and not useful.
 - anger, bitterness: fail to honor God as holy and do His will in His way.



- Meekness
 - I happily accomplish God's will, using all my strength.
 - I refuse to mistreat those who treat me poorly; rather praying for them.



Meek = strength under control

> God's power in me, under His control (Rowdy!).

Earnheart: It's a choice.

Endure mistreatment patiently (not about self-defense).

Not passive about evil

**We implore you on
behalf of Christ,
be reconciled to God.**

2 Corinthians 5:20

Let all that you do be done in love.

1 Corinthians 16:14



123rf.com: 9673438

Photo Credits:

All photos from istockphoto.com, crestock.com, bigstock.com, dreamtime.com, thinkstock.com, and shutterstock.com are copyright protected. They are used by permission. Please do not reuse without permission.)

Bronco: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/kcolwell/5881141060/>

Horse boy: http://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/e/ee/Mongolian_horse_10.JPG

Horse: shutterstock_2634792

Earth: Keynote Images

Shepherd: iStock_000007264337

Neglected horse: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/38966472@N00/3489236559>

Clapping Hands: iStock_000002987604

Charlton Heston: https://upload.wikimedia.org/wikipedia/commons/1/17/Charlton_Heston_in_The_Ten_Commandments_film_trailer.jpg

Moses: <http://distantshores.org/resources/illustrations/sweet-publishing/exodus>

Are You Under Control?

(Part 2: The Example of Moses)
Matthew 5:5

Synopsis: Meekness is strength under control. It is reflected in my relationship with God and with other people.

"Unless otherwise indicated, all Scripture quotations are from The Holy Bible, English Standard Version, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved."

“Let all that you do be done with love.”