

Aaron, the Brother of Moses Ex. 4:14-17

Introduction:

It seems that we know very little about Aaron, the brother of Moses. However, a quick search in a concordance shows that Aaron's name is mentioned over 350 times throughout the Bible. Aaron is often overshadowed by his younger brother, but notice some things that we can learn from him.

Today we will look at the relationship that Aaron and Moses had. In this lesson, we are not trying to say that Aaron was perfect. After all, it was Aaron (along with Miriam) who "spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married" (Num. 12:1-16). It was also Aaron who made the golden calf when Moses was delayed on the mountain of God (Ex. 32:1-35). However, for the most part, Aaron was a source of strength for Moses.

We will notice the relationship of Aaron and Moses and then try and draw some practical applications from it that will help us today.

As we begin, noticed some introductory facts about Aaron.

He was three years older than Moses, his younger brother (Ex. 7:7).

Moses was 80 and Aaron 83 when they spoke to Pharaoh.

Moses and Aaron apparently died in the same year.

Aaron was 123 when he died (Num. 33:39).

Moses was 120 when he died (Deut. 34:7).

Aaron's family was the priest of Israel (Ex. 28:1).

I. Aaron provided a source of strength for Moses.

- A. Notice the first time we are introduced to Aaron.
 - 1. God has appeared to Moses out of the burning bush (Ex. 3:1-4:17).
 - 2. Moses begins to make four excuses as to why he should not go.
 - 3. His forth excuse was that He was not an eloquent speaker (4:10).
 - 4. God tells Moses to take Aaron, his brother, with him (4:14-17).
 - 5. Aaron would be the one to do the speaking for Moses.
 - 6. Notice especially 4:27-31.
- B. One of the things that we immediately see about Aaron is that he was always there for Moses.
 - 1. He provided confidence for Moses when they met Pharaoh (Ex. 5:1).
 - a. It was Aaron who cast his rod down before Pharaoh and it became a serpent (Ex. 7:8-12).
 - b. Aaron is mentioned specifically in 8 of the 10 plagues of Egypt (Ex. 7:14-12:31).
 - c. We can easily assume that he was at all 10 of them.
 - d. Aaron provided confidence to Moses.
 - 2. He was there when the children of Israel complained against Moses.
 - a. We know by looking at the history of the children of Israel that they complained constantly against God and Moses.
 - b. Aaron was with Moses and was a source of comfort to him.

- 1) **Ex. 16:1-2** - And they journeyed from Elim, and all the congregation of the children of Israel came to the Wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they departed from the land of Egypt. {2} Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness.
- 2) **Num. 16:41** - (After God had killed those who rebelled against Moses and Aaron) On the next day all the congregation of the children of Israel murmured against Moses and Aaron, saying, "You have killed the people of the LORD."
 - c. Aaron was there to help Moses in this time of need.
3. Aaron helped support the hands of Moses in the battle with Amalek (**Ex. 17:8-13**).
 - a. Aaron was a source of strength when Moses needed him the most.
 - b. Moses could not have kept his hands raised by himself.
 - c. He needed strength from outside, which Aaron provided.
- C. Aaron was always there for Moses.

Now that we have seen Aaron in his support of Moses, notice some practical applications that we can learn from him.

II. We need to have cooperation from others if we are going to be successful.

- A. Just as Moses needed help and cooperation from others, we also will need the same in our lives.
 1. We live a long and sometimes difficult life in service to God.
 2. There are going to be times in which we will not be able to make it ourselves.
 3. It is at this time that we will need others.
 4. Notice some following examples from the New Testament.
 - a. **Mk. 2:1-12** – We read of a paralyzed man who could not have made it to Jesus without the help of his friends.
 - b. **Mt. 18:15-17** - Moreover if your brother sins against you, go and tell him his fault between you and him alone. If he hears you, you have gained your brother. {16} But if he will not hear, take with you one or two more, that 'by the mouth of two or three witnesses every word may be established.' {17} And if he refuses to hear them, tell it to the church. But if he refuses even to hear the church, let him be to you like a heathen and a tax collector.
 - 1) Notice the main point of this command of Jesus.
 - 2) The main idea is that we can regain our brother (one who needs our help to live faithfully).

- c. **Lk. 10:1** - After these things the Lord appointed seventy others also, and sent them two by two before His face into every city and place where He Himself was about to go.
 - 1) Part of the reason is so that we can have the cooperation and support of others who have the same goal as we do.
- B. We need not just the cooperation of others, but especially our brethren.
 - 1. **Rom. 15:1** - We then who are strong ought to bear with the scruples of the weak, and not to please ourselves.
 - 2. **Gal. 6:1** - Brethren, if a man is overtaken in any trespass, you who are spiritual restore such a one in a spirit of gentleness, considering yourself lest you also be tempted. {2} Bear one another's burdens, and so fulfill the law of Christ.
- C. We need the help and cooperation of others to live faithfully to God.
 - 1. Aaron was always there for Moses, in good times and in bad.
 - 2. We will need others along the way.
 - 3. We need to have cooperation from others if we are going to be successful.

III. Today, we need to be the kind of friend to others that Aaron was to Moses.

- A. There is no doubt that Aaron was not only a physical brother to Moses, but also a great friend to him.
 - 1. Aaron was always there for Moses.
 - 2. We need to be the same kind of friend to others.
- B. Friends are very important for us.
 - 1. **Ecc. 4:9-12**
 - 2. Friends help us to improve ourselves.
 - a. **Pr. 27:17** - As iron sharpens iron, so a man sharpens the countenance of his friend.
 - b. **Gal. 5:9** - A little leaven leavens the whole lump. (For good or bad.)
 - 3. A friend will always be there for us.
 - a. **Pr. 17:17** - A friend loves at all times, and a brother is born for adversity.
- C. There are several things that we need to do in order to be a true friend and have true friends ourselves.
 - 1. To have friends we must be a friend.
 - a. **Pr. 18:24** - A man who has friends must himself be friendly, but there is a friend who sticks closer than a brother.
 - 2. We must surround ourselves with those want to go to heaven.
 - a. When we have the same goals, we can work on them with our friends.
 - b. **II Cor. 6:14-15** - Do not be unequally yoked together with unbelievers. For what fellowship has righteousness with lawlessness? And what communion has light with darkness? {15} And what accord has Christ with Belial? Or what part has a believer with an unbeliever?

3. We all need friends who will help provide a source of strength for us.
 - a. Aaron was that source of strength for Moses.
- D. Most importantly, we need to understand that we have a true Friend in Jesus Himself.
 1. **John 15:13-15** - Greater love has no one than this, than to lay down one's life for his friends. { 14 } You are My friends if you do whatever I command you. { 15 } No longer do I call you servants, for a servant does not know what his master is doing; but I have called you friends, for all things that I heard from My Father I have made known to you.

Conclusion: