



AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE REGARDING THE RIPPLE EFFECT...

CROSSROADS CHURCH - 3 YEAR CAMPAIGN TO END THIRST

SOAP READING—March 17, 2010

Ryan Lunceford—Executive Pastor

S: Exodus 2:11-17

O: I love the progression of this passage. Moses moves from aggressive and unjust to compassionate and gracious in a less than seven verses. The killing of the Egyptian was clearly an act of retaliation, one that lacked a just punishment. His murder was done with little awareness of the consequences. But, God does not leave Moses in his sin. Instead, Moses is confronted with his depravity and feels a weight of guilt. While in exile his heart is softened...a sign of God's work in Moses' life. In the end, Moses fully repents of his injustice to the Egyptian without denying the necessity of freeing the Israelites from the hands of the Egyptians.

A: The progression Moses experienced is, often times, typical. Sin→Guilt→Repentance is a natural progression of change for me. It changes me from the inside out. Moses became the resilient leader of Israel because he allowed this progression to take place in his life. The question for me is, "Will I let God do the same to me?" As badly as guilt feels, I would rather experience God's conviction toward my sin than never be led to a changed life. Then, when I see injustice I will respond with a Godly heart.

P: Lord, thank you for the honesty of the Scriptures. The killing of the Egyptian could have easily been edited out of Exodus. Instead, your handy work is displayed (as messy as it might be) and I can relate. Never allow me to short circuit this progression when I sin. Convict me and lead me to repentance. And, may I see the injustice in the world with compassion and grace. Amen.