

# “Looking Back & Moving Forward”

10 January 2024



## THE LORD'S FLOCK GROW DIGEST

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Looking back & moving forward means having doubts about the Lord's presence though blessings and instructions are upon him. Christians face troubles and difficulties that disturb their walk with God; however, in Matt. 28:20, Jesus says that He will be with them at the close of age. This is a promise that all of us will hold. The Lord has our back, and we should trust that He knows every step we will take either in good times or in bad.

Let us consider the events in Moses' life:

**1. The birth of Moses.** The birth of Moses was a difficult time for the Hebrews. The Pharaoh ordered the killing of the male babies, and his mother sent him on a basket to travel in the river. God saved him and the Pharaoh's daughter discovered him; he became a prince of Egypt. He was a powerful leader and became famous in the land of Egypt. Our lives are sometimes difficult because of where we come from, but God is with us, and He will never let us suffer without His permission. His plans are better than ours.

**2. Moses was removed from Egypt (Ex. 2:11-35).** When Moses murdered an Egyptian while he was protecting a Hebrew slave, he was banished from the Pharaoh's kingdom. His comfortable life was immediately removed from him when he was banished. However, God was with him. He met Jethro and became a shepherd, and he was satisfied. His life was very different from being a prince of Egypt. In our lives, our plans are sometimes different from God's, and His plan is always good (Jer. 29:11)

**3. Moses met God (Ex. 3).** In the burning bush, God met Moses. He instructed Moses to free His people from the bondage of Egypt. Moses hesitated to perform the task for a lot of reasons. However, God provided him with all he needed. God was with him since he obeyed His orders. Just like Moses, our task might be daunting, but God has already laid out the best way to do it according to our ability.

**4. Moses with Israelites in the wilderness (Ex. 14-16).** Moses and the Israelites journeyed to Mt. Horeb when the Pharaoh released them. On their journey, God protected and fed them while they were walking to their destination. Despite everything God provided, the people still complained and longed for Egypt. Like Israel, we regret things that come in our life even as God gave us graces and blessings. Every time there are tests in our lives, we tend to think back to our past lives before we encountered God, and we blame our relationship with God for our suffering.

**The danger zone of looking back.** The promised land was only 11 days from their journey, but the Israelites were wandering for 40 years in the desert. Let us be careful not to dwell on our past like Israel, and be faced with the following:

1. Obstacle of going back to old ways
2. Obstacle to going forward in faith
3. Obstacle of fear
4. Obstacle of doubt and uncertainty
5. Obstacle of romanticizing the past

### Conclusion:

We must stand firm and stand still as we face our troubles and challenges in life. God has our back and He will press us to move forward to our promised land. God is permitting all the challenges in our life to help us to grow in maturity and not have regrets in our relationship with Him. God will always be with us until the end of time.

### Reflection:

1. What are the bad memories you need to give up for God?
2. How will you move forward to God's plans?
3. What keeps you going to fulfill God's plans?

**Prayer:** “Lord, we know what it means to keep running and moving forward with Your plans. Help us to remove all the bad memories and remind us of the good memories. Help us to focus on the present and what You want us to do today. In Jesus' name. Amen.”