

Start: 10 am

Order of Service:

Meet and Greet
Introduction (if new people)
Ma Tov
Open in Prayer for service
Announcements
Jeri - Drash
Liturgy – Sh'ma +
Praise and Worship Songs
Message
Kaddash - Time of Prayer
Aaronic Blessing
Kiddush
Oneg

Announcements:

Hebrew classes – sign up sheet

Torah Scroll
Oneg sign up
Visitor cards – fold and put in Tzadakah box
Sukkah

Introduction: Moshe – The End of an Era

How often do we reflect upon one's career when they retire or their life when they have died.

After their lives are complete, the “history books” are written. The aspect of time allows for perspective to be established on the career of an individual and the impact it has left on lives.

When we look at someone like Richard Nixon, he will always be remembered as a tragic figure. Immediately after his presidency, the country was deeply wounded by the embarrassment of his second term and the secret crimes that became public, leading to his resignation.

His presidency was viewed as a failure based on the way he left office, not to mention the state that the nation was currently in, both economically and socially – in simple terms, it was a mess.

However, when time had passed to evaluate Richard Nixon's impact, we can see some good that came out of his leadership.

- His foreign policy was far more successful than his domestic policy
 - Established new relations with China which ultimately lead to detente with the Soviet Union
 - Established a trade deal with the Soviet Union and two arms control treaties deals – the first of their kind signed by these two nations.
 - Inherited the Vietnam war from the previous administrations for which he would direct an end to America's involvement
 - Support for Israel during Yom Kippur war resulted in air lifts to the country. As a result of actions that he initiated, took personal responsibility for any Arab reaction. This ultimately lead to the 1973 oil crisis, which ultimately impacted his domestic policy

However, as time has passed, he became recognized as a great statesman who's foreign policy was one of his strengths. This didn't happen overnight, but came with the perspective of time, in order to process his time in office.

If we were to assess the life of Moshe as it was happening we might read the following:

- Murderous leader heads infant nomadic nation
- Unpopular leader averts overthrow
- Scandal divides infant nation

Was Moshe beloved by all people he was leading?

Just about any leader does not garner 100% support and loyalty, even a leader selected by Adonai.

Genesis is a book of beginnings that includes the beginning of the nation of Israel

However the remaining four books of Torah involve Moshe.

- His life, before he came to lead the Israelites
- His life as a leader

We are coming to the end of the Parashah cycle. The end of Deuteronomy reads:

Deu 34:10 Since that time there has not arisen in Isra'el a prophet like Moshe, whom Adonai knew face to face.

Deu 34:11 What signs and wonders Adonai sent him to perform in the land of Egypt upon Pharaoh, all his servants and all his land!

Deu 34:12 What might was in his hand! What great terror he evoked before the eyes of all Isra'el!

So, in looking back at the Parashah cycle and the life of Moshe, what can we learn:

1. He was a reluctant leader:

- He had excuses for why he wasn't the right person for the job.
- His speech was slow
- The people wouldn't listen to him

Even though he was reluctant at first, he would grow and mature into the position he was born for – to shepherd the people of Israel, establishing a nation from infancy to promise.

2. He was humble, yet secure in his position –

Num 12:3 Now this man Moshe was very humble, more so than anyone on earth.

- To be humble is to have or show a low estimate of one's own importance
- He was not arrogant or self promoting, but viewed himself more as a servant to Adonai

Num 11:26 There were two men who stayed in the camp, one named Eldad and the other Medad, and the Spirit came to rest on them. They were among those listed to go out to the tent, but they hadn't done so, and they prophesied in the camp.

Num 11:27 A young man ran and told Moshe, "Eldad and Medad are prophesying in the camp!"

Num 11:28 Y'hoshua, the son of Nun, who from his youth up had been Moshe's assistant, answered, "My lord, Moshe, stop them!"

Num 11:29 But Moshe replied, "Are you so zealous to protect me? I wish all of Adonai's people were prophets! I wish Adonai would put his Spirit on all of them!"

Anyone who is wants to lead, must be willing to serve.

3. He had the full support of his superior, yet questioned by those he would lead, first by his siblings:

Speaking to Aharon and Miryam:

Num 12:6 He said, "Listen to what I say: when there is a prophet among you, I, Adonai, make myself known to him in a vision, I speak with him in a dream.

Num 12:7 But it isn't that way with my servant Moshe. He is the only one who is faithful in my entire household.

Num 12:8 With him I speak face to face and clearly, not in riddles; he sees the image of Adonai. So why weren't you afraid to criticize my servant Moshe?"

Then by leadership – Korach, Datan, Aviram and 250 leaders. (Numbers 16:1 - 2)

Num 16:1 Now Korach the son of Yitz'har, the son of K'hat, the son of Levi, along with Datan and Aviram, the sons of Eli'av, and On, the son of Pelet, descendants of Re'uven, took men and

Num 16:2 rebelled against Moshe. Siding with them were 250 men of Isra'el, leaders of the community, key members of the council, men of reputation.

Then by the people:

Num 16:41 (17:6) But the very next day, the whole community of the people of Isra'el complained against Moshe and Aharon: "You have killed Adonai's people!"

His time as leader of this people was anything but smooth, yet it was his unwavering faith and relationship with the one who instilled this position upon him was this new nation able to overcome these disruptions.

4. He was committed to serve and would protect the reputation of the one's he would serve

Moshe saw the bigger picture when it came to Adonai's purpose for the nation, even to the point of giving up his own position, for the sake of the existence of everyone else:

Exo 32:31 Moshe went back to Adonai and said, "Please! These people have committed a terrible sin: they have made themselves a god out of gold.

Exo 32:32 Now, if you will just forgive their sin! But if you won't, then, I beg you, blot me out of your book which you have written!"

Exo 32:33 Adonai answered Moshe, "Those who have sinned against me are the ones I will blot out of my book.

He would put the reputation of the one he served over and above his own:

Num 14:13 However, Moshe replied to Adonai, "When the Egyptians hear about this — [*and they will,*] because it was from among them that you, by your strength, brought this people up —

Num 14:14 they will tell the people living in this land. They have heard that you, Adonai, are with this people; that you, Adonai, are seen face to face; that your cloud stands over them; that you go ahead of them in a column of cloud by day and a column of fire by night.

Num 14:15 If you kill off this people at a single stroke, then the nations that have heard of your reputation will say

Num 14:16 that the reason Adonai slaughtered this people in the desert is that he wasn't able to bring them into the land which he swore to give them.

5. He was the representative of the one who sent him – a prophet.

Deu 18:15 "Adonai will raise up for you a prophet like me from among yourselves, from your own kinsmen. You are to pay attention to him,

Deu 18:16 just as when you were assembled at Horev and requested Adonai your God, 'Don't let me hear the voice of Adonai my God any more, or let me see this great fire ever again; if I do, I will die!'

Deu 18:17 On that occasion Adonai said to me, 'They are right in what they are saying.

Deu 18:18 I will raise up for them a prophet like you from among their kinsmen. I will put my words in his mouth, and he will tell them everything I order him.

- He spoke for the one who sent him
- He was empowered by the one who sent him to perform many miracles
- He was empowered by the one who sent him to redeem the people from the bondage of slavery.

6. He would judge the people

Exo 18:15 Moshe answered his father-in-law, "It's because the people come to me seeking God's guidance.

Exo 18:16 Whenever they have a dispute, it comes to me; I judge between one person and another, and I explain to them God's laws and teachings. "

7. He was a teacher

Known as Moshe Rabbenu (Moses our Teacher) He would convey the Words of Adonai to the people and teach them as he was instructed.

Going back to 18:16

At this time, Moshe was the most influential person in establishing the nation of Israel, to where, like Avraham, you could call him the father of the covenant in that through him, Adonai birthed a nation.

We see the connections between Moshe and Yeshua

We see these characteristics in Messiah Yeshua:

- **A Leader - Shepherd**

Joh 10:11 "I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep.

- **He was humble, came first as a servant to the people**
 - Although He was King, He didn't instill His position as King, but from amongst the people would convey the reality of the Kingdom of Adonai that was present (at hand)
- **He was secure in His position**
 - Yeshua would be confronted on many occasions regarding His position and authority
- **He had the full support of his superior, yet questioned by those he would lead**
 - He would constantly be challenged by the Pharisees.
- **He was committed to serve and would protect the reputation of the one's he would serve**

- More on this at the end...

- **He will judge the people:**

Act 10:39 "As for us, we are witnesses of everything he did, both in the Judean countryside and in Yerushalayim. They did away with him by hanging him on a stake;

Act 10:40 but God raised him up on the third day and let him be seen,

Act 10:41 not by all the people, but by witnesses God had previously chosen, that is, by us, who ate and drank with him after he had risen again from the dead.

Act 10:42 "Then he commanded us to proclaim and attest to the Jewish people that this man has been appointed by God to judge the living and the dead.

Act 10:43 All the prophets bear witness to him, that everyone who puts his trust in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

- **He was a teacher:**

Throughout the gospels we witness His teachings pertaining to Torah and its proper understanding as was originally intended.

Even after His death and resurrection:

Act 1:3 After his death he showed himself to them and gave many convincing proofs that he was alive. During a period of forty days they saw him, and he spoke with them about the Kingdom of God.

So when we look back on the life of Moshe we should see the promise of Messiah in him.

Mat 17:1 Six days later, Yeshua took Kefa, Ya`akov and his brother Yochanan and led them up a high mountain privately.

Mat 17:2 As they watched, he began to change form — his face shone like the sun, and his clothing became as white as light.

Mat 17:3 Then they looked and saw Moshe and Eliyahu speaking with him.

Moshe and Messiah forever linked...

This passage of scripture from Yochanan 17 can best sum it up.

Joh 17:1 After Yeshua had said these things, he looked up toward heaven and said, "Father, the time has come. Glorify your Son, so that the Son may glorify you —

Joh 17:2 just as you gave him authority over all mankind, so that he might give eternal life to all those whom you have given him.

Joh 17:3 And eternal life is this: to know you, the one true God, and him whom you sent, Yeshua the Messiah.

Joh 17:4 "I glorified you on earth by finishing the work you gave me to do.

Joh 17:5 Now, Father, glorify me alongside yourself. Give me the same glory I had with you before the world existed.

Joh 17:6 "I made your name known to the people you gave me out of the world. They were yours, you gave them to

me, and they have kept your word.

Joh 17:7 Now they know that everything you have given me is from you,

Joh 17:8 because the words you gave me I have given to them, and they have received them. They have really come to know that I came from you, and they have come to trust that you sent me.

Joh 17:9 "I am praying for them. I am not praying for the world, but for those you have given to me, because they are yours.

Joh 17:10 Indeed, all I have is yours, and all you have is mine, and in them I have been glorified.

Joh 17:11 Now I am no longer in the world. They are in the world, but I am coming to you. Holy Father, guard them by the power of your name, which you have given to me, so that they may be one, just as we are.

Joh 17:12 When I was with them, I guarded them by the power of your name, which you have given to me; yes, I kept watch over them; and not one of them was destroyed (except the one meant for destruction, so that the Tanakh might be fulfilled).

Joh 17:13 But now, I am coming to you; and I say these things while I am still in the world so that they may have my joy made complete in themselves.

Joh 17:14 "I have given them your word, and the world hated them, because they do not belong to the world — just as I myself do not belong to the world.

Joh 17:15 I don't ask you to take them out of the world, but to protect them from the Evil One.

Joh 17:16 They do not belong to the world, just as I do not belong to the world.

Joh 17:17 Set them apart for holiness by means of the truth — your word is truth.

Joh 17:18 Just as you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world.

Joh 17:19 On their behalf I am setting myself apart for holiness, so that they too may be set apart for holiness by means of the truth.

Joh 17:20 "I pray not only for these, but also for those who will trust in me because of their word,

Joh 17:21 that they may all be one. Just as you, Father, are united with me and I with you, I pray that they may be united with us, so that the world may believe that you sent me.

Joh 17:22 The glory which you have given to me, I have given to them; so that they may be one, just as we are one —

Joh 17:23 I united with them and you with me, so that they may be completely one, and the world thus realize that you sent me, and that you have loved them just as you have loved me.

Joh 17:24 "Father, I want those you have given me to be with me where I am; so that they may see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the creation of the world.

Joh 17:25 Righteous Father, the world has not known you, but I have known you, and these people have known that you sent me.

Joh 17:26 I made your name known to them, and I will continue to make it known; so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them, and I myself may be united with them."