



## World Christian Fellowship

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### Aaron the High Priest.

Older brother of Moses.

**Exodus 6:20**, *Now Amram took for himself Jochebed, his father's sister, as wife; and she bore him Aaron and Moses. And the years of the life of Amram were one hundred and thirty-seven.*

Moses was 80 years old.

Aaron was 83 years old when they went to speak to Aaron.

**Exodus 7:7**, *And Moses was eighty years old and Aaron eighty-three years old when they spoke to Pharaoh.*

When Aaron was born there was no decree to kill the male.

**Exodus 1:22**, *So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, "Every son who is born you shall cast into the river, and every daughter you shall save alive."*

**Exodus 2:4-8**, *And his sister stood afar off, to know what would be done to him. <sup>5</sup>Then the daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river. And her maidens walked along the riverside; and when she saw the ark among the reeds, she sent her maid to get it. <sup>6</sup>And when she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby wept. So she had compassion on him, and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children." <sup>7</sup>Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "Shall I go and call a nurse for you from the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for you?" <sup>8</sup>And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the maiden went and called the child's mother.*

Miriam was very intelligent.

Moses brought up in the palace.

**Acts 7:20-22**, *At this time Moses was born, and was well pleasing to God; and he was brought up in his father's house for three months. <sup>21</sup>But when he was set out, Pharaoh's daughter took him away and brought him up as her own son. <sup>22</sup>And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds.*

Aaron was brought up in the ordinary home as a tool guy.

**Acts 7:23-30**, *"Now when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel. <sup>24</sup>And seeing one of them suffer wrong, he defended and avenged*

*him who was oppressed, and struck down the Egyptian. <sup>25</sup>For he supposed that his brethren would have understood that God would deliver them by his hand, but they did not understand. <sup>26</sup>And the next day he appeared to two of them as they were fighting, and tried to reconcile them, saying, 'Men, you are brethren; why do you wrong one another?' <sup>27</sup>But he who did his neighbour wrong pushed him away, saying, 'Who made you a ruler and a judge over us?' <sup>28</sup>Do you want to kill me as you did the Egyptian yesterday?' <sup>29</sup>Then, at this saying, Moses fled and became a dweller in the land of Midian, where he had two sons. <sup>30</sup>"And when forty years had passed, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush, in the wilderness of Mount Sinai.*

Aaron married and had four sons.

**Exodus 6:23**, *Aaron took to himself Elisheba, daughter of Amminadab, sister of Nahshon, as wife; and she bore him Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.*

God encounters Moses in Midian.

**Exodus 3:6-10**, *Moreover He said, "I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God. <sup>7</sup>And the Lord said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. <sup>8</sup>So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to*

*bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. <sup>9</sup>Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. <sup>10</sup>Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”*

Moses refuses to go.

**Exodus 4:14-17**, *So the anger of the Lord was kindled against Moses, and He said: “Is not Aaron the Levite your brother? I know that he can speak well. And look, he is also coming out to meet you. When he sees you, he will be glad in his heart. <sup>15</sup>Now you shall speak to him and put the words in his mouth. And I will be with your mouth and with his mouth, and I will teach you what you shall do. <sup>16</sup>So he shall be your spokesman to the people. And he himself shall be as a mouth for you, and you shall be to him as God. <sup>17</sup>And you shall take this rod in your hand, with which you shall do the signs.”*

Aaron becomes the spokesperson for Moses.

Aaron serves as an assistant to Moses.

**Exodus 4:27**, *And the Lord said to Aaron, “Go into the wilderness to meet Moses.” So he went and met him on the mountain of God, and kissed him.*

Aaron obeys the voice of the Lord unlike his younger brother Moses.

**Exodus 4:28-31**, *So Moses told Aaron all the words of the Lord who had sent him, and all the signs which He had commanded him.<sup>29</sup> Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel.<sup>30</sup> And Aaron spoke all the words which the Lord had spoken to Moses. Then he did the signs in the sight of the people.<sup>31</sup> So the people believed; and when they heard that the Lord had visited the children of Israel and that He had looked on their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshiped.*

Not only Aaron obeyed the voice of the Lord and believed His words but his brother Moses words and obeyed him as well.

Aaron seemed to be up to the task to which God called him without question, willingly helping his brother and speaking to the people on his behalf.

Aaron perhaps also served as an intermediary between Moses and the Israelites since Moses had been living apart from his people all his life—first in the Egyptian courts and then as a fugitive in Midian.

As the exodus story unfolds, we see both Moses and Aaron before Pharaoh, making their requests for Pharaoh to let the people go and performing many signs. God used Aaron's staff in many of the signs and plagues.

Through the years, Aaron was indispensable to Moses. Together they faced Pharaoh, brought the ten plagues on Egypt, and led the Israelites out of captivity (Exodus 7:1–2). God spoke to Moses, Moses spoke to Aaron, and Aaron presented the messages to the people.

Together Moses and Aaron were the vessels the Lord used to bring His people out of Egypt and toward the Promised Land.

**Exodus 7:1-2**, *So the Lord said to Moses: "See, I have made you as God to Pharaoh, and Aaron your brother shall be your prophet. <sup>2</sup>You shall speak all that I command you. And Aaron your brother shall tell Pharaoh to send the children of Israel out of his land.*

**Exodus 7:6**, *Then Moses and Aaron did so; just as the Lord commanded them, so they did.*

**Exodus 7:8-10**, *Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, saying, <sup>9</sup>"When Pharaoh speaks to you, saying, 'Show a miracle for yourselves,' then you shall say to Aaron, 'Take your rod and cast it before Pharaoh, and let it become a serpent.'*

*”<sup>10</sup> So Moses and Aaron went in to Pharaoh, and they did so, just as the Lord commanded. And Aaron cast down his rod before Pharaoh and before his servants, and it became a serpent.*

### **First plague:**

**Exodus 7:19-20**, *Then the Lord spoke to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Take your rod and stretch out your hand over the waters of Egypt, over their streams, over their rivers, over their ponds, and over all their pools of water, that they may become blood. And there shall be blood throughout all the land of Egypt, both in buckets of wood and pitchers of stone.’ ”<sup>20</sup> And Moses and Aaron did so, just as the Lord commanded. So he lifted up the rod and struck the waters that were in the river, in the sight of Pharaoh and in the sight of his servants. And all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood.*

### **Second Plague:**

**Exodus 8:5-6**, *Then the Lord spoke to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your hand with your rod over the streams, over the rivers, and over the ponds, and cause frogs to come up on the land of Egypt.’ ”<sup>6</sup> So Aaron stretched out his hand over the waters of Egypt, and the frogs came up and covered the land of Egypt.*

### **Third Plague:**

**Exodus 8:16-17**, *So the Lord said to Moses, “Say to Aaron, ‘Stretch out your rod, and strike the dust of the land, so that it*

*may become lice throughout all the land of Egypt.’ ”<sup>17</sup> And they did so. For Aaron stretched out his hand with his rod and struck the dust of the earth, and it became lice on man and beast. All the dust of the land became lice throughout all the land of Egypt.*

#### **Sixth Plague:**

**Exodus 9:8-9,** *So the Lord said to Moses and Aaron, “Take for yourselves handfuls of ashes from a furnace, and let Moses scatter it toward the heavens in the sight of Pharaoh. <sup>9</sup>And it will become fine dust in all the land of Egypt, and it will cause boils that break out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt.”*

#### **Eight Plague:**

**Exodus 10:3-4,** *So Moses and Aaron came in to Pharaoh and said to him, “Thus says the Lord God of the Hebrews: ‘How long will you refuse to humble yourself before Me? Let My people go, that they may serve Me. <sup>4</sup>Or else, if you refuse to let My people go, behold, tomorrow I will bring locusts into your territory.*

#### **Passover instituted:**

**Exodus 12:1-2,** *Now the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, saying, <sup>2</sup>“This month shall be your beginning of months; it shall be the first month of the year to you.*

#### **The Exodus:**

**Exodus 12:31-32**, *Then he called for Moses and Aaron by night, and said, "Rise, go out from among my people, both you and the children of Israel. And go, serve the Lord as you have said. <sup>32</sup>Also take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone; and bless me also."*

**Miriam sings the wonderful song of deliverance at Marah.**

**Exodus 15:20**, *Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took the timbrel in her hand; and all the women went out after her with timbrels and with dances.*

Complain about food by the Israelites.

**Exodus 16:2-3**, *Then the whole congregation of the children of Israel complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And the children of Israel said to them, "Oh, that we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the pots of meat and when we ate bread to the full! For you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."*

God answers them by sending Manna from heaven.

**Exodus 16:9-10**, *Then Moses spoke to Aaron, "Say to all the congregation of the children of Israel, 'Come near before the Lord, for He has heard your complaints.' "* <sup>10</sup>*Now it came to pass, as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the children*

*of Israel, that they looked toward the wilderness, and behold, the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud.*

Aaron, along with a man named Hur, held up Moses' hands in a battle with the Amalekites, so that the Israelite forces miraculously prevailed.

### **Victory over Amalekites.**

**Exodus 17:10-13**, *So Joshua did as Moses said to him, and fought with Amalek. And Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. <sup>11</sup>And so it was, when Moses held up his hand, that Israel prevailed; and when he let down his hand, Amalek prevailed. <sup>12</sup>But Moses' hands became heavy; so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it. And Aaron and Hur supported his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side; and his hands were steady until the going down of the sun. <sup>13</sup>So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.*

### **Mount Sinai:**

**Exodus 19:24**, *Then the Lord said to him, "Away! Get down and then come up, you and Aaron with you. But do not let the priests and the people break through to come up to the Lord, lest He break out against them."*

God gave Ten Commandments and the laws.

Israel affirms the covenant.

**Exodus 24:1**, *Now He said to Moses, "Come up to the Lord, you and Aaron, Nadab and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, and worship from afar. <sup>2</sup>And Moses alone shall come near the Lord, but they shall not come near; nor shall the people go up with him."*

**Exodus 24:9-15**, *Then Moses went up, also Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel, <sup>10</sup>and they saw the God of Israel. And there was under His feet as it were a paved work of sapphire stone, and it was like the very heavens in its clarity. <sup>11</sup>But on the nobles of the children of Israel He did not lay His hand. So they saw God, and they ate and drank.*

*<sup>12</sup>Then the Lord said to Moses, "Come up to Me on the mountain and be there; and I will give you tablets of stone, and the law and commandments which I have written, that you may teach them." <sup>13</sup>So Moses arose with his assistant Joshua, and Moses went up to the mountain of God. <sup>14</sup>And he said to the elders, "Wait here for us until we come back to you. Indeed, Aaron and Hur are with you. If any man has a difficulty, let him go to them." <sup>15</sup>Then Moses went up into the mountain, and a cloud covered the mountain.*

God was speaking to Moses about the Tabernacle and that includes the garments for the High Priest also.

## **Golden calf: Why God did not punish Aaron?**

**Exodus 32:1-6**, *Now when the people saw that Moses delayed coming down from the mountain, the people gathered together to Aaron, and said to him, "Come, make us gods that shall go before us; for as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him."*

<sup>2</sup>*And Aaron said to them, "Break off the golden earrings which are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me."* <sup>3</sup>*So all the people broke off the golden earrings which were in their ears, and brought them to Aaron.* <sup>4</sup>*And he received the gold from their hand, and he fashioned it with an engraving tool, and made a moulded calf. Then they said, "This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!"* <sup>5</sup>*So when Aaron saw it, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow is a feast to the Lord."* <sup>6</sup>*Then they rose early on the next day, offered burnt offerings, and brought peace offerings; and the people sat down to eat and drink, and rose up to play.*

**Exodus 32:25**, *Now when Moses saw that the people were unrestrained (for Aaron had not restrained them, to their shame among their enemies),*

God gets angry and informs Moses what is happening beneath the mountain.

Moses comes down and gets angry and breaks the golden calf and makes them powder and made them to drink.

**Exodus 32:20-21**, *Then he took the calf which they had made, burned it in the fire, and ground it to powder; and he scattered it on the water and made the children of Israel drink it. <sup>21</sup>And Moses said to Aaron, “What did this people do to you that you have brought so great a sin upon them?”*

Aaron tells a lie to Moses.

**Exodus 32:22-24**, *So Aaron said, “Do not let the anger of my lord become hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. <sup>23</sup>For they said to me, ‘Make us gods that shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.’ <sup>24</sup>And I said to them, ‘Whoever has any gold, let them break it off.’ So they gave it to me, and I cast it into the fire, and this calf came out.”*

Moses punishes the people.

**Exodus 32:26-28**, *then Moses stood in the entrance of the camp, and said, “Whoever is on the Lord’s side—come to me!” And all the sons of Levi gathered themselves together to him. <sup>27</sup>And he said to them, “Thus says the Lord God of Israel: ‘Let every man put his sword on his side, and go in and out from entrance to entrance throughout the camp, and let every man kill his brother, every man his companion, and every man*

*his neighbour.’ ”<sup>28</sup> So the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And about three thousand men of the people fell that day.*

Aaron surely repented!

Otherwise, he would have got killed.

God had already chosen Aaron as a high Priest.

**Exodus 28:1-2**, *“Now take Aaron your brother, and his sons with him, from among the children of Israel, that he may minister to Me as priest, Aaron and Aaron’s sons: Nadab, Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.<sup>2</sup> And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.*

Aaron was the first high priest, and it was from his descendants that future high priests were chosen.

God used an unlikely person to serve in an important role.

Aaron, the man who led the Israelites astray to worship a golden calf, was the very man God chose to lead Israel in worship of the Lord.

This pattern is often observed in Scripture. Many times, God uses the least likely to accomplish tasks for His glory.

**David**, a shepherd boy turned king.

**Paul**, a church persecutor who became a martyr.

**Peter**, a fisherman-turned-evangelist.

**Mary Magdalene**, a demon-possessed woman who became the first to see the resurrected Jesus.

God is looking for people who will repent.

**Exodus 32:35**, *So the Lord plagued the people because of what they did with the calf which Aaron made.*

Moses did intercede for Aaron.

**Exodus 32:30**, *Now it came to pass on the next day that Moses said to the people, "You have committed a great sin. So now I will go up to the Lord; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin."*

There are people who say God killed Aaron's sons because of the sins of Aaron, which is not right.

**Numbers 3:1-4**, *Now these are the records of Aaron and Moses when the Lord spoke with Moses on Mount Sinai.<sup>2</sup> And these are the names of the sons of Aaron: Nadab, the firstborn, and Abihu, Eleazar, and Ithamar.<sup>3</sup> These are the names of the sons of Aaron, the anointed priests, whom he consecrated to minister as priests.<sup>4</sup> Nadab and Abihu had died before the Lord when they offered profane fire before the Lord in the Wilderness of Sinai; and they had no children. So Eleazar and*

*Ithamar ministered as priests in the presence of Aaron their father.*

The first-time priestly ministry begins in Leviticus 9.

**Leviticus 9:18-24,** *He also killed the bull and the ram as sacrifices of peace offerings, which were for the people. And Aaron's sons presented to him the blood, which he sprinkled all around on the altar,<sup>19</sup> and the fat from the bull and the ram—the fatty tail, what covers the entrails and the kidneys, and the fatty lobe attached to the liver;<sup>20</sup> and they put the fat on the breasts. Then he burned the fat on the altar;<sup>21</sup> but the breasts and the right thigh Aaron waved as a wave offering before the Lord, as Moses had commanded.<sup>22</sup> Then Aaron lifted his hand toward the people, blessed them, and came down from offering the sin offering, the burnt offering, and peace offerings.<sup>23</sup> And Moses and Aaron went into the tabernacle of meeting, and came out and blessed the people. Then the glory of the Lord appeared to all the people,<sup>24</sup> and fire came out from before the Lord and consumed the burnt offering and the fat on the altar. When all the people saw it, they shouted and fell on their faces.*

But his sons did not what the Lord commanded.

**Leviticus 10:1-3,** *Then Nadab and Abihu, the sons of Aaron, each took his censer and put fire in it, put incense on it, and offered profane fire before the Lord, which He had not*

*commanded them.<sup>2</sup> So fire went out from the Lord and devoured them, and they died before the Lord.<sup>3</sup> And Moses said to Aaron, "This is what the Lord spoke, saying: 'By those who come near Me I must be regarded as holy; And before all the people I must be glorified.' " So Aaron held his peace.*

Aaron did not sin against God.

### **Rebellion against Moses by Miriam and Aaron.**

Sister-in-law problem.

Aaron swayed into it.

**Numbers 12:1-10,** *Then Miriam and Aaron spoke against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married; for he had married an Ethiopian woman.<sup>2</sup> So they said, "Has the Lord indeed spoken only through Moses? Has He not spoken through us also?" And the Lord heard it.<sup>3</sup> (Now the man Moses was very humble, more than all men who were on the face of the earth.)<sup>4</sup> Suddenly the Lord said to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam, "Come out, you three, to the tabernacle of meeting!" So the three came out.<sup>5</sup> Then the Lord came down in the pillar of cloud and stood in the door of the tabernacle, and called Aaron and Miriam. And they both went forward.<sup>6</sup> Then He said, "Hear now My words: If there is a prophet among you, I, the Lord, make Myself known to him in a vision; I speak to him in a dream.<sup>7</sup> Not so with My servant Moses; He is faithful*

*in all My house. <sup>8</sup>I speak with him face to face, Even plainly, and not in dark sayings; And he sees the form of the Lord. Why then were you not afraid To speak against My servant Moses?" <sup>9</sup>So the anger of the Lord was aroused against them, and He departed. <sup>10</sup>And when the cloud departed from above the tabernacle, suddenly Miriam became leprous, as white as snow. Then Aaron turned toward Miriam, and there she was, a leper.*

### **Why was Aaron not punished with leprosy but only Miriam?**

Aaron instantly repented of his rebellion.

**Numbers 12:11-12**, *So Aaron said to Moses, "Oh, my lord! Please do not lay this sin on us, in which we have done foolishly and in which we have sinned. <sup>12</sup>Please do not let her be as one dead, whose flesh is half consumed when he comes out of his mother's womb!"*

Moses and Aaron were refused entry to the Promised Land.

#### **Kadesh:**

**Numbers 20:2-13**, *Now there was no water for the congregation; so they gathered together against Moses and Aaron. <sup>3</sup>And the people contended with Moses and spoke, saying: "If only we had died when our brethren died before the Lord! <sup>4</sup>Why have you brought up the assembly of the Lord into this wilderness, that we and our animals should die here? <sup>5</sup>And why have you made us come up out of Egypt, to*

*bring us to this evil place? It is not a place of grain or figs or vines or pomegranates; nor is there any water to drink.”<sup>6</sup> So Moses and Aaron went from the presence of the assembly to the door of the tabernacle of meeting, and they fell on their faces. And the glory of the Lord appeared to them.*

*<sup>7</sup>Then the Lord spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>8</sup>“Take the rod; you and your brother Aaron gather the congregation together. Speak to the rock before their eyes, and it will yield its water; thus you shall bring water for them out of the rock, and give drink to the congregation and their animals.”<sup>9</sup> So Moses took the rod from before the Lord as He commanded him.*

*<sup>10</sup>And Moses and Aaron gathered the assembly together before the rock; and he said to them, “Hear now, you rebels! Must we bring water for you out of this rock?”<sup>11</sup> Then Moses lifted his hand and struck the rock twice with his rod; and water came out abundantly, and the congregation and their animals drank.*

*<sup>12</sup>Then the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron, “Because you did not believe Me, to hallow Me in the eyes of the children of Israel, therefore you shall not bring this assembly into the land which I have given them.”*

*<sup>13</sup>This was the water of Meribah, because the children of Israel contended with the Lord, and He was hallowed among them.*

**Numbers 20:22-29**, *Now the children of Israel, the whole congregation, journeyed from Kadesh and came to Mount Hor.<sup>23</sup> And the Lord spoke to Moses and Aaron in Mount Hor by the border of the land of Edom, saying:<sup>24</sup> “Aaron*

*shall be gathered to his people, for he shall not enter the land which I have given to the children of Israel, because you rebelled against My word at the water of Meribah. <sup>25</sup>Take Aaron and Eleazar his son, and bring them up to Mount Hor; <sup>26</sup>and strip Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son; for Aaron shall be gathered to his people and die there.” <sup>27</sup>So Moses did just as the Lord commanded, and they went up to Mount Hor in the sight of all the congregation. <sup>28</sup>Moses stripped Aaron of his garments and put them on Eleazar his son; and Aaron died there on the top of the mountain. Then Moses and Eleazar came down from the mountain. <sup>29</sup>Now when all the congregation saw that Aaron was dead, all the house of Israel mourned for Aaron thirty days.*

**Psalms 77:20,** *You led Your people like a flock By the hand of Moses and Aaron.*

**Psalms 99:6,** *Moses and Aaron were among His priests, And Samuel was among those who called upon His name;*

**Hebrews 5:4,** *And no man takes this honour to himself, but he who is called by God, just as Aaron was.*

