

Acts 7:22

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and in deeds.

Analysis

Moses' education 'in all the wisdom of the Egyptians' demonstrates God's providential use of worldly knowledge for kingdom purposes. His being 'mighty in words and in deeds' contradicts Moses' self-assessment (Exodus 4:10), showing how human limitations are relative to divine calling. God equipped Moses intellectually and practically for leadership, though later humbling would be necessary before usefulness in God's service.

Historical Context

Egyptian wisdom in Moses' era (15th century BC) included mathematics, engineering, administration, medicine, and military strategy. Palace education prepared princes for governance and warfare. Stephen's audience knew Moses as the great lawgiver, yet here they learn his pagan educational background, showing God's sovereignty in using diverse preparation.

Related Passages

Hebrews 11:1 — Definition of faith

James 2:17 — Faith and works

Study Questions

1. How does God's use of Moses' Egyptian education demonstrate that worldly knowledge can serve kingdom purposes when submitted to God?
2. What does the contrast between Moses' education and later humility teach us about God breaking our self-sufficiency?

Interlinear Text

καὶ	ἐπαίδευθη	Μωσῆς	πάσῃ	σοφίᾳ	Αἰγυπτίων	ἥν	δὲ
And	was learned	Moses	in all	the wisdom	of the Egyptians	was	and
G2532	G3811	G3475	G3956	G4678	G124	G2258	G1161
δυνατὸς	ἐν	λόγοις	καὶ	ἐν	ἔργοις		
mighty	in	words	And	in	deeds		
G1415	G1722	G3056	G2532	G1722	G2041		

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 19:11 (Parallel theme): Surely the princes of Zoan are fools, the counsel of the wise counsellors of Pharaoh is become brutish: how say ye unto Pharaoh, I am the son of the wise, the son of ancient kings?

2 Chronicles 9:22 (Parallel theme): And king Solomon passed all the kings of the earth in riches and wisdom.

Daniel 1:4 (Parallel theme): Children in whom was no blemish, but well favoured, and skilful in all wisdom, and cunning in knowledge, and understanding science, and such as had ability in them to stand in the king's palace, and whom they might teach the learning and the tongue of the Chaldeans.