

# Acts 7:23

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And when he was full forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren the children of Israel.

## Analysis

---

The precise timing—'when he was full forty years old'—shows God's perfect chronology in calling servants. Moses' decision to visit 'his brethren' demonstrates awakening ethnic and covenant consciousness. His heart turned from Egyptian privilege to Hebrew suffering, a necessary prerequisite for his calling as deliverer. The phrase 'it came into his heart' suggests divine initiative planting desire for his people's welfare, the first step toward God's redemptive call.

## Historical Context

---

Forty years represents a full generation in biblical reckoning. Moses' life divides into three forty-year periods: Egypt (0-40), Midian (40-80), wilderness leading Israel (80-120). His visit to Hebrew work sites represents conscious identification with his persecuted people, risking his privileged Egyptian status. This choice foreshadows Christ's identification with sinners.

## Related Passages

---

**Revelation 20:12** — Judgment according to deeds

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

---

1. What does Moses' voluntary identification with suffering Hebrews teach us about godly leadership requiring solidarity with those we serve?
2. How does God's perfect timing in Moses' calling encourage us to trust His preparation and timing in our own calling?

## Interlinear Text

---

Ὡς	δὲ	ἐπληροῦτο	αὐτοῦ	τεσσαρακονταετῆς	χρόνος
when	And	was full	he	forty years	old
G5613	G1161	G4137	G846	G5063	G5550

ἀνέβη	ἐπὶ	τὴν	καρδίαν	αὐτοῦ	ἐπισκέψασθαι	τοὺς
it came	into		heart	he	to visit	
G305	G1909	G3588	G2588	G846	G1980	G3588

ἀδελφοὺς	αὐτοῦ	τοὺς	υἱοὺς	Ἰσραήλ
brethren	he		the children	of Israel
G80	G846	G3588	G5207	G2474

## Additional Cross-References

---

**Proverbs 21:1** (Parallel theme): The king's heart is in the hand of the LORD, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

---