

# 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

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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

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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

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

**Romans 2:1** — Judging others

## Study Questions

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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

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Ως δὲ ἐπληροῦτο αὐτοῦ τεσσαρακονταετὴς 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 to visit G3588 G2588 G846 G1980 G3588

ἀδελφοὺς αὐτοῦ τοὺς γίοὺς Ἰσραὴλ

brethren he the children of Israel

G80 G846 G3588 G5207 G2474

## Additional Cross-References

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**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.

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