

Numbers 26:59

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And the name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi, whom her mother bare to Levi in Egypt: and she bare unto Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister.

Analysis

The name of Amram's wife was Jochebed, the daughter of Levi—this staggering detail means Moses's mother was Levi's daughter, making her Amram's aunt (Exodus 6:20). Such unions were later forbidden (Leviticus 18:12), but before Sinai, they preserved Levitical purity. Jochebed (יְהִבֵּד, "YHWH is glory") bore the name of God—rare for pre-Mosaic times.

And she bare unto Amram Aaron and Moses, and Miriam their sister—three siblings who led the Exodus. A basket-making mother, a stammering son, a leprous daughter, and a son who made a golden calf (Aaron) changed world history. God uses broken families for glorious purposes. Jochebed's womb produced Israel's three foundational leaders.

Historical Context

Jochebed defied Pharaoh's infanticide decree (Exodus 1:22), hiding Moses three months before placing him in the Nile. Her faith (Hebrews 11:23) saved Israel's deliverer. This census, 80+ years after Moses's birth, records her name with honor. The midwives and Moses's mother—women of faith—preserved the nation.

Related Passages

John 3:16 — God's love and salvation

Ephesians 2:8 — Salvation by grace through faith

1 John 4:8 — God is love

1 Corinthians 13:4 — Characteristics of love

Study Questions

1. How does Jochebed's name ("YHWH is glory") reflect her faith in hiding Moses, trusting God's glory would prevail over Pharaoh's decree?
2. What does the production of three major leaders from one family teach about godly parenting's generational impact?
3. How does Jochebed's inclusion in a military census demonstrate that God values faithful mothers as much as warrior sons?

Interlinear Text

אֲשֶׁר לֹא יָשַׁב בַּת יְהוָה לְעַמְקָם אֲשֶׁר וְיָשַׁב בַּד יְהוָה בְּתִי לְעַמְקָם אֲשֶׁר וְיָשַׁב בַּד יְהוָה בְּתִי
And the name wife of Amram's was Jochebed the daughter of Levi H834
H8034 H802 H6019 H3115 H1323 H3878

אֲתָה לְעַמְקָם יְהוָה וְתַלְתָּה אֲתָה בְּמִצְרָיִם לְלֹא יְהוָה וְתַלְתָּה אֲתָה לְעַמְקָם יְהוָה וְתַלְתָּה אֲתָה
and she bare of Levi in Egypt and she bare of Amram's H853 H6019
H3205 H3878 H4714 H3205 H6019

אַחֲרֵיכֶם מִרְיָם וְאַתְּ מֹשֶׁה וְאַתְּ אַבְרָהָם
Aaron and Moses and Miriam their sister
H175 H853 H4872 H853 H4813 H269

Additional Cross-References

Exodus 6:20 (References Moses): And Amram took him Jochebed his father's sister to wife; and she bare him Aaron and Moses: and the years of the life of Amram were an hundred and thirty and seven years.

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