Exodus 1.8 – 2.10 (Wednesday 26/08/2020)

**The Birth of Moses**

(Exodus 1,8 – 2.10)

In our series looking at the Old Testament readings for the previous Sunday, we have reached the point where God begins the process to rescue his people, the children of Israel, who are now slaves in Egypt.

It’s a story we all know so well (we even have things called *Moses Baskets*), yet we can’t stop wondering at the shear precariousness of the way God chooses to act. We need also to remember that this story is very much a part of our story as people who God has also rescued and who has drawn us back to HIM.

There is a very human touch to this story particularly in the way that is arranged for the child’s mother to become a part of Pharaoh’s household to care for her baby.

Matthew, in his gospel, clearly echoes this story in his account of Jesus’ birth and the events that follow. The threat from Herod leads to the flight to Egypt. They remain there until the death of Herod and then are called to return to Israel and Matthew underlines the link with the story of the “Exodus” by the phrase, *“Out of Egypt I called my son”* (Matthew 2.15). Even then a potential threat from the son of Herod leads them to settle in Nazareth in the north.

Why not just sit quietly and think about the way God has always cared for his creation and the freedom he has always given to it. As the God of love, he will never force us because love never operates through force. These stories give us some feeling of the depth of God’s love for his creation. That includes YOU. You are so special in his eyes that he will go to these kinds of extremes just to draw you back into that right relationship with Him. Why not simply just reflect on that and give thanks?

**Prayers**

(just a few thoughts!)

* Let’s continue to remember those who are suffering from Covid infections at this time and also those who are close to them.
* Pray for folk who are still finding this “lockdown” so difficult to handle and for those who are worrying and trying to care for them.
* Let’s remember those known to each of us who are suffering from other chronic ailments and who are finding it difficult to get their normal care and support.
* Please pray for the teams who are working towards finding a therapy and a vaccine.
* Continue to hold in your prayers those in the NHS who are still very much the “front line”: and for their families who must continue to worry about them.
* Pray for those we know who are not well at this time and who are battling with the slow process of recovery. Continue to pray for Rebecca.
* Remember our government leaders and the scientists who advise them. They clearly need our prayers as they advise on the steps to come out of lock-down. Remember too those who are suffering real financial difficulties as businesses suffer and collapse.