

# Aaron

## “The Faithful”



*“The Lord said to Aaron, “Go into the wilderness to meet Moses.” So he went, and met him at the mountain of God and kissed him.”*  
Exodus 4:27

Aaron was the brother that helped Moses as he tried to free the people in Egypt and the brother that caused Moses a lot of problems while trying to be helpful. We remember that Moses was raised in the temple but Aaron and the sister, Miriam, were different in age and raised at their home according to most sources. That could have easily caused some jealousy.

When Moses told the Lord he could not do what he asked because he was not a good speaker, God told him to get Aaron to help. He did, and God blessed them both in many ways. While, Aaron was very ambitious, Moses was modest in many ways. The Lord told Moses that he should tell Aaron what had been revealed to him and that Aaron would help in his struggle to free the people. Moses told Aaron what the Lord said, the signs which they would be given, and the charges they were to heed. Aaron and Miriam, the sister, worked together for many years, but none was perfect.

Aaron responded and did what the Lord had told Moses to do. He said the right words, and showed the right signs. However, the Lord did not act quickly enough to suit Aaron. In fact it was many years so Aaron got weary and decided he would do some other things along the way that were not commanded by God.

While Moses was away on the mountain receiving the Ten Commandments from God, Aaron weakened to the will of the people and allowed the golden calf to be built for the people to worship. Aaron was rebuked and almost killed but God forgave him after Moses prayed for him. He lost the trust of the Lord and lost the faith of many of the people. He was not nearly as patient as Moses. He “meant well.” But, he had to be disciplined by God. Still, God blessed Aaron as Chief Priest.

Aaron was a faultless servant with his brother many times. One time, Aaron and his brother-in-law had to hold up Moses’ tired arms until Israel’s forces under Joshua won the battle.

Aaron's career seemed to blow hot and cold. There were several times when he did not do as God commanded and he was reprimanded, but then there were times when he along with Moses did many miracles and God thought enough of him to make him the first High Priest. Numbers 17:1-3.

How many times we mean to do the right thing. We have been given the signs of God’s power and beauty. We do fine until we decide we can handle it better than God. I know that I need patience at times! I have a cartoon my son gave me several years ago that reads “Dear Lord, I need patience, and I need it right now!”

Through all of this, God uses us if we allow Him to do so. He used Aaron for many good causes. But, He had to discipline him, just as He needs to discipline us at times. We need to learn that we can’t control everything. Neither Moses nor Aaron was permitted to enter the Promised Land but they received many blessings in their lives.

How we respond to this discipline is important. Do we accept it and try to do better and let more of God shine through us? Do we rebel and say “Well, the church doesn’t need me. I can use my talents somewhere else?”

In Hebrews 5:4 we read “And no man taketh this honour unto himself, but he that is called of God, as was Aaron.” That is a very high tribute. God doesn’t expect us to be perfect, but He does want us to be loyal and follow His commands. We cannot call ourselves to an honored position, but God can and will if we love him.

Prayer: Gracious and loving God, you have given us so much and yet we often decide we need more money, more power, and more attention. Help us to realize that all we have comes from You, and then help us to seek to do your will and not assume we have the power to do anything except through you. Amen.

1. Why are we hesitant to speak up when we know the Lord has promised to be with us?
2. What can happen that makes us feel we can handle things without the help of God?
3. Have we lost sight of our real goal? Do we assume too much power?

4. Can we sometimes cause problems for God and other people when we are trying to be helpful?

Aaron: Although he is mostly seen in the shadow of Moses, he was himself extremely important. His life story is given predominantly in Exodus, but he is also mentioned in many other books of the Old Testament including Leviticus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, Joshua, Judges, I and II Chronicles, and Psalms. He is also mentioned for his loyalty in a couple books of the New Testament, particularly Acts 7, and Hebrews 5, 7, and 9.

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