

## Gleanings from the Pentateuch

*A Prophet Like Moses*  
(Numbers 12:1-16)



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(1834-1892)  
"Prince of Preachers"

### Murmurings...

- Moses' despair (Num. 11:11-15)
- God's gracious response (Num. 11:16-17)
- Moses' humility (Num. 11:26-29)

### Murmurings...

#### "Against Moses"

##### 1. The initial grievance

- the ethnicity of Moses' wife ("Cushite") – the principal instigator is Miriam
- appears to have been only a pretext for the real issue

### Murmurings...

#### "Against Moses"

##### 2. The real issue

- jealousy over Moses' unique role as God's spokesman for the people
- asserted equality with Moses as those who spoke for God

### Murmurings...

#### "Against Moses"

##### 3. God's response

- He vindicated Moses' unique role as His servant to whom He spoke directly
- He rebuked Aaron and Miriam for speaking against Moses
- He struck Miriam with a skin disease – public shame and isolation

## Murmurings...

### Primary Significance

#### ➤ *Moses prefigures Christ*

- Jesus is a "prophet like Moses" (unique) who mediates a new covenant (Deut. 18:15)
- Jesus far exceeds Moses in His unique relationship to and revelation of God

## Murmurings...

### John 1:17-18

"For the Law was given through Moses; grace and truth were realized through Jesus Christ.

No man has seen God at any time; the only begotten of God, who is in the bosom of the Father, He has explained Him."

## Murmurings...

### Matthew 17:4-5

"And Peter answered and said to Jesus, 'Lord, it is good for us to be here; if You wish, I will make three tabernacles here, one for You, one for Moses, and one for Elijah.

While he was still speaking, behold, a bright cloud overshadowed them; and behold, a voice out of the cloud, saying, 'This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him!'"

## Murmurings...

### Hebrews 1:1-2

"God, after He spoke long ago to the fathers in the prophets in many portions and in many ways, in these last days has spoken to us in His Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom also He made the world.

## Murmurings...

### Hebrews 3:5-6

"Now Moses was faithful in all His house as a servant, for a testimony of those things which were to be spoken later;

but Christ was faithful as a Son over His house whose house we are, if we hold fast our confidence and the boast of our hope firm until the end."

## Murmurings...

### Primary Significance

#### ➤ *Moses prefigures Christ: Implications*

- As God's Son, Jesus is a prophet *par excellence* – the final, complete, authoritative revelation of God; Himself the source of life and light
- Speaking against or rejecting Jesus will result in God's wrath and judgment (Heb. 10:29)

## **Murmurings...**

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### **Secondary Application**

1. Do not envy one another; do not desire the preeminence
2. God will always vindicate His faithful servants