

## My Ark Is Christ

Hebrews 11:23

There are three arks mentioned in Scripture; each was a place of refuge, shelter, and safety. Each ark pictures *our Refuge*, Jesus Christ. There was Noah's ark and the ark of the covenant, but most don't know the third ark mentioned. It is the ark of Moses, specifically, the basket of bulrushes that Moses' parents placed him in as a baby to protect him from the wicked Pharaoh of Egypt; this ark teaches us much!

"By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict" (Hebrews 11:23).

### I. **Everyone whom God places in the ark of Christ is considered beautiful in His eyes.**

Of course, every parent deems their child the most beautiful child in the world. That's parental love. I find it somewhat bizarre, however, that some of my reformed friends believe that God sees His Children as ugly. Isaac Watts, the hymn writer opines: "Alas! And did my Savior bleed? And did my Sovereign die? Would he devote that sacred head for such a worm as I?" No, Isaac, He would not. Those whom the Father gives to His Son He deems beautiful. "I have loved you with an everlasting love" (Jer. 31:3). God sets His affection on the most vile, ugly and grotesque sinners and transforms them by His love.

### II. **Everyone whom God places in the ark of Christ is carefully protected from harm.**

The birth of Moses came at the very height and fury of Hebrew persecution. There arose another Pharaoh who "did not know Joseph," and Egypt turned against the Hebrews in Goshen. Frightened by their numbers, the new Pharaoh ordered all the male children of the Hebrews to be executed. His aim was the utter annihilation of God's people pharaohs were as vain as they were barbaric in nature. "For the wrath of man will praise You: what is left of man's wrath You will restrain" (Psalm 76:10). Moses' parents (Amram and Jochebed) were people of faith; therefore, they were not afraid of the king. "What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee. In God I will praise His word, in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me" (Psalm 56:3-4). Where is your trust and faith placed today? Mom and Dad, listen to Matthew Henry, "It is a happy thing when yoke-fellows draw together in the yoke of faith, as heirs of the grace of God; and when they do this in a religious concern for the good of their children, to preserve them from those who would destroy their lives and their minds."

### III. **Everyone whom God places in the ark of Christ is given grace to persevere in obedience.**

Moses' parents hid him for three months? Have you forgotten what it's like to care for an infant? Theirs was a persevering faith. No doubt they made many cries unto God. Can you imagine what faith it required to put that baby in a basket and leave him alone to God's care in the Nile River? "Jude, the servant of Jesus Christ, and brother of James, to them that are sanctified by God the Father, and **preserved in Jesus Christ**, and called" (Jude 1:1). I will often have people say to me, "Preacher, what are we going to do to shut the back door of the church?" My response, "Nothing." "He who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion unto the day of Christ" (Phil. 1:6).

### IV. **Everyone whom God places in the ark of Christ ultimately serves a purpose for the Kingdom.**

Every day you draw breath you have a purpose; it may be for the mailman or the nurseryman; it may be for your child or your grandchild; it may be for the person you speak with on the phone or for the the nurse who speaks to you in the bed. Every day of your life is lived for the purpose of Christ. This boy in the bulrush basket went on to become leader of Israel; God's plan is even better for you!