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A Biographical Study of Miriam

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Miriam

CHRONOLOGICAL SUMMARY

- I. Her care for her brother Moses
 - A. Miriam was the elder sister of Aaron and Moses (Exod. 15:20; 1 Chron. 6:3)
 - B. She may have been married to a man named Hur (Exod. 17:10-12; 24:14).
 - C. She cleverly arranged for her baby brother Moses to be raised by his own mother when he was rescued from the Nile River by Pharaoh's daughter (Exod. 2:1-9).
- II. Her celebration with her brother Moses
 - A. Miriam was Scripture's first recorded prophetess (Exod. 15:20).
 - B. She led the Israelite women in a victory song and celebration following the destruction of Pharaoh's army at the Red Sea (Exod. 15:20-22).
- III. Her criticism of her brother Moses
 - A. The reason for her criticism—Both she and Aaron criticized Moses for two reasons:
 1. Because he had married a Cushite wife (Num. 12:1)
 2. Because he assumed he was God's only spokesman—which of course he was (Num. 12:2)
 - B. The results of her criticism
 1. Both Miriam and Aaron were rebuked by God, and she was punished with leprosy (Num. 12:4-10).
 2. At Aaron's tearful plea, Moses prayed to God and she was healed of her leprosy. She thus became the only Israelite to be healed of leprosy in the Old Testament (Num. 12:11-15).
 3. Miriam died and was buried at Kadesh in the wilderness during the Exodus march (Num. 20:1).

STATISTICS

Father: Amram (Num. 26:59)

Mother: Jochebed (Num. 26:59)

Spouse: Thought to be Hur (Exod. 17:12)

Brothers: Moses and Aaron (Exod. 15:20; 1 Chron. 6:3)

First mention: Exodus 15:20

Final mention: Micah 6:4

Meaning of her name: "Fat, thick, strong"

Biblical books mentioning him: Five books (Exodus, Numbers, Deuteronomy, 1 Chronicles, Micah)

Occupation: Prophetess (Exod. 15:20)

Place of death: In the Kadesh wilderness (Num. 20:1)

Important fact about her life: She was Moses' only sister (1 Chron. 6:3)