

## MOSES' UNIQUE PROPHETIC STATUS

- Deuteronomy 34:10-12 is made retrospectively after Moses' death.
- It affirms Moses as the standard by which all later prophets are measured, while also anticipating "a prophet like unto Moses" (Deut. 18:15).
- Moses is both founder (of Israel's prophetic tradition) and pattern for all who follow

## FROM PHARAOH'S CONFRONTER TO ISRAEL'S MEDIATOR

- **Commission to Confront Pharaoh** – Exodus 3–4; 7:1–8  
God calls Moses to lead Israel out of Egypt. Aaron becomes his spokesman: God → Moses → Aaron → Pharaoh.
- **Transition to National Spokesman** – Exodus 12; 19:7–8  
After the Exodus, Moses conveys God's instructions to Israel (Passover, wilderness laws) and mediates at Sinai, carrying words between God and the elders.
- **Israel's Request for a Mediator** – Exodus 20:18–19; Deuteronomy 5:5, 23–27  
The people fear God's voice and ask Moses to stand between them and God—formally establishing his prophetic mediation.

## MOSES AS THE RECEIVER AND REVEALER OF GOD'S WORDS

### A. DIRECT AND REPEATED REVELATION

- The Decalogue - Deuteronomy 4:12–13 – God spoke directly to the people
- Book of the Covenant – Exodus 24:3–4, 7 - God's civil and moral laws written and read by Moses; the people agree to obey.
- Levitical Law – Leviticus 1:1 - God speaks from the Tabernacle, giving Moses detailed priestly and ritual instruction.
- Tabernacle Communion – Numbers 7:89 - Moses hears God's audible voice from above the mercy seat—ongoing, unique communication.
- Deuteronomy Sermons – Deuteronomy 1:1–3 - Moses restates God's commands and exhorts a new generation before entering the land.

### B. CONTRAST WITH OTHER PROPHETS

- Later prophets called the people back to Moses' law; Moses gave the law.
- Later prophets received visions, dreams, or isolated oracles (cf. Num. 12:6), but Moses spoke with God "mouth to mouth, even apparently, and not in dark speeches" (Num. 12:8).
- Moses' prophetic ministry is thus both foundational and unique in mode of revelation.

## C. THEOLOGICAL SIGNIFICANCE

- Moses' prophetic office shows that the highest mark of a prophet is not miracle-working or foretelling the future, but being the authorized mouthpiece of God's revelation.
- His role as receiver and revealer establishes the pattern by which all prophetic claims are to be measured (Deut. 18:15–22).
- His words carried covenantal authority; to reject Moses' revelation was to reject God Himself (cf. Deut. 18:19).

## MOSES' INTERCESSORY ROLE AS PROPHET

### A. KEY EPISODES OF INTERCESSION

- Golden Calf Incident (Exodus 32–34)
- Refusal to Enter the Land (Numbers 14)
- Various Wilderness Complaints

### B. COMPARISON WITH OTHER PROPHETS

Moses isn't the only prophet who intercedes, others follow this pattern in limited ways:

- Abraham – Pleads for Sodom (Genesis 18); a single intercession for one city.
- Samuel – Prays for Israel after they ask for a king (1 Samuel 7; 12); national intercession, occasional.
- Elijah – Prays for drought and later for rain (1 Kings 17–18); focused on judgment and restoration.
- Jeremiah – Intercedes early (Jeremiah 14) but later forbidden (Jeremiah 7; 11; 14); judgment irreversible.
- Amos – Twice pleads for Israel (Amos 7:2–6); God relents briefly—temporary mercy.

#### What sets Moses apart:

- Frequency — Moses intercedes repeatedly throughout his ministry.
- Effectiveness — His prayers consistently change the course of events.
- Boldness — He argues with God using theological reasoning (appeal to God's name, promises, and character).
- Covenantal Role — His intercessions preserve the nation itself. Other prophets pray for mercy; Moses' prayers literally hold the covenant together after Israel's rebellion.

## MOSES' PROPHETIC LEGACY

- Later prophets constantly appeal to the law of Moses (e.g., Joshua 1:7–8; Malachi 4:4).
- Moses provides both content (the Law) and a model (the prophetic office).