

to speak out. And if they say something against our family then we certainly speak out. But Moses was ready to stand and fight for the Lord, but when it came to his own integrity, to his own standing ordinarily he did not. And on this particular occasion Moses showed a meekness that is very very difficult to equal. He doesn't mean that Moses was always extremely meek. No. He means in this occasion he did something you could hardly expect a human being to do -- to sit quiet when they were criticizing his wife and his family in this way. Moses was so concerned for the glory of the Lord that the honor of himself and his family was ~~the~~ to him something that he could forget because he was too busy working for the Lord. But he felt it. He felt it very keenly. But he did nothing about it. He was ready to fight for the Lord. But ordinarily he put his own concerns in the background as we all should. And so we read before that, The Lord heard it, and in vs. 4 we read, And the Lord spoke suddenly to Moses and Miriam and Aaron and said Come out you three to the tab. of the cong. And they three came out. The Lord spoke suddenly to Moses. This sudden~~ly~~ speaking --- one commentary says the word should be translated, The Lord spoke immediately to Moses. Well I looked over about 20 cases where the Heb. word occurs. And I found that in most of them "immediately" just wouldn't make sense at all. The Lord will come suddenly to His temple. It doesn't mean he will come immediately to his temple. He hasn't done it yet. 1000 yrs. have passed. He is coming. He's coming suddenly. It'll be unexpected, but we don't know when he will come. And here they were gabbing ~~by~~ gabbing gabbing going about <sup>talking this</sup> /this way, and all of a sudden God gives them a command. It wasn't immediately. It wasn't the first time they said it. We all speak idle words. We shouldn't but we do. God remembers every idle word but He doesn't immediately intervene. But when they were going about doing this and Moses was sitting there thinking O my, Look the way they are talking about her. Look at what they are saying. But he says I'm ~~so~~ too busy with the Lord's work to do anything myself about it and anyway think of how important Aaron and Miriam are anyhow in the work. I'll put up with this if I have to. I'll put up with it and say nothing, but it's mighty difficult. So difficult that as he looked back on it later he said, At that occasion I was the meekest man on the face of the earth. But the Lord spoke suddenly and the Lord interfered and called them out.