

Study guide questions
Vince Sawyer: “The Fall of a Great Leader as Illustrated in the Life of Moses”

Intro

1) Why is the author criticizing Moses leadership and pointing out his faults – is there a reason beyond just being critical?

The Pressure of Difficulties on Leadership

2) Sawyer opens the first section of his article by discussing the inevitable pressure that a leader feels during times of difficulty. What are some of these pressures that Moses was feeling?

3) What is Sawyer’s second main point – he discusses the inevitable difficulties of leadership, but now what is he suggesting that we do about it? What example does he use support this point?

The Sin of Disbelief by Leadership

4) Sawyer goes onto discuss how disbelief and disobedience is first manifested in a leaders what? What three internal sins did Moses commit before committing the sin of disobedience?

5) What is the second way through which disbelief can manifest itself ? How was Moses disobedience manifested through such means?

6) What is the third way through which disbelief manifests itself? How did Moses disobey God in this way?

The Increased Demands of Leadership

7) In the section entitled “leaders are responsible to pay for their own sin” Sawyers says that not even Moses was an exception to what? Sawyer offers two reasons for why Moses would have been receiving this punishment – what are these two reasons and how is each theory supported?

8) What is Sawyers second main point in this section? How was Moses sin set apart from that of the Israelites?

9) Relative to their people’s how are a leaders sins judged? Why is this so?

The High Cost of Disobedience in Leadership

10) According to Sawyer, despite the results what does disobedience mare?

11) Does God receive glory despite a leaders disobedience? How do we see this in the text?

12) What do we experience a restriction in when we disobey God? How was this true in Moses life?

13) What feeling is always a result of disobedience? How do we know that Moses experienced this feeling?

14) What are the two final points that sawyer makes about what can be done if the testimony of a leader fails?