

save one a lot of grief later on. Now this was a very serious situation - No.1.

2. Reasons and Excuses for Opposition. We read the first vs. the excuse.

"And Miriam and Aaron spake against Moses because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married for he had married an Ethiopian woman." Why do we have to have that added, "for he had married an Ethiopian woman." We are told before about how Moses married the daughter of the priest of Midian, and how he lived with Jethro 40 yrs. and how in the wilderness Jethro brought Zipporah to him. She was not an Ethiopian woman. And we were told about that. and now we read they criticize him because of the Ethiopian woman whom he had married, "for he had married an Ethiopian woman." Very evidently something had happened in between that the Bible does not tell us about. Probably Zipporah had died and Moses had married again. We do not have a statement so we can only speculate. But this is very evidently not Zipporah. Moses's second wife was an Ethiopian woman and Miriam and Aaron go about criticizing Moses for his marriage. And the second vs. says, They said Has the Lord indeed spoken by Moses? Has He not spoken also by us? And the Lord heard it." Here we have the reason and the excuse. The reason was jealousy. They ~~worked~~ worked with Moses. They did great things under Moses' direction. And they thought Moses is getting all the credit. Why shouldn't we be getting more credit for what we are doing? Hasn't the Lord also spoken by us? We are not getting the credit we ought to have here. And that is the reason, but the other is the excuse. And how often you find that people are talking a lot about ~~it~~ what are only excuses. Rationalizing when some sinful feelings, some human pride, some human desire for personal advancement is real thing that is underneath leading them to this. And so Moses and Aaron, they didn't just say this once. I think that is quite obvious. They were talking around against Moses. Why should Moses be the supreme head? Well he's a good man. It's good to have him help in the work but why should he have the top say? Aren't we just as great as Moses? We're both older than he is. We knew a lot of things before Moses began to learn anything.