

THE BURNING BUSH

July 21,2020

Read EXODUS 3:1-8 (on next page if you don't have a bible)

How would you react if you saw a burning bush? Especially if the bush just kept burning and burning and was never destroyed? Would you run away or go for a closer look?

Moses was curious; he wanted to see what was going on with this bush. And then God called to him from the bush, called him by name; Moses, Moses. I don't know about you, but I would have run away really fast if a voice came out of a burning bush. But Moses' heart knew this was the voice of God; so he answered, Here I am. Then God told Moses to take off his sandals. Why do you think God told Moses to do that?

Back in the days of Moses, when you went to someone's house, you took off your sandals before entering their home. This was a sign of respect. You did not walk in their house with your dirty sandals.

So God's house is wherever God is. At this time, God was in the burning bush. He wanted to test Moses to see if he still respected God. Moses had just spent the last 40 years tending sheep and living in a desert. This was a hard, lonely job. He lived in a tent and was very poor. Moses had lived his first 40 years as a prince in a castle with lots of servants to wait on him. God was the reason Moses was now a poor shepherd instead of a prince. Did Moses still respect and love God?

Not only did Moses remove his sandals as God told him to, he covered his face as Moses knew God was too awesome to look upon. 'for he was afraid to look upon God' really means Moses knew how wonderful and powerful and loving God is. Moses also knew how sinful and weak he, as all humans, are. Moses did not feel worthy to look upon God.

But even though Moses did not look at God, he LISTENED to what God was telling him. God knew the Jews, God's chosen people, were slaves in Egypt and lived a miserable life. It was now the right time for God to send someone to rescue them from slavery. And God was choosing Moses, who showed God he loved and respected Him.

QUESTIONS:

1. When you talk to God (pray), how do you show respect while you pray?
2. Do you think Moses was afraid when God's voice called him from the burning bush?
3. Why did Moses remove his sandals?
4. Should you listen to God even though you can't see Him?

EXODUS 3:1-8

Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, *even* to Horeb. And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon this sits is holy ground. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God. And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Cannities, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.