

Wednesday Night Worship & Study
Exodus Bible Study
September 23rd, 2020

Last Week - Exodus 3: God and Moses at the burning bush Part I

- PLACE: At Horeb (aka Mt. Sinai) Moses meets God at the burning bush that doesn't burn (Part I).
- CONVERSATION (part I):
 - LORD: I have seen My people in oppression...I have come to deliver them out of Egypt and to a land:
 - Fowing with milk and honey,
 - Where the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites live.
 - I'm sending you Moses to bring them out
 - Moses: Who am I that I should go?
 - LORD: I will certainly be with you
 - Moses: Who shall I say sent me?
 - LORD: My name is I AM WHO I AM:
 - The God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
 - The elders and people will hear you but pharaoh will not let you go for I have hardened his heart
 - You will plunder Egypt when you go
- APPLICATION:
 - We have the same things as Moses:
 - God called Moses, God called us
 - God told Moses what to do, God gives us His Word to know what to do
 - God was with Moses, God is in us
 - God providentially worked in Moses to accomplish the promises of Gen 15, God providentially 'works all things for good to those who love Him' per Rom 8:28
 - If that is true, then – YOU can have peace and joy by obeying God knowing He is providentially working ALL things for good through His sovereign power.

Tonight

Exodus 4 the text – God and Moses at the burning bush Part II

Vs 1-17 – The Conversation continues:

Moses: What if they don't believe or listen to me?

God: I'm giving you 3 signs:

- Rod that turns to a snake
- Leprous hand
- Water to blood

Moses: I am not eloquent...I am slow of speech and slow of tongue.

God: Who made your mouth? Who made the mute, the deaf, the seeing, and the blind? Didn't I do that? *Therefore go*, I will be with your mouth and teach you what to say.

Moses: Oh my Lord, please send someone else.

God: I will teach you and Aaron what to say; I will speak to you, you will speak to Aaron, and Aaron will speak to the people

Vs 18-23 – Moses heads to Egypt

- First to father-in-law Jethro
- God says:
 - All those of concern in Egypt are dead
 - He will hardened Pharaoh's heart (ref Rom 9:14-24)
 - Israel is God's 'firstborn', 1st Son Significance in the Bible
 - 1st born son assumed the father's authority and responsibility; received twice what other sons received
 - If to a king, 1st born is successor to the throne
 - Pharaoh saw himself as the only son of the gods and his son was both special and sacred
 - Here God is saying a nation is His 1st born
 - Warning to Pharaoh: if you refuse to let My people go, I will kill your 1st born son

Vs 24-26 – Last thing before we go (OR what is this?)!

- Before Moses was to perform this special ministry something regarding Gershom his firstborn son and circumcision was amiss:

- Circumcision was the sign (Gen 17) of the covenant between God and Abraham
 - Any one NOT circumcised was to be ‘cut off from his people, he has broken My covenant (Gen 17:14)
 - Jeremiah 4:4 Circumcise yourselves to the LORD, and take away the foreskins of your hearts, you men of Judah and inhabitants of Jerusalem, lest My fury come forth like fire, and burn so that no one can quench *it*, because of the evil of your doings.”
- Zipporah circumcises their firstborn son indicating Moses had NOT done what he was supposed to do in observing the covenant between God and Abraham...v26 So God let Moses go
 - God was going to kill Moses because Moses was supposed to teach the Israelites God’s Law, yet Moses was not obeying God’s Law himself.

Vs 27-30 – Final approach

- God tells Aaron to go meet Moses
- Leadership team of Moses and Aaron meet the elders of Israel and told them what God said and performs the signs for the people
- Israel believed that God had sent Moses to deliver them and they bowed and worshiped!

Application (for believers)

Generally, all believers are called to a ministry of the Great Commission:

Matt 28:18-19 “All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ teaching them to observe all things that I have commanded you; and lo, I am with you always, *even* to the end of the age.” Amen.

- Are you equipped for this holy ministry?

Specifically, each believer is given a unique gift and opportunity to use it(s). (1 Cor 12; Eph 4:7-16)

1 Cor 12:11 But one and the same Spirit works all these things (*ministries and gifts*), distributing to each one individually as He wills.

- Do you know your gift and how to use it to serve the body?
- How might you start?
- Don't think, just do

God gave Moses signs for the world (Pharaoh, Elders, Israel) to believe his message from God. God gives us 'signs' for the world to believe the message we have been given:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____
4. _____
5. _____

Before Next Wednesday Night

1. Read Exodus 5-6:13.
2. Work through the questions below as best you can and ask if you need help and/or want to discuss.

Questions

1. Is it ok to ask God for signs? Read Judges 6-8 about Gideon. Do you think that apply to us too? What two things do we have that Gideon didn't? Do you think having a sign from God would affect your obedience? Why or why not?
2. Read Genesis 17 about the sign of the covenant. Why did God give Abraham (and descendants) a physical sign of circumcision? Now read Romans 2:25-29 and Jeremiah 4:4 and see what you think.
3. Is it fair statement that God has saved you for His purpose, told you what to do, and is in you to help you? So what is stopping you from fully trusting God and doing all you know you are suppose to do?
 - a. How are you currently equipping your self for the Great Commission? What else do you need to do? How can "we" help you?
 - b. What are you doing to serve the body and be servced? What else do you need to do? How can "we" help you?

Questions from last week (*Let Scripture interpret Scripture!*)

Q1 Why did Moses need to take off his sandals? *A1 Another way of asking this the question is what does the bible mean by "holy ground" and why would one remove their sandals to walk on it? A nice overview is given at <https://www.gotquestions.org/holy-ground.html> There are other 'views' on this too (e.g. dirt was cursed in Gen 3 and sandals have dirt on them...).*

Q2 Was the reason that Pharaoh refused Moses' request related to the fact the Pharaoh is believed to be a mediator between the gods and man? *A2 Pharaoh refused Moses request because God had hardened his heart (4:21). Practically Pharaoh didn't want the Hebrews to leave because they were his workforce and he didn't want them on the side of any of his enemies.*

Q3: How was Jethro a priest? *A3 We don't know but a couple thoughts:*

- *There was no established priesthood at this point and when it gets established it is through Jacob's son Levi.*
- *The Midians were not Godly and later fought against Israel.*
- *But in Exodus 18 it seems that Jethro is a believer in God based on the conversation between he and Moses.*

Q5: Is it possible the Elders listened to Moses because he knew Egyptian royalty? Maybe he knew the Pharaoh more than the average Hebrew? *A4 By the time of the Exodus, Scripture says "all the men who sought your life are dead". When Moses was in Egypt the Pharaoh was Thutmose II and when he returns in Exodus it is Amenhotep II. That is all we have on this topic.*