

Wednesday Night Worship & Study
Exodus Bible Study
September 16th, 2020

Last Week

Big Take Aways in Exodus 2:

- Key concepts:
 - OT is always marching to the Person and work of Christ.
 - God is sovereign and accomplishes His will through divine providence. *The universe is NOT governed by chance or fate.*
- Moses is born and providentially raised as the son of Pharaoh's daughter until the age of 40.
- Hebrews 11:24-26 ²⁴ By faith Moses, when he was grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, ²⁵ choosing rather to be mistreated with the people of God than to enjoy the fleeting pleasures of sin. ²⁶ He considered the reproach of Christ greater wealth than the treasures of Egypt, for he was looking to the reward.
- Moses kills an Egyptian and flees to Midian where he marries a local girl and has a son (2).
- God hears His people in Egypt crying out, remembers His covenant with them, looks upon them and acknowledges them.
- God is personable and has a relationship with His people.

Tonight

Exodus 3 the text – God and Moses at the burning bush

Acts 7:30-32 ³⁰“And when forty years had passed, an Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire in a bush, in the wilderness of Mount Sinai. ³¹When Moses saw *it*, he marveled at the sight; and as he drew near to observe, the voice of the Lord came to him, ³²*saying*, ‘I *am* the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.’ And Moses trembled and dared not look.

Interesting terms and phrases in Exodus 3

- v1 Horeb (aka Mt Sinai in Deut 4:1 and Mountain of God in Ex 18:5)
 - Where Moses first encounters God in the burning bush. (Ex 3)
 - Where Moses leads the people to encamp for 11 months (Ex 19-40) to receive the Ten Commandments (Deut 5:2) and the law as well as instructions on how to worship, build the Tabernacle and the Ark of the Covenant.
 - Where God made a covenant with the people (Ex 19:8; Deut 5:2; 1 Kings 8:9)
 - Where the people rebelled and made a golden calf. (Ex 32)
 - Where Elijah fled from Jezebel and God spoke to him not in a windstorm, earthquake, or fire but in a gentle whisper. (1 Kings 19:1-12)

- vs 2-3 Burning bush that doesn't burn
 - Clearly a supernatural miracle
 - *Theophany* – a physical manifestation of God in the Bible that is tangible to human senses (can see and/or in human form):
 - Gen 12:7-9 Lord appeared to Abraham
 - Gen 18:1-22 three men (two angels and God Himself) visited Abraham
 - Gen 32:22-32 Jacob wrestled with a “man” that was God
 - Ex 13:21 God leads the people as a pillar of cloud by day and fire at night
 - Ex 24:9-11; Num 11:25 God appeared to Moses and 70 elders
 - Ex 24:16-17 glory of God rested as a cloud on Mt Sinai
 - Ex 25:22 God will meet and speak with them from above the ark of the covenant
 - Ex 40:34 glory of God covered the tabernacle as a cloud

- Num 12:5 God appeared as a pillar of cloud talking to Moses, Aaron, and Miriam (Moses' siblings dissension)
 - Deut 31:14-15 God appeared to Moses and Joshua in the transfer of leadership
 - Job 38-42 God answered Job out of a whirlwind
- v2 the Angel of the Lord
 - Angel of the Lord speaks as God, identifies Himself as God and exercises the responsibilities of God!
 - *Christopany? Christ in the OT before His birth*
 - Acts 7:30-32 Angel of the Lord appeared to Moses in a flame of fire in a bush... voice of the Lord came to him,
 - Gen 16:7-14 Angel of the Lord talked with Hagar at the spring after she fled Sarai (Sarah)
 - Gen 22:11-18 Angel of the Lord told Abraham not to sacrifice (kill) Isaac
 - 2 Kings 19:35 Angel of the Lord came and killed 185,000 Assyrians saving Hezekiah and Jerusalem from 'certain' defeat
 - Gen 21:17-18; Judges 2:1-4; 5:23; 6:11-24; 13:3-22; 2 Sam 24:16; Zech 1:12; 3:1; 12:8
- v5 afraid (Acts 7:32) afraid, trembled, wouldn't look at God
 - Rev 1:17 And when I (*John*) saw Him (*glorified Christ*), I fell at His feet as dead. But He laid His right hand on me, saying to me, "do not be afraid..."
- vs 8,17 Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites, and Jebusites
 - Immediately pictures the promise to Abraham in Gen 15:18-21 of a specific land where specific descendants of Canaan (son of Ham, son of Noah) live
 - Per Gen 9:24-27 where Noah curses Ham's son Canaan
 - Canaan's descendants named in Gen 10:15-18
 - Descendants received a sentence of judgment for the sins of their progenitor (Ham).
 - Deut 20:16-18 ¹⁶ "But of the cities of these peoples which the LORD your God gives you *as* an inheritance, you shall let nothing that breathes remain alive, ¹⁷ but you shall utterly destroy them: the Hittite and the Amorite and the Canaanite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite, just as the Lord

your God has commanded you, 18 lest they teach you to do according to all their abominations which they have done for their gods, and you sin against the LORD your God.

- Came to pass in Joshua 9, 10 (except the Gibeonites who were Hittites); all others were totally destroyed:
 - Lord cast down large hailstones that killed more than the sword (10:11)
 - Sun stood still to allow for total destruction (10:13)
- v11 “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”
 - Seems like a reasonable response does it not?
 - God equips the called (in Scripture?)
 - v12 So He said, “I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”
- v12 the sign: when I have brought you out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain
 - Not just delivered from slavery
 - Rescued to worship God
- v14 I AM who I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’
 - Hebrew word *hayah* (Strong’s H1961) – was, come to pass, came, has been, to be
 - Speaks to God’s attributes we studied:
 - **Eternality** – He has always been and always will be
 - **Immutability** – He is forever constant and unchanging
 - **Self Sufficient** – He needs nothing from anyone or anything to do what He wills to do and to accomplish what He wills to accomplish
 - Similar to Rev 1:8 ‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.’
 - God is the only One who can accurately describe Himself as “I AM”

- Jesus's seven great I AMs in the book of John:
 - I AM the Bread of life (ch 6)
 - I AM Light of the world (ch 8)
 - I AM Door of the sheep (ch 10)
 - I AM Good Shepherd (ch 10)
 - I AM the Resurrection and the Life (ch 11)
 - I AM the Way, the Truth and the Life (ch 14)
 - I AM the true Vine (ch 15)

- v19 Says king of Egypt (Pharaoh) will say no
 - Ps 105:23-25 Israel also came into Egypt, And Jacob dwelt in the land of Ham. ²⁴ He increased His people greatly, And made them stronger than their enemies. ²⁵ ***He turned their heart to hate His people,*** To deal craftily with His servants.
 - Rom 9:17-18 For the Scripture says to the Pharaoh, “For this purpose I have raised you up that I may show My power in you and that My name maybe declared in all the earth. Therefore, He has mercy on whom He wills, and whom He wills He hardens.

- vs 21,22 Egyptian's hearts will be turned to give gold and silver to the leaving Israel - plundering them! Ex 11:2

Application (for believers)

MOSES in Exodus 3	YOU (believer)
God called Moses	God called you; and justified you and promises to glorify you (Rom 8:30)
God told Moses what to do	God told you to keep His commandments (John 14:23, 15:10)
God told Moses He was certainly with him	God is <i>IN</i> you and ‘nothing can separate you from the love of Christ’ (Eph 1:13,14; Rom 8:39)
God providentially worked in Moses and Israel’s circumstances to do what He promised in Gen 15	God providentially works all things together for good for you (Rom 8:28)

When God called (saved) you, He gave you everything you need in His Word and the indwelling Holy Spirit. He is sufficient for every need in this life. Do you have faith that is true and trust that?

Your application (response) is to fear God and obey knowing He is sovereignly and providentially working everything else.

Peace and joy is found in obedience.

It is so easy to know and say, and yet can seem so difficult - until you begin to do it.

Before Next Wednesday Night

1. Read Exodus 4-5; Psalms 105.
2. Work through the questions below as best you can and ask if you need help and/or want to discuss.

Questions

1. When God called (saved) you, He gave you everything you need in His Word and the indwelling Holy Spirit. He is sufficient for every need in this life. Do you believe that (all of it)? Do you live your life like you believe it? If not, why not (what stops you)?

2. If God spoke to you from a burning bush that didn't burn and told you He was "I AM WHO I AM" (and you now know what that means) and told you to read your bible and obey it, would it change your behavior? (If so for how long?)
3. Read Romans 8:16-39. Does this sound sufficient for the believer to have peace and joy in this life?

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

Q1 What is the difference in timing and circumstances between Aaron and Moses? A1 *Per 1 Chronicles 6:1-3, it would seem Aaron was the elder of the two plus a sister Miriam. Perhaps the Pharaoh's decree on killing baby boys wasn't in effect when Aaron was born...ultimately we're not told.*

Q2 How was Moses viewed compared to an Egyptian? A2 *We don't know but we do know Pharaoh wanted to kill Moses after he killed an Egyptian 'overseer'. It would seem Pharaoh was more concerned about an uprising by the Hebrews than about Moses position in the royal court (reference Ex. 1:10).*

Q3 If God accomplishes His will through divine providence, does He cause or allow me to sin? A3 *No, God does not cause or tempt us to sin (James 1:12-18). In our disobedience we sin. Be amazed at how God is so big that He can 'accommodate' our sin as He providentially 'works all things together for good to those who love Him according to His purpose (Romans 8:28) – ultimately accomplishing His perfect will.*

Q4 How is a boat in water (e.g. Noah and the disciples in a boat) a picture or image of Jesus as our savior in the midst of deep waters (sin, trouble)? A4 *In a general sense one could picture Jesus as a boat that saves us. But nowhere in Scripture is Jesus pictured as a boat. Noah in the ark is a picture of God's grace in the midst of judgment on a sinful world (Gen 6). When the disciples were in the boat on the Sea of Galilee (Matt 8; Mark 4; Luke 8), the event was about the disciples' faith; Christ then demonstrated He is Lord over nature too when He rebuked the wind and the sea! Some of the more prominent pictures and/or images of Jesus as Savior are the seven "I AMs" in John (see lesson above on v14).*

Q5 How do we know we are the “elect” and can be assured of that? A5 *With regard to election and security of salvation, please read the Elder’s paper on Security of Salvation – if you can’t find it please contact an Elder! Only God know who are His and there is NO DOUBT in His mind – 2 Timothy 2:19. The Spirit Himself testifies with our spirit that we are God’s children – Romans 8:16. Also, unbelievers (non-elect) are not concerned with whether they are elect or not as they reject Christ.*

Q6 Did Moses know he was adopted before he ran off? A6 *It would seem so from Ex 2:11 and Acts 7:23 (“went out to his brothers”). Based on the actions of Exodus 5:25-26, it would seem Moses was circumcised as a baby while under the care of his Jewish parents.*

Q7 Why is Moses father-in-law first introduced as Reuel in 2:18 and then called Jethro just a few verses later in 3:1 and then everywhere else? A7 *I don’t know but it is not uncommon for individuals in the Bible to have different names, names stated in different languages, and/or names that are changed. E.g. Levi/Matthew, Saul/Paul, Jesus/Immanuel, Mark/John Mark, Peter/Cephas, Abram to Abraham, Sarai to Sarah, etc.*

Q8 Was Moses killing a sin or a judgment by God (Acts 7:24 – Moses as the ‘deliverer’)? A8 *There are different views of interpreting Acts 7:24 and whether Moses was a ‘deliverer’ or just a vigilante. Killing is one of the Ten Commandments. Notable exceptions are when God told Israel to kill everyone when they took over the Promise Land (Joshua; Deut 20:16-18, more) and when Saul was told to put King Agag to death (1 Sam 15:1-9).*