

— Exodus 2.23 – 3.15 —
Exodus Series 5
Ambrose Service, Jan 12, 2025
God Calls Moses 1

Ex 2²³ Now it happened in the process of time that the king of Egypt died. Then the children of Israel groaned because of the bondage, and they cried out; and their cry came up to God because of the bondage. ²⁴ So God heard their groaning, and God remembered His covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. ²⁵ And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God acknowledged them. ³ ¹ Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. And he led the flock to the back of the desert, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. ² And the Angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush. So he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, but the bush was not consumed. ³ Then Moses said, "I will now turn aside and see this great sight, why the bush does not burn." ⁴ So when the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." ⁵ Then He said, "Do not draw near this place. Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." ⁶ Moreover He said, "I am the God of your 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. ⁷ And the LORD said: "I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. ⁸ So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites. ⁹ Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰ Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" ¹² So He said, "I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain." ¹³ Then Moses said to God, "Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they say to me, 'What is His name?' what shall I say to them?" ¹⁴ And God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And He said, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" ¹⁵ Moreover God said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.'"

► _____ years have gone by since Moses fled from Egypt to Reuel" household in Midian, so Moses is now _____ when ch 3 opens (Ex 7.7; Act 7.30).

► Moses' father-in-law is called Reuel (Friend or Shepherd of God – focusing on his role as _____) and Jethro (Preeminent – indicating that he was also a _____).

► Horeb is also known as Mt _____.

► The reason the burning bush does not burn up is that the fire is not ordinary fire, but the fire of God's _____, which in reality is myriads of _____ reflecting and radiating the _____ of God.

Ex 24 ¹⁶ Now the glory of the LORD rested on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it ... And on the seventh day He called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. ¹⁷ The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain

Ex 40 ³⁴ [T]he cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle ... ³⁸ [T]he cloud of the LORD was above the tabernacle by day, and fire was over it by night

Gn 15 ¹⁷ [B]ehold, there appeared a smoking oven and a burning torch that passed between those [sacrificial animal] pieces.

¹⁸ On the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram

Ex 14 ²⁴ [T]he LORD looked down upon the army of the Egyptians through the pillar of fire and cloud, and He troubled the army

Eze 1 ⁴ [B]ehold, a whirlwind was coming out of the north, a great cloud with raging fire engulfing itself; and bright-ness was all around it and radiating ... out of the midst of the fire ...

¹³ [The living creatures'] appearance was like burning coals of fire, like the appearance of torches going back and forth ... The fire was bright, and out of the fire went lightning. ¹⁴ And the living creatures ran back and forth, in appearance like a flash of lightning. ¹⁵ Now as I looked at the living creatures, behold, a wheel was on the earth beside each ... ¹⁸ As for their rims, they were so high they were awesome; and their rims were full of eyes ... ²⁶ And above the firmament over their heads was the likeness of a throne ... [with] a likeness with the appearance of a man high above it ... ²⁷ ... with the appearance of fire all around ... ²⁸ ... This was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the LORD.

Isa 6 ¹ I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lifted up, and the train of His robe filled the temple. ² Above it stood seraphim ... ⁴ And ... the house was filled with smoke.

Gn 28 ¹² [Jacob] dreamed, and behold, a ladder was set up on the earth, and its top reached to heaven; and there the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. ¹³ And behold, the LORD stood above it and said: "I am the LORD God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and your seed ... ¹⁴ ... and in your seed all the families of the earth shall be blessed."

Jn 1 ⁵¹ "Most assuredly, I say to you, hereafter you shall see heaven open, and the angels of God ascending and descending upon the Son of Man."

► The Angel (Messenger) of the LORD also is the LORD and is God. He is the _____ person of the Trinity, the eternal _____, whose unique calling is to reveal or _____ the Father and to accomplish his will.

Jn 1 ¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God ... ³ All things were made through Him, and without Him nothing was made that was made. ... ¹² [A]s many as received Him, to them He gave the right to become children of God, to those who believe in His name ...

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we beheld His glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father

1Cor 10 ¹ [O]ur fathers ... ³ all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴ and all

drank the same spiritual drink. For they drank of that spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

► The repetition of Moses' name indicates that this is an _____ one, who is demanding utter and immediate attention. "Here I am" means "I am here. You have my _____ attention."

► In the typology of the OT cleanness code, sandals are to protect one from the cursed _____. But where the presence of the LORD is, the ground is holy. To wear sandals would be to say that it is _____ holy, and thus that _____ is not holy, and thus that God is not _____.

Josh 5¹³ [W]hen Joshua was by Jericho, ... behold, a Man stood opposite him with His sword drawn ...¹⁴ [And] He said, ... "[A]s Commander of the army of the LORD I have now come." And Joshua fell on his face ... and worshiped ...¹⁵ Then the Commander of the LORD's army said to Joshua, "Take your sandal off your foot, for the place where you stand is holy."

So when the tabernacle is built, the priests will minister barefoot inside the tabernacle (Ex 28; 30.17-21; 39; 40.30-32).

► When God calls Moses to go bring the children of Israel out of Egypt, Moses feels totally _____ to the task, which is consistent with a _____ we see in Scripture.

Gideon: "How can I save Israel? [M]y clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house" (Jdg 6.15).

Isaiah: "Woe is me, for I am undone! Because I am a man of unclean lips" (Isa 6.5).

Jeremiah: "Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth" (Jer 1.6).

God has to reassure each of them, either by healing and equipping them or by promising to be _____ them, and thus to equip them in the moment. And God gives each of them a _____ to assure them that it is indeed God who is speaking to them.

► Moses asks what shall he tell the children of Israel when they ask God's _____? God's answer is one of the most significant revelations in Scripture.

• This is the same God who has revealed himself and made covenant _____ to Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob.

• While God has not changed, he is revealing himself by a new _____ to more fully reveal his changeless character and salvational purposes.

Ex 6³ "I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty [*El Shaddai*], but by My name LORD [*Yahweh* or *Yehovah*] I was not known to them."

God Almighty is the _____ making God, whom you can _____ implicitly, because he is the Almighty who created all things and rules over all things. I AM, a word play on *Yehovah* or *Yahweh*, is the eternal, self-existent, _____ changing God, whose is _____ faithful, whose love is _____ failing, and who therefore _____ keeps his promises. That's what God is emphasizing to Moses and the children of Israel.

Jn 8⁵⁶ "Your father Abraham rejoiced to see My day, and he saw it and was glad."⁵⁷ Then the Jews said to Him, "You are not yet fifty years old, and have You seen Abraham?"⁵⁸ Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM."⁵⁹ Then they took up stones to throw at Him

► In conclusion, what we see here is the remarkable nature of God's saving _____. The Israelites are riddled with unbelief and idolatry – they have largely forgotten God, and no longer identify with him. But _____ has not forgotten them – he remembers them, and he identifies with them. He says in so many words, "Those unfaithful sinners are _____ people, and I _____ deliver them." We see _____ doing the same thing in the NT.

Mt 3¹³ Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan to be baptized by him.¹⁴ And John tried to prevent Him, saying, "I need to be baptized by You, and are You coming to me?"¹⁵ But Jesus answered and said to him, "Permit it to be so now, for thus it is fitting for us to fulfill all righteousness." Then he allowed Him.

Heb 2¹⁴ Inasmuch then as the children have partaken of flesh and blood, He Himself likewise shared in the same, that through death He might destroy him who had the power of death, that is, the devil,¹⁵ and release those who through fear of death were all their lifetime subject to bondage.