

"<u>The Call of God</u>!" EXODUS Chapters 2 – 3

Chapter 2 – "*The Birth and Early Life of Moses*" (v1-10) God's divine plan & protection for Moses.

(v11-22) Moses character revealed - One who <u>defends the weak</u> - his Hebrew brother, the daughters of Midian in regards to the aggressive shepherds, <u>and he has a servant's heart</u> as he helps water the flocks. Yet, there is a great lesson here for Moses and us, Warren Wiersbe writes, "Like Peter in the Garden of Gethsemane, Moses depended on the sword in his hand and the energy in his arm. Later he was to exchange that sword for a rod, and the power would be from God's hand, not his own."

Moses received a gentile bride in Zipporah (*little bird*), just a Jesus will also receive a Jewish/Gentile bride through His church, Christ is the Bridegroom (John 3:29), and the church is His bride (Eph 5:25-33).

(v23-25) God hears the "cry" of His people!!! Listen to these passages:

Ps 4:1 - Answer me when I call to you, O my righteous God. Give me relief from my distress; be merciful to me and hear my prayer.

Ps 17:6 - I call on you, O God, for you will answer me; give ear to me and hear my prayer.

Ps 18:3 - I call to the LORD, who is worthy of praise, and I am saved from my enemies.

Ps 55:16 - But I call to God, and the LORD saves me.

Rom 10:11-13 -For the Scripture says, "Whoever believes on Him will not be put to shame." For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek, for the same Lord over all is rich to all who call upon Him. For "whoever calls on the name of the LORD shall be saved."

Insight on v.24 the people *"groaned,"* and we groan also, look at Romans 8:22-27; 2 Corinthians 5:1-10.

Chapter 3 – "Moses, the Burning Bush & the Call of God"

(v1-8) Moses is tending the flock; this is his training to tend the flock of God. *The Angel of the LORD ("messenger of Yahweh")* who, in context, turns out to be the Lord Himself talking to Moses (cf. Acts 7:30). In a holy and humble manner Moses observes and listens.

Fire represents power and purity, yet we see preservation. Remember on the Day of Pentecost in the upper room when the 120 were crying out to the Lord in prayer; then the Holy Spirit came upon them and they spoke with tongues of fire the wonderful works of God in every language and Peter preached and 3000 were saved! POWER, PURITY, & PERSERVATION!

In verse 8 God will *"come down and deliver His people!"* Looking prophetically to the world the Son of God, Jesus Christ has come down from heaven to deliver His people!

John 1:14 - *The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth.*

John 6:38-40 - For I have come down from heaven not to do my will but to do the will of him who sent me. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I shall lose none of all that he has given me, but raise them up at the last day. For my Father's will is that everyone who looks to the Son and believes in him shall have eternal life, and I will raise him up at the last day."

(v9-14) "*I AM WHO I AM*" - One of the most important names for God in the Old Testament is Yahweh, or Jehovah, from the verb "to be," meaning simply but profoundly, "*I am who I am*," and "*I will be who I will be.*" The four-letter Hebrew word <u>YHWH</u> was the name by which God revealed Himself to Moses in the burning bush (Ex 3:14). This bush was a vivid symbol of the inexhaustible dynamism of God who burns like a fire with love and righteousness, yet remains the same and never diminishes. Some English translations of the Bible translate the word as Jehovah, while others use Yahweh.

God is the author of life and salvation. His "I AM" expresses the fact that He is the infinite and original personal God who is behind everything and to whom everything must finally be traced. This name, "I am who I am," signals the truth that nothing else defines who God is but God Himself. What He says and does is who He is. Yahweh is the all-powerful and sovereign God who alone defines Himself and establishes truth for His creatures and works for their salvation. (from Nelson's Bible Dictionary)

<u>> Observe the "I AM's" of Jesus Christ, Immanuel (God with us), the Son of</u> God:

- John 6: 35, 48 I am the bread of life
- John 8: 12, 9:5 I am the light of the world
- John 8: 58 Before Abraham was, I am
- John 10:9 I am the door
- John 10:11 I am the good shepherd
- John 11:25 I am the resurrection and the life
- John 14:6 I am the way, the truth, and the life
- John 15:1 I am the true vine

(15-22) In verse 15 God declares that "This is <u>My name forever</u>, and this is My memorial to all generation" (Rev 3:8-10 - See, I have placed before you an open door that no one can shut. I know that you have little strength, yet you have kept my word and have not denied my name. I will make those who are of the synagogue of Satan, who claim to be Jews though they are not, but are liars — I will make them come and fall down at your feet and acknowledge that I have loved you. Since you have kept my command to endure patiently, I will also keep you from the hour of trial that is going to come upon the whole world to test those who live on the earth.)

A three-day journey, why? In Egypt the children of Israel are slaves, subjects to death. A threeday journey will produce a new life with a special delivery to the **Promised Land**. We were slaves to sin, and the wages of sin is death, whereas, Jesus died for us, resurrected three days later offering all who believe in His deliverance eternal life and the opportunity to go to the promise land, HEAVEN!

Conclusion: A New Testament testimony of Moses by Stephen in Acts Ch. 7.