

# Moses' Lesson

Week of Oct. 14 - 20, 2019

## Introduction

When it comes to important people in the Old Testament, Moses is “The Man”! He was the instrument through which Israel experienced God’s salvation. The Exodus of the Jewish people being led from slavery in Egypt to the Promised Land is a defining moment of the Old Testament. Moses is God’s point man for the job of bringing the people from slavery to freedom.

In this week’s lesson, we find Moses, who is 80 years old, not welcome among the Hebrews, not welcome among the Egyptians and not faithful in following the decrees of God. He is simply a shepherd trying to hide and quietly live out his life.

## Lesson EXODUS 3:1-15

**3** Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. **3** So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”

**4** When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.”

**5** “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” **6** Then he said, “I am the God of your father, <sup>[a]</sup>the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

<sup>7</sup> The Lord said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. <sup>8</sup> So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. <sup>9</sup> And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. <sup>10</sup> So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

<sup>11</sup> But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?"

<sup>12</sup> And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you<sup>[b]</sup> will worship God on this mountain."

<sup>13</sup> Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?"

<sup>14</sup> God said to Moses, "I am who I am.<sup>[c]</sup> This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I am has sent me to you.'"

<sup>15</sup> God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The Lord,<sup>[d]</sup> the 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, the name you shall call me from generation to generation."

## Questions

1. What are the first words Moses hears God speak?
2. How does God immediately protect Moses and what does this protection imply?
3. How does God identify himself in verse 6 and what is Moses' response?
4. Have you ever encountered a "burning bush" in your life? What is it?
5. Does God know your name? In what manner does He speak to you?
6. In verses 7-10, God tells Moses that He has been aware of five things concerning the Hebrews. What are they?
7. If we as Christians are suffering, and God remains silent, does that mean He is not aware of our suffering or that He doesn't care?
8. Does God always assign a time table for the plans He has made? How do our plans for our lives often change according to God's plan?

## Prayer

Dear Lord, thank you for the courage of Moses. Just as you spoke to Moses long ago, speak to our hearts today. Continue to guide us and give us each our own "burning bushes" in which your presence becomes clearer to us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.