

Lesson 09 - Moses and the Burning Bush

Opening Prayer:

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Dear God, help us to know that You are our God, and we are Your children. Teach us to respect You always, but especially in church and other places where we worship You.

In Jesus name. Amen.

Memory Work:

Catechism:

The First Petition of the Lord's Prayer

Hallowed be Thy name.

What does this mean?

God's name is certainly holy in itself, but we pray in this petition that it may be kept holy among us also.

Bible

⁴ When the LORD saw that Moses had come over to see it, God called to him from the bush, "Moses, Moses!" Moses answered, "Here I am!"

⁵ God said, "Don't come any closer! Take off your sandals because this place where you are standing is holy ground. (*Exodus 3:4-5*)

Focus:

God is God and He deserves our respect and attention. When we are in His presence, in places like church, we should always act respectfully, and remember that He is there to care for us, teach us, and tell us how to live. He does all of that because He wants us to get to Heaven.

Lesson:

Exodus 3:1-4:17

Notes of Interest:

v. 2 “*The Messenger/Angel of the Lord*” Whenever you see the words “**The** angel of the Lord” rather than “**an** angel of the Lord” it is the second person of the Trinity talking. This is Jesus, in the Old Testament, before being born and given the name Jesus. (Notice in verse 4 who is talking: God. Jesus is true God eternally without beginning or end, and true man from conception eternally without end.)

v. 14 “*I Am who I Am*” This is one Hebrew word YhaWH {YA-way}, and it is actually a bit difficult to translate. It can also mean: “*I am what I am,*” or “*I will be what I will be*” or all three of these together. In Bible times your name defined who you are. God is saying, “I define Myself.”

“LORD” In the Old Testament, whenever you see the word ‘Lord’ spelled in all capitals that is the the Hebrew word ‘YhaWH.’ The name God gave Himself.



^{3:1} Moses was taking care of the sheep of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian. As he led the sheep to the far side of the desert, he came to Horeb, the mountain of God.

² The Messenger of the LORD appeared to him there as flames of fire coming out of a bush. Moses looked, and although the bush was on fire, it was not burning up. ³ So he thought, “Why isn’t this bush burning up? I must go over there and see this strange sight.”



⁴ When the LORD saw that Moses had come over to see it, God called to him from the bush, “Moses, Moses!”

Moses answered, “Here I am!”

⁵ God said, “Don’t come any closer! Take off your sandals because this place where you are standing is holy ground. ⁶ I am the God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.” Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.



⁷ The LORD said, “I have seen the misery of my people in Egypt, and I have heard them crying out because of the slave drivers. I know how much they’re suffering. ⁸ I have come to rescue them from the power of the Egyptians and to bring them from that land to a good land with plenty of room for everyone. It is a land flowing with milk and honey... ⁹ I have heard the cry of the people of Israel. I have seen how the Egyptians are oppressing them. ¹⁰ Now, go! I am sending you to Pharaoh so that you can bring my people Israel out of Egypt.”

¹¹ But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the people of Israel out of Egypt?”

¹² God answered, “I will be with you. And this will be the proof that I sent you: When you bring the people out of Egypt, all of you will worship God on this mountain.”



¹³ Then Moses replied to God, “Suppose I go to the people of Israel and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ What should I tell them?”

¹⁴ God answered Moses, “I Am Who I Am. This is what you must say to the people of Israel: ‘I Am has sent me to you.’” ¹⁵ Again God said to Moses, “This is what you must say to the people of Israel: The LORD God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, has sent me to you. This is my name forever. This is my title throughout every generation.



¹⁶ “Go, assemble the leaders of Israel. Say to them, ‘The LORD God of your ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, appeared to me. He said, “I have paid close attention to you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt. ¹⁷ I promise I will take you away from your misery in Egypt to ... a land flowing with milk and honey.”’”



¹⁸ “The leaders of Israel will listen to you. Then you and the leaders must go to the king of Egypt and say to him, ‘The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us. Please let us travel three days into the desert to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God.’ ¹⁹ I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go, even if he is forced to. ²⁰ So I will use my power to strike Egypt. After all the miracles that I will do there, he will let you go. ²¹ I will make the Egyptians kind to the people of Israel so that, when you

leave, you will not leave empty-handed...

^{4:1} “They will never believe me or listen to me!” Moses protested. “They will say, ‘The LORD didn’t appear to you.’”



² Then the LORD asked him, “What’s that in your hand?”

He answered, “A shepherd’s staff.”

³ The LORD said, “Throw it on the ground.”



When Moses threw it on the ground, it became a snake, and he ran away from it.



⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, “Reach out and grab the snake by its tail.”

He reached out and grabbed it, and it turned back into a staff as he held it.

⁵ The LORD explained, “This is to convince the people that the LORD God of their ancestors, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, appeared to you.”

⁶ The LORD said to him, “Put your hand inside your shirt.” So Moses did this, and when he took his hand out, it had a skin disease. It looked as flaky as snow. ⁷ “Now put your hand back inside your shirt,” the LORD said. Moses put it back, and when he took it out this time, it was healthy again like the rest of his body.





⁸ Then the LORD said, “If they won’t believe you or pay attention to the first miraculous sign, they may believe the second. ⁹ But if they won’t believe these two miraculous signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile River and pour it on the ground. The water you take from the Nile will turn into blood on the ground.”

¹⁰ Moses said to the LORD, “Please, Lord, I’m not a good speaker. I’ve never been a good speaker, and I’m not now, even though you’ve spoken to me. I speak slowly, and I become tongue-tied easily.”



¹¹ The LORD asked him, “Who gave humans their mouths? Who makes humans unable to talk or hear? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? It is I, the LORD! ¹² Now go, and I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”



¹³ But Moses said, “Please, Lord, send someone else.”

¹⁴ Then the LORD became angry with Moses and asked, “What about your brother Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He’s already on his way to meet you, and he will be very glad to see you. ¹⁵ You will speak to him and tell him what to say. I will help both of you speak, and I will teach you both what to do. ¹⁶ Aaron will speak to the people for you...”

¹⁷ Take that shepherd’s staff with you, and use it to do the miraculous signs.”



Review:

How did God appear to Moses? As a bush on fire but not burning up.

What is the first thing God told Moses to do? Take off his shoes, as a sign of respect.

What was the first miracle that God gave to Moses? The staff would turn into a snake.

What was the second miracle? His had got a bad disease, and the was healed.

What was the third? Get water from the river and pour it out on the ground where it would turn into blood.

What did Moses tell God? I'm not good at talking, send someone else.

Did God let Moses quit? No, but He sent Aaron to help.

Closing Prayer:

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In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Dear God, help us to believe in You. Help us to trust you. Help us to know that You will never leave us alone. When we are nervous or scared remind us that You are always with us and protecting us.

In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.