

Exodus 3:1-22 **Commission at the Burning Bush**

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.' ¹⁶ "Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, 'The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me, saying, "I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt; ¹⁷ and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey." ' ¹⁸ "Then they will heed your voice; and you shall come, you and the elders of Israel, to the king of Egypt; and you shall say to him, 'The LORD God of the Hebrews has met with us; and now, please, let us go three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.' ¹⁹ "But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. ²⁰ So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go. ²¹ And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians; and it shall be, when you go, that you shall not go empty-handed. ²² But every woman shall ask of her neighbor, namely, of her who dwells near her house, articles of silver, articles of gold, and clothing; and you shall put them on your sons and on your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians." NKJV

Facts Revealed:

- ✧ At the end of 40 years since Moses fled from Egypt and took up residence in Midian, God begins the process of delivering Israel from bondage by preparing Moses to lead them. [Acts 7:23, Exodus 7:7]
- ✧ Moses is on the far side of the desert of Midian at Mount Horeb the mount of Elohiym, tending the sheep of his father in law Jethro, the priest of Midian.
- ✧ Most unobtrusively Malak Yehowah (the Angel of the Lord) appeared to him in a flame of fire from the midst of a bush, the bush burned with fire but the bush was not consumed. Thus God got the attention of Moses in a very subtle way simply by peaking his curiosity at a small occurrence that might easily have been overlooked.

So often that is God's way in attracting His chosen ones even today, He acts in the most inconspicuous manner and simply and innocently gains our attention before introducing some life changing experience.

- ✧ This was an appearance that could be seen but not recognized or discerned until Moses responded out of curiosity and heard God speaking to him from the fire.
- ✧ The place where God reveals Himself to mankind is holy ground.
- ✧ God identified Himself as Elohey Aabiyka, Elohey Abraham, Elohey Isaac, Elohey Jacob (God of your fathers, God of Abraham, God of Isaac, God of Jacob).
- ✧ Moses was afraid to look at God so he fell on his face to the ground.
- ✧ God assured Moses that He had seen the plight of the Children of Israel in Egypt and that He had heard their cry because of their taskmasters, that He knows their sorrows, and that He has come down to deliver them out of bondage in Egypt, with the promise that He will take them from Egypt to a large land, a good land, a land flowing with milk and honey.
- ✧ God specified the location of the land to be the land of Canaan occupied by the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites.
- ✧ Then God said, "Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people the Children of Israel out of Egypt." So Moses is faced with the commission to bring Israel out of Egypt fulfilling his original expectation when he killed the Egyptian before he fled to Midian 40 years before. [Acts 7:23]
- ✧ Moses said, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the Children of Israel out of Egypt. He remembered that he had fled for his life when he was a general in the land of Egypt at age 40 and now he has been a shepherd for 40 years and is 80 years old.
- ✧ God assured Moses that He will be with him and the sign that he has been successful would be when he brings all the Children of Israel to this mountain of Horeb (Sinai) in the land of Midian in Arabia, east of the Red Sea (the Gulf of Elat, the Gulf of Aqaba).
- ✧ Moses asked what Name he should use for the Children of Israel to know that God had sent him.
- ✧ God had already said that He was Yehowah, Elohey Aabiyka, Elohey Abraham, Elohey Isaac, Elohey Jacob, *which is His Name forever, and His memorial to all generations*. What other name does He need? [Exodus 3:15]

But now He identifies Himself as Ehayeh Asher Ehayeh (I AM WHO I AM) tell them that Ehayeh (I AM) has sent you.

- ✧ Then God commanded Moses to go, gather the elders of Israel together and say to them:
 - “Yehowah, Elohey Aabiyka, Elohey Abraham, Elohey Isaac, Elohey Jacob appeared to me saying, I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt, and I have said I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites and

the Hittites and the Amorites and the Perizzites and the Hivites and the Jebusites, to a land flowing with milk and honey.

- ✧ Then God told Moses the result of his visit with the elders and with Pharaoh.
 - ✧ The elders will listen to you and go with you to Pharaoh.
 - ✧ You will say to Pharaoh “Yehowah Elohey (the Lord God of) the Hebrews has met with us, and now, please let us go three days journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to Yehowah Eloheynov (The Lord our God).”
 - ✧ Pharaoh will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand.
- ✧ God said, So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst, and after that he will let you go.
- ✧ And I will give this people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, and it shall be when you go, that you shall not go empty handed. But every woman shall ask of her neighbor who lives near her house, articles of silver, and gold, and clothing. You shall put them on your sons and your daughters. So you shall plunder the Egyptians.
- ✧ So God was open with Moses from the very start. At the time Moses was commissioned to bring Israel out of Egypt, God had told him what to expect about what Moses was to do and say, what the response of the elders would be, what the response of Pharaoh would be, and how God Himself would act with His great plagues followed by their departure with the spoils of Egypt in their possession.
- ✧ All this was revealed to Moses at the burning bush on the Mountain of Horeb in the land of Midian in Arabia. [[Galatians 4:25](#)]