

THE LIFE OF MOSES
PART 3
WHEN GOD CALLS YOUR NAME

I. THE SETTING

A. The people of Israel Exodus 2:23-25

1. God heard v. 24
2. God remembered v. 24
3. God saw v. 25

B. Moses - Exodus 3:1 "wilderness"

1. What has been going on with Moses?

II. GOD'S CLASSROOM

A. God's teachers

1. Desolation
2. Loneliness
3. Time - Acts 7:30 "forty years had passed"
4. Solitude

B. God's lessons

1. Humility
2. Patience
3. Failure isn't final
4. God's plan will be accomplished
5. Faith
6. Surrender

III. GOD'S REVELATION Exodus 3

A. An ordinary day v.1

B. A bush v. 2

1. An ordinary bush
2. What was happening to it was not ordinary

C. Moses response v.3, "I must turn aside and see why it is not burning up"

1. This burning bush certainly got Moses' attention
2. Sometimes, God uses extraordinary things to grab our attention

D. God's voice

1. "When"
 - a. Means at the same time
 - b. When did God speak to Moses?
 - c. Any lessons for us?
2. God called to him "Moses, Moses"
3. Moses response, "Here I am"
 - a. I am here or it's me
 - b. Some believe it means I am ready
 - c. That was all God wanted to hear from Moses
4. God's instructions v.5
 - a. "Don't come near"
 - b. "Take off your sandals"
 - c. "You are standing on holy ground"

5. "Holy" means separated
 - a. Separated from God /unapproachable
 - b. Separated from Moses' past
 - c. Separated from Moses' plans and ways
 - d. Separated from himself

6. "I am the God of your father" v.6
 - a. father =
 - b. "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and Jacob"
 - c. What did God declare by that?

7. At that moment, Moses hid his face
 - a. Why?
 - b. This is also the God who had told Moses he would lead the people out of Egypt

E. God's revelation v.7

1. "I have seen the affliction of my people"
2. "and have given heed to their cry"
3. "I am aware of their suffering"
4. What does that tell you about God?
5. What would that tell Moses about God?

F. God's declaration v.8

1. "I have come down to deliver them"
2. "and to bring them up to a good and spacious land"
3. Who will do it?
4. What do you think Moses thought at that moment?

5. This is a message that Moses' time in the desert and his time of preparation was over
6. God was ready to deliver the people and Moses was now ready as well

WHAT DO WE LEARN?

IV. GOD'S CALL UPON MOSES v.9, 10

- A. In v. 9, God again states that He has seen the affliction of His people
- B. In v. 8, God declared that He had come down to deliver His people
- C. In v. 10, God declares that He is going to use Moses to accomplish this
 1. I am going to do it and I need a man to work through and you are him
 2. Notice the words "come now"

V. MOSES' OBJECTIONS TO GOD'S CALL

#1 Excuse - "Who am I? v.11,12

- A. Moses remembered his past failures
 1. I tried this before God, and it did not work
 2. By the way, God often uses people who have failed. He seems to specialize in that.
 3. Abraham, Moses, Jonah, Rahab, David, Peter, us
- B. He is stating a complete lack of qualification to do this
 1. Who am I?
 2. It is a rhetorical question that expects the answer "nobody"
 3. 2 Corinthians 4:7 - earthen vessels= clay pots

4. Ephesians 1:11

5. 2 Chronicles 16:9

C. Why do we often resist such an amazing God who wants to use us?

1. Moses was not hearing God correctly

2. He only heard, "I will send you"

3. What part did he miss or ignore?

D. God's answer v.12

1. "Certainly"= for

2. "I will be with you"

3. "and this shall be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you

4. "You shall worship God at this mountain"

5. "at this mountain"

#2 Excuse-"I will not have all the answers" v.13

A. I will say to them "the God of your fathers has sent me to you"

1. When did Moses try to present that idea to them earlier?

2. Acts 7:25

B. "What is His name?"

1. Moses knew that he needed an authority behind him

2. At one time, Moses' name carried great authority and weight in Egypt

C. "What shall I say to them?"

1. What answer can I give them?

2. Exodus 19:13-17

D. God's answer v.14

1. "I am that I am"
2. The self-existent, eternal, living God
3. The God of history, eternity
4. The intimate God
5. "Tell them I AM has sent me to you"

E. God went on in v.15 to say that, "The LORD, the God of your fathers" has sent me to you"

1. "LORD"=Yahweh, the personal name of God
2. "the God"=Elohim
3. "of your fathers" =
4. "the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob"

F. v. 16, 17 God tells Moses to inform the people God sees their bondage

1. "I am indeed concerned"=
2. Why would that be important to the people of Israel?
3. God would bring them out of Egypt and into a land flowing with milk and honey"
4. "milk and honey" v.17=
5. Why would that be important to the people?

G. God further said in v. 18, "They will pay heed to you"

1. What is God assuming here?
2. God will prove to the people that Moses is His representative
3. God tells Moses that he with the elders will go to the king of Egypt
4. What is God laying out for Moses?

H. Moses and the elders were to start by making a moderate request of Pharaoh
v. 18

1. "Please" v.18
2. To be able to leave for three days to offer sacrifices to the LORD
3. God will stretch out His hand and strike Egypt with all His miracles
4. Why would God tell Moses this about Pharaoh at this time?

I. In v. 21,22, God would give the people favor, respect in the sight of the Egyptian people

1. This favor or respect would be caused by the fear of them being further punished by God
2. So the Egyptian people would do all they could to help hasten the Israelites leaving Egypt
3. Even to the point of the Egyptians giving them their riches

Excuse #3 I don't have the credentials to do this 4:1-9

A. Moses was still not convinced the people would believe him v.1

1. "For they may say, 'The Lord has not appeared to you.' "
2. Moses believed he needed to have something more

B. God's response v.2-5

1. "a staff" = shepherd's staff
2. God would use that staff as a declaration of authority
3. If he cast it on the ground it became a serpent v.3
4. God told Moses to pick it up. Dangerous
5. By the way, the Egyptians worshipped serpents
6. What message was God sending to the Egyptians through this rod, serpent v.5?

C. Next, God told Moses to put his hand into his bosom v.6-8

1. Moses did, and the hand became leprous v.6
2. When he put it in his bosom again, it came back to normal

D. The serpent and the leprosy are called "signs" by God v.8

E. If they did not believe the first two signs then Moses was to perform a third one v.9

1. He was to take water out of the Nile River and pour it on the ground
2. The water would become blood on the dry ground

#4 Excuse "I am not eloquent v.10-12

A. Moses was saying that he was not equipped to go to Pharaoh

1. "eloquent"=
2. "slow of speech"=
3. "slow of tongue"=
4. He sensed that his speech was slow or that he stuttered
5. How could he represent God if he was not good at speaking
6. Contrast that with Acts 7:22, "Moses was a man of power in words"

B. God's response v. 11,12

1. Who made man's mouth?
2. "Or who makes him mute or deaf or seeing or blind?"
3. "Is it not I, the LORD?"
4. Psalm 139:13-16
5. "I will be with your mouth and teach you what you are to say."

#5 Excuse "Send someone else"

A. He just did not want to be the one God sent v.13

1. He was willing to go but wanted God to send someone else to speak for him
2. This shows the attitude that was behind all of his other excuses
3. Egypt for Moses represented risk.
4. Moses' response was not rebellion, nor one of humility but one of timidity
5. 2 Timothy 1:7

B. God's response v. 14-17

1. His anger burned v.14
2. God would send Moses' brother, Aaron to speak for Moses
3. Aaron would supply the skill that Moses thought he lacked
4. Aaron would do the speaking, but Moses would receive the message from God for Aaron to give v.15, 16
5. Aaron may have been a good speaker, but he lacked obedience himself
6. Exodus 32:1-5

C. Moses demonstrated weakness here, but God would use him greatly.