

"On the Way" 365 Bible Reading Plan

Exodus 3

Exodus three is one of the most read and beloved of all the chapters in the book of Exodus, and one of the most read in the Old Testament. Moses is in the desert and is keeping the flocks of Jethro, also called Reuel, a priest of Midian. While near the mountain called Horeb, also called Mount Sinai, the Angel of the LORD appeared to Moses as a burning bush, but it was not consumed by the fire. Often in the Torah or Pentateuch God is seen as a fire or flame of fire. The Angel of the LORD is the term that is used interchangeably with the person of God Himself. So, it is here where the Scripture says, "God" spoke to Moses from the bush as Moses made a choice to explore it. God warned Moses to take off his sandals, as this was "Holy Ground" since God's presence was manifest. God identified Himself as the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and Moses became frightened to even look toward Him. God told Moses He had heard and listened to His people continually crying out during their slavery and hardship. Again, God is faithful to the promises that He made to Abraham and his descendants. God told Moses He was going to send Moses to deliver His people from slavery. He assured Moses of His delivering presence with Him and told Moses when he led the people out of Egypt, he was to bring them to this same mountain so God could instruct them on how to worship/serve Him. Moses asked God what He was to say when the people asked him, "Who sent you?" Who should I tell them has sent me? God said, tell them "'eh-yeh" sent you. This is the imperfect verb "to be" in the Hebrew text. God is saying, I am the one who was and is and is to come. I am always. I am. There never was a time when God was not, He is now, He will ever be! He further introduced Himself to Moses by saying He is "YHVH Elohe" In our English Bibles translated, "LORD God" with LORD in all capital letters. He is the God of Abraham,

Isaac and Jacob, the same God who made the promises is now about to fulfill those promises. God assured Moses he would encounter resistance when confronting Pharaoh and should not be discouraged, because this is part of God's plan as well. God wanted to deal with Pharaoh and the Egyptians to show them with a strong and mighty arm He is the true and living God, stronger than the false gods of the Egyptians. God also told Moses that after the supernatural wonders that He would do, He would cause the Egyptians to look favorably toward the Hebrews, so that the women could ask for jewelry and precious garments to wear on the journey to worship, and the people of Egypt would give it freely. *"In this way, the Egyptians would be plundered."* God answered all of Moses' questions, but in chapter four, it is obvious, Moses is balking at His God given assignment.

Prayer and Action Steps

Moses had been away for forty years; an entire generation had been born who only knew bondage and slavery. The heavy burdens of the people caused them to cry out to God in their agony for deliverance. God had heard and was now going to answer them through a person. In the Scriptures God's way is clear, when He wants to accomplish something great in the earth, he calls a person, not an institution or committee. God raised up Moses in answer to the cries of His people. God had promised to deliver His people after a certain timeframe (See Genesis 15, 400 years), but the deliverance did not come until the people prayed and the God-ordained deliverer was prepared and ready to assume the God-given role assigned. Thank God for men like Moses and Saul of Tarsus in the New Testament who were well educated and knew the culture of the times in which they were called to serve. Ask God to use you, or even better to make you usable. Then He will use you.

Date _____ Scripture _____

- *Read the chapter. If you have time, read it again.*
- *Highlight, underline or circle the Key Verse or Verses of the chapter.*
- *Ask yourself these questions as you read through the chapter.*

Is this historical narrative, analogy, metaphor, allegory, or some other element of speech or communicating truth?

What is the Context? Old Testament? New Testament? What is the writer speaking or writing about? To whom is he writing?

Is this a clear passage of Scripture (can only be interpreted one way)? Or could the passage be interpreted legitimately, in two or more ways, according to grammar and context?

Does the passage teach a Biblical Precept; that is, tells you something to be, do or act? _____

Are there principles in this chapter that if followed, would require me to change my attitudes or actions? _____

Does the passage give a Biblical Pattern that is followed here and other places in the Bible? _____
