The Name

The God who reveals Himself Part 1 — Exodus 33:18–34:1-7

Sermon notes with slide content locations highlighted in pink. [S#] labels indicate matching slides.

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5 Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious, longsuffering, and abounding in goodness and truth, 7 keeping mercy for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, by no means clearing the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children and the children’s children to the third and the fourth generation.

Intro: Today we are beginning a 4 week deep dive into one of the most fascinating passages in the entire Bible – Exodus 34:6-7

A)The Name: In this passage God declares his Name to his Servant Moses

“Short of the incarnation itself, this is perhaps the high point of divine revelation in all the Bible…time and time again the prophets who followed Moses draw on these two verses from Exodus to a■rm who God is.” [S1]

—Dane Ortlund (Gentle and Lowly, p. 146) [S1]

B)Ex 34:6-7 is the most quoted passage in the OT

1)The Jewish people referred to it as the Midote or the 13 attributes

C)Because they believed it established the 13 most important characteristics of God

Exodus 34:6-7 was their John 3:16

A)You could always find Jews in the Coliseum because they were holding up Exodus 34:6-7 signs –

B)Samson had Exodus 34:6-7 painted below his eyes when going into battle.

C)This was a special passage to them -because in this Passage God was declaring to Moses –

1)This is who I am!

One of my Favorite authors - A.W. Tozer declared in his masterful Book - The Knowledge of the Holy “What comes into our minds when we think about God is the most important thing about us.” [S2]

A)If I were to ask you – Who are you and who do you want to be? –

B)Your answer to that question is going to be directly connected to Your view of who God is.

1)Your answer to that question will determine everything else about your life.

C)Tozer went on to say:

"The history of mankind will probably show that no people has ever risen above its religion, and man's spiritual history will positively demonstrate that no religion has ever been greater than its idea of God. We tend by a secret law of the soul to move toward our mental image of God…. [S3]

the most (determining) fact about any man is not what he at a given time may say or do, but what he in his deep heart conceives God to be like. –A.W. Tozer, The Knowledge of the Holy [S3]

Your view of who God is will determine everything else about your Life A)The emotional instability of people is often connected to how their view God [S4] [S5]

B)If we view God as: [S4] [S5]

Capricious or untrustworthy [S4] [S5]

Result: You feel anxiety about life [S4] [S5]

Judgmental tyrant [S4] [S5]

Result: It turns you into a fearful, insecure person [S4] [S5]

C)Aloof or distant [S5]

Result: You feel insignificant [S5]

D)Warm, tingly, sentimental, but powerless love force [S5]

Result: You will live a of endless pursuits of meaning with no boundaries [S5]

Now lets consider the opposite of those perceptions of God and the outcome they have on our lives

A)If we view God as

B)Faithful and Trustworthy Opposite of: Capricious or untrustworthy [S6]

Result: You feel deep peace, security, and stability about life. [S6]

C)Knowing that God's character never changes and His promises are certain

1)eliminates the need to constantly worry about the future.

If you View God as Gracious, Loving Father & Just Counselor- Opposite of: Judgmental tyrant [S7]

A)Result: It turns you into a confident, secure, and compassionate person. [S7]

B)When you view God as a loving father who offers unconditional grace alongside truth,

1)fear is replaced by a sense of belonging and the freedom to grow.

C)If you View God as Intimate, Present, and Immanent- Opposite of: Aloof or distant

1)Result: You feel deeply known, valued, and significant.

D)Believing that the Creator of the universe is actively involved in your daily life

1)and cares about your smallest details provides us with a profound personal purpose.

If you View God as An All powerful and Loving King [S8]

A)Opposite of: Warm, tingly, sentimental, but powerless love force [S8]

B)Result: You live a life of clear direction, healthy boundaries, and ultimate security. [S8]

B)When God's love is paired with absolute power and moral law,

1)you are not left adrift trying to manufacture your own meaning;

C)But instead, you find true freedom within His protective boundaries.

D)Those are Some examples of how your View of God affects everything about you.

Now before we dive into scene where God proclaims his name to Moses

A)Lets back up and see what led to this Moment

B)If you were with on us Wednesday night –

1)we saw how the Children of Israel grew tired of waiting for Moses – on the Mt

C)He was gone for 40 days – and they started wondering – What has become of our leader.

D)So they turned to Aaron the High Priest and said: Make us a god that we can see

E)Aaron asked for their gold -earrings that they got from Egypt

1)2 Million people – that is a lot of earrings

Aaron puts it into the fire – fashions a golden calf A)And the people threw a huge party to the golden image – perverse sexual immorality

B)God tells Moses to get down there – the People have become unrestrained and are running wild

C)Moses comes down and disciplines the People –

D)He Draws a line in the sand Calls the people to make a stand –

1)whoever is on the Lord's side come stand with me/ Result a small minority decides joins him – The Levites

The result is 3,000 people are killed

A)God says to Moses – These people are stiff necked and rebellious –

B)I am going to hold to my promise and get them to the promise land

1)But I am not going to lead them – I will send an Angel

C)Moses declares: Lord if you are not going to go with us – then we don't want to go!

D)We don't want the promise without YOUR PRESENCE

E)God says ok – I will go with you!

Now most of us would probably be happy and content with that

A)But Moses does something absolutely remarkable here: 33:18 18 And he said, "Please, show me Your glory." [S9]

B)You have to admire this about Moses – Moses heart- Lord I want more of you! – Show me your Glory! [S9]

C) The Bible says God is the rewarder of those who diligently seek him

1)He rewards us with more of Himself!

Notice how God responds

19 Then He said, "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you. I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion." [S9]

That statement right there: Gives us some incredible insight into who God is

A)His Glory and his NAME ARE connected to his Goodness - "I will make all My goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim the name of the Lord before you [S9]

20 But He said, "You cannot see My face; for no man shall see Me, and live."

B)Moses if you saw my face – if I were to show you my full glory – it would kill you. –

C)You wouldn't be able to handle it

We see the reaction to God's Glory in the book of Isaiah

A)The Angels who are before Throne fall down – Holy….Holy is the Lord

B)Not Robotic – not forced – it is just the reaction of being in the presence of THE GLORY OF GOD!

C)So God says I can't show you my glory it would kill you – but I love your heart Moses –

1)I love that you want more of me

D)God says: if we seek him with all of hearts we will find him – Moses is doing that here

So God says this is what I am going to do

21 And the Lord said, “Here is a place by Me, and you shall stand on the rock. 22 So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by. 23 Then I will take away My hand, and you shall see My back; but My face shall not be seen.” [S9]

A)God says I am going to hide you in the Rock – allow you to see my backside – aspect of my glory [S9]

B)Can’t see my full glory but I will show you a glimpse of it [S9]

C)My goodness is going to pass by you and I am going to Proclaim my name – [S9]

D)My Glory is seen in my goodness [S9]

1)My glory is seen in My Name – it is seen in who I am [S9]

And the Lord said to Moses, “Cut two tablets of stone like the first ones, and I will write on these tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke. 2 So be ready in the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself to Me there on the top of the mountain. 3 And no man shall come up with you, and let no man be seen throughout all the mountain; let neither flocks nor herds feed before that mountain.”

4 So he cut two tablets of stone like the first ones. Then Moses rose early in the morning and went up Mount Sinai, as the Lord had commanded him; and he took in his hand the two tablets of stone.

5 Now the Lord descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the Lord. 6 And the Lord passed before him and proclaimed, “The Lord, the Lord God, merciful and gracious

So Today we want focus on the first 3 things that God Proclaims to Moses about himself –

A)God is relational [S10]

B)God Proclaims His Name: Proclaimed in Hebrew = to declare, to call or to invite- [S10]

1)it is a deeply relational word. [S10]

C)By Proclaiming his name God is inviting us to know Him. [S10]

1)Don’t know him – that is His Goal

3 And this is eternal life, that they may know You, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom You have sent. – John 17:3 [S11]

D)He Starts with the Lord - The LORD is Yahweh – The Covenant name of God. [S12]

E)Now the ancient Jews considered the name Yahweh to be so Holy and mysterious

1)that they would not even dare to pronounce it

So as to not misspeak the Divine name

A)So they would write the letters YHWH –

B)We pronounce it Yahweh and it comes from the Hebrew root word which means “to be”

C)This name “Yahweh” speaks to the unchanging nature of God. [S14]

D)It can literally be translated “He who is” That’s why when He spoke it to Moses He said, “I am who I am” [S14]

D)I will prove myself to be in your Life whatever you need

This Name is highly relational

A)“LORD” (Heb YHWH) only used in the Bible when describing God’s relationship with people [S13]

B)whereas Elohim is used to describe God’s relationship to the material world) [S13]

C)And by Repeating Lord Lord or "Yahweh, Yahweh" highlights personal presence and commitment. [S15]

D)It is God saying, “I am here, and I am yours.” [S15]

Now this is amazing to me in this moment when the Children of Israel might have been prone to think

A)We blew it so bad – God is done with us

B)The first thing that God declares about himself is this: “I am here, and I am yours.”

1)I haven’t changed at all!

C)Is that a Word from the Lord to someone here today:

1)The enemy is whispering in your ear God is done with you

D)God is Yelling in your ear today! I AM HERE AND I AM YOURS – AND YOU ARE MINE!

E)Malachi 3:6 For I the Lord DO NOT CHANGE! [S16]

F)God is Relational

NOTICE what God says next:

A)God is Merciful and Gracious [S17]

B)Now the Word Merciful would be better translated compassionate [S17]

C)But be of good Cheer Mercy – hesed – is also in the list – V.7 keeping mercy for 1,000's

D)So we are going get to Mercy eventually –

E)But the Next thing that the Lord wants to know about him is this: Compassionate

The Hebrew root Mercy here is (racham) is tied to the womb (rechem)— [S18]

A)it describes deep, gut-level, maternal or parental empathy. [S18]

B)Compassionate means God is affected by our brokenness and suffering; [S19] [S21]

1)He is not emotionally detached or cold. [S19] [S21]

B)Jesus saw the Multitudes – wandering aimlessly – 1)His heart was not filled with disgust or anger – Disdain

C)Compassion: Hurting inside – feeling it in the depths of his core – the depths of his heart

1)Because they were wandering like sheep without a shepherd

Think about that in light of what happened in last weeks elections

A)Like me I sure you were discouraged

B)Some of you ARE even probably mad – I get that

C)Some are probably even worried – Move at of Ca/ Maybe even the US

1)I hear NZ is nice – Extremely liberal too

Listen I Understand all of those reactions –

A)But I think we have to move from Discouragement and Anger and worry –

B)To Compassion – Because God has told us why he has not taken his church out of here

1)like he will do one day

C)And judge this fallen World - 9 The Lord does not delay his promise, as some understand delay, but is patient with you, not wanting any to perish but all to come to repentance. 2 Peter 3:9 [S20]

D)The Bible tells us that the World is going to get darker before the coming of the Lord

E)But He delays because he is compassionate – He hurts for man and doesn't want anyone to perish

What Keeps people from Perishing? The Gospel – the Goodnews that is found in Jesus

A)How does the Good news get out – US – We have to share it '

B)So the Lord Keeps us in this World – Keeps us in Cali – Keeps us in NC SD – to shine as lights

C)To Love on fallen people – to be the hands and feet of Jesus – to people that need to be TOUCHED BY HIS LOVE

D)LORD HELP US TO REMEMBER THAT – seek you on what it means to be that.

Remember Jesus came into a WORLD that was under Roman rule

A)A world that was filled with perversion

B)Sexual immorality - Homosexuality – Women were degraded, the poor were taken advantage of –

C)A world marked by racism – and an elitest Mentality

D)And Jesus had Compassion on that World and sent his Disciples into the World – armed not with swords but the gospel

And we read in the Book of Acts that in a short 20 year period – the church armed with the gospel –

A)Turned their world upside down!

B)Lord can you do that again? One more time before you come back?

C)Can you do that through me in my sphere of influence – Lord can you do that with us – here in Vista

D)And could that spread to North County SD?

It starts with Compassion Friends

A)And that is the first thing the Lord wants us to know about him – I am Compassionate

B)But notice what he says next: I am Merciful (Compassionate) and Gracious

C)Gracious = God freely gives us favor and blessing we don't deserve. [S22] [S27]

D)Grace is God bending down to bestow favor, help, or gifts to someone who has no claim on it and cannot pay it back. [S23] [S27]

1)Grace says you have nothing to give, nothing to earn, nothing to pay. You couldn't if you tried!

E)Israel deserved abandonment after the golden calf. [S24]

1)Grace means God anchors the relationship not in their performance, but in His character. [S24]

God is gracious toward man

A)Remember that this is all Connected to his Goodness

B)So in his goodness and because of his compassionate – he patiently shows grace to man by not destroying man

C)But the Full experience of Grace is only experienced through Repentance – Turning from and turning to.

Grace is the face that love wears when it meets imperfection.- Charles R. Swindoll "The Grace Awakening [S25]

D)We turn to God in our sin and imperfection – admitting wrong – rebellion –

E)God in his love meets us with Grace

1)Forgives us and blesses us – even though we don't deserve it

We deserve Hell – Heaven – We deserve to be cut off A)He brings us into His family – We were his enemies – He makes us his friends

Aa)And the Beauty of Grace is it doesn't stop at Salvation – Continues –

1)our relationship is built on Grace

B)Saved by Grace – but it is also called the Grace in which we stand

C)The beauty of grace is that it allows us to be honest about who we are.

Lord I am so flawed – Lord I haven't arrived – Lord I blew it again and I am genuinely sorry – Help me

A)He responds to us in Grace

Our adversary does not want us to think like this. He would erase grace immediately if he could. But since he cannot, his strategy is to do everything in his power to deceive us into thinking like slaves. Why? Because when we start operating like Free men and women, our old master can no longer control us. [S26]

- Chuck Swindoll – The Grace Awakening [S26]

B)The enemy wants to see you try to live in a performance based acceptance mentality –

1)You will always Fail –

C)He wants to use that Failure to drive you away from God

But Grace says: When you fail it is ok – Compassionate – Own it

A)Come to me – Forgive you help you – give blessing to

B)But the Full measure of Grace is only experienced when we repent

C)Sin right now – Nothing happening at the moment 1)That is God's grace giving you time to come to your senses - Turn from your sin

D)If you don't you will encounter Judgment –

See the fact that God is gracious doesn't mean he passively sits by and lets you do whatever you want

A)No if there is no repentance – Discipline will come

– Whom the Lord loves he disciplines – even that is grace

B)Doesn't do away with you – He disciplines you – he allows you to experience the consequences of your sin

C)But when we turn from our Sin and turn to him – He graciously forgives –

D)He graciously blesses us – He gives us what we don't deserve

And even in his timing he takes the mess that has been made because of our sin

A)And makes something beautiful out of it

Beauty from Ashes –

B)But don't forget that Ashes mean that something was burned down and destroyed

C)But because of Grace – what was destroyed doesn't have to define you

1)Doesn't even Mark you

D)The Lord in his grace will make something beautiful of that –

So God is Relational – Know Him [S28]

God is Compassionate and Gracious [S28]