For Israel & For Us April 14, 2024



Moses: God Can Turn a Bad Beginning Around

It's Not How You Start – It's How You Finish

Lessons From The Far Side of The Desert:
 For Israel And For Us

•(Exo 3:1-3 NIV) Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. (2) There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. (3) So Moses thought, "I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up."

On The Far Side Of The Desert – God Still Shows Up

• (Psa 139:7-10 NIV) Where can I go from your Spirit? Where can I flee from your presence? (8) If I go up to the heavens, you are there; if I make my bed in the depths, you are there. (9) If I rise on the wings of the dawn, if I settle on the far side of the sea, (10) even there your hand will guide me, your right hand will hold me fast.

- God Sends A Messenger = Jesus
 - The Leader
 - Redeemer
 - Savior of Mankind

The Bush Is On Fire Yet It Does Not Burn Up

 God May Use Things We Don't Expect To Communicate To Us

Today Many Are at The Far Side Of The Desert

Going Through The Motions Of An Ordinary Day

Needing to Wake Up From Spiritual Slumber & Stagnancy

God Will Do That For Us

•(Exo 3:4-5 NIV)(4) When the LORD saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, "Moses! Moses!" And Moses said, "Here I am." (5) "Do not come any closer," God said. "Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground."

*God Knew Moses' Name And Location On The Far Side Of The Desert

*God Knows Us
He Knows Who We Are
He Knows Where We Are

- We Need To Be
 - -Looking Listening Expecting

 God Said: "Do Not Come Any Closer Take Off Your Sandals – This Is Holy Ground"

 We Get So Familiar With God That We Forget To Reverence Him –We Need To Learn About The Holiness Of God

 God Reminded Moses That He Is A Promise Keeping God

•(Exo 3:6 NIV)(6) Then he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob." At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

- God Never Forgets His Promises
- (2 Cor 1:20 NIV) For no matter how many promises God has made, they are "Yes" in Christ. And so through him the "Amen" is spoken by us to the glory of God.
- The Far Side Of The Desert Does Not Cancel The Promises Of God

• (Exo 3:7-10 NIV)(7) The LORD said, "I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. (8) So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey-the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. (9) And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. (10) So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt."

- •God Is Saying: I Am God And I Am Committed
 To The Covenant
- *I Have Seen
- *I Have Heard
- *I Am Concerned
- ◆I Have Come Down To Rescue
- *I Will Bring My People Out
- *I Am Sending You
- *I Care

*God Is Saying: <u>I Am God – And I Am Committed</u> <u>To The Covenant</u>

- When God Says "I Will" He Will
- When God Makes A Promise, He Keeps It
- When He Says I Will Save You He Will
- When He Says I Will Heal You He Will
- When He Says I Will Set You Free He Will

 Regarding Israel – God Remains Faithful To His Word And Promises:

- Dispersed Israel Will Be Regathered
- Israel Would Be Reestablished as a Nation
- The Jews Would Reoccupy Jerusalem

- God Is Faithful To His Word
- His Word It True And Reliable
- When He Promises He Delivers
- Even On The Far Side Of The Desert –God Remembers
 His People & Promises
- He Says: I Am Going To Bring You Out
- Jesus Christ: Will Bring You Out & Set You Free

• (Exo 3:11-15 NIV) (11) But Moses said to God, "Who am I, that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" (12) And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain." (13) Moses said to God, "Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' Then what shall I tell them?" (14) God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you." (15) God also said to Moses, "Say to the Israelites, 'The LORD, the 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, the name by which I am to be remembered from generation to generation.

- Moses Has Two Questions
- 1. Who Am I That You Would Use Me?
- (2 Cor 12:10 NIV) That is why, for Christ's sake, I delight in weaknesses, in insults, in hardships, in persecutions, in difficulties. For when I am weak, then I am strong.
- When I Am Weak Then I Am Strong

- Moses Has Questions
- 2.How Can I Explain This? What If They Don't Believe Me? What Shall I Tell Them Is Your Name?
- Moses Has A Lot Of Excuses:
 - -Excuse # 1- I'm Not Qualified
 - -Excuse #2- I Don't Know Enough.
 - -Excuse #3- I Don't Have The Ability

God is Saying, "I Have Unlimited Power Over All"

◆If I Call You — I Will Equip And Empower You

- *"I Am Who I Am"
 "I Am" Has Sent You To Them
- *The God Of Abraham, Isaac, & Jacob Has Sent You
- (Psa 89:8 NIV) O LORD God Almighty, who is like you? You are mighty, O LORD, and your faithfulness surrounds you.

◆God Has Not Called Us To <u>Be</u> Extraordinary But To <u>Do</u> Extraordinary Things.

We Can Do Extraordinary Things Because We Serve
 An Extraordinary God

- *Moses Could Not Go Until He Knew That God Would Be With Him.
- •(Exo 3:12 NIV) (12) And God said, "I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain."

 The Great Promise Of God's Presence Has Been Given

*God Will Be With Us

*(Jer 1:8 NIV) Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you and will rescue you," declares the LORD.

- *God Promised To Be With Israel.
- God Promises To Be With All Believers
- (Mat 28:19-20 NIV) Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, (20) and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age."

God Has Not Left Us – He Will Not Leave Us
 He Is Bringing Us Through

- The Far Side Of The Desert Is Not The End
- *God's Moving In Your Life Is Just Beginning