

Exodus 3 (1-22)

Burning Bush

What can we learn about God in this passage?

Story about getting to know Emily and the relationship was stronger.

- Significant Events Leading up to Exodus 3: Gives context
 - Moses survives an order to be killed as a Hebrew baby boy (Exodus 1:22)
 - Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live." He was a walking miracle.
 - Moses was recognized as an Israelite and fled to Midian. (Exodus 2: 14-15)
 - The man said, "Who made you ruler and judge over us? Are you thinking of killing me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid and thought, "What I did must have become known." When Pharaoh heard of this, he tried to kill Moses, but Moses fled from Pharaoh and went to live in Midian, where he sat down by a well. He did not want to be in Egypt. God calls us out of our comfort zone.
 - God hears Israel groaning. Exodus 2: 23-25
 - During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. God saw the people of Israel—and God knew. How often do we cry out to God?

Pray

- Exodus 3: 1-6
 - Moses goes to the mountain of God and witnesses a bush burning but it was not inflamed (2-3)
 - God calls out to Moses (4)
 - Recognition of holy ground (5)

- The Almighty grounds His redemptive goals in His own nature. He tells Moses that He is “the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob”, identifying Himself as the One who always keeps His covenants and who is moving to accomplish His promises to the patriarchs (6).
- Exodus 3: 7-12
 - God explains to Moses the cry for help by the Israelites (7-9)
 - God explain to Moses the plan in place (10-12)
- Exodus 3: 13-22
 - God reveals to Moses his name and how he responds to the Israelites, “I am who I am.” (13-14)
 - God reveals that he will stretch out his hand and strike Egypt. (20) **Plagues and humbling of Egypt.**
- The burning bush is an important moment in the Old Testament because it acts as a sign to Moses that God has chosen him to lead his people out of Egypt to the Promised Land. However, it is also significant in broader biblical terms because God imparts his personal name to Moses.
- As is often the case, God’s plans for His people are far different than our plans for ourselves. Take Moses for example.

What does Exodus 3 reveal about God?

- God is sovereign - God had a strategic plan to use Moses to free the israelites. He has a plan to draw, develop, and grow the holy spirit in our lives.
 - Ephesians 1:11 - In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will. **God is orchestrating his plan and we must trust the process.**
- God is powerful - God struck Egypt to humble them to allow the Israelites to go with Moses. **The ten plagues of Egypt represent the fullness of God's expression of justice and judgments, upon those who refuse to repent. The plagues are: water turning to blood, frogs, lice, flies, livestock pestilence, boils, hail, locusts, darkness and the killing of firstborn children. This was the initial cause of Pharaoh releasing the israelites.**

- Job 26: 7-14 - God stretches the northern sky over empty space and hangs the earth on nothing. He wraps the rain in his thick clouds, and the clouds don't burst with the weight. He covers the face of the moon, shrouding it with his clouds. He created the horizon when he separated the waters: he set the boundary between day and night. The foundations of heaven tremble; they shudder at his rebuke. By his power the sea grew calm. By his skill he crushed the great sea monster. His Spirit made the heavens beautiful, and his power pierced the gliding serpent. These are just the beginning of all that he does, merely a whisper of his power. Who, then, can comprehend the thunder of his power?" **We are not meant to understand Gods power but to trust it.**
- God is glorious - Moses refuses to look at God in awe of his glory and holiness (6). God speaks to Moses later on in Exodus about his glory. .
 - Exodus 33:20 - But He said, "You cannot see My face, for no man can see Me and live! **Definition of Glorious - having a striking beauty or splendor that evokes feelings of delighted admiration**
- God is faithful - The details described to Moses happened and God's plan was carried out. We must trust the Lord in His faithfulness.
 - Numbers 23:19 - God is not man, that he should lie, or a son of man, that he should change his mind. Has he said, and will he not do it? Or has he spoken, and will he not fulfill it?"
- God is compassionate and loves his people - God heard the cry out from the Israelites and developed a plan to free them. How often do you cry out to the Lord?
 - John 15: 12-13 - This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.
- God's identity remains the same forever - "I Am" tells us several important things about God's identity. First, it shows that the Lord's character is unchangeable. He cannot learn any new information or become more holy. None of God's perfections can be subtracted or added to. He can never be anything other than what He is today. There is absolutely no shadow of change for our Creator.
 - Psalm 33:11 - The counsel of the Lord stands forever, The plans of His heart to all generations." His Word is Timeless and His Promises are Everlasting!

Why does God take us through the fire?

There are seasons of pain, brokenness, and struggles. But this is what God says: "When you walk through the fire, you shall not be burned, Nor shall the flame scorch you." That flame is not meant to burn you. It is meant to purify you. We are all facing struggles and battles. God will use them to purify each one of us.

Macon slide - My one and only son

Christ Slide - The ultimate sacrifice