

Chesswood Baptist Church

Where Everybody is Somebody

Pastor Howard Daniel, Jr.

4357 US Hwy 59 South

P.O. Box 343

Livingston, Texas 77351

936-327-8870



MINISTRY OF THE WORD

...THE BUSH BURNED WITH FIRE, AND THE BUSH WAS NOT CONSUMED.

PASTOR HOWARD DANIEL, JR.

SUNDAY MORNING APRIL 18, 2021

SCRIPTURE READING: **EXODUS 3:1-11**

Exodus 3:2-3, *And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. 3. And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.*

1. BACKGROUND

Refer to the Evening message April 18, 2021

2. INTRODUCTION

- a. Today we will look at Moses' call and commission by God to lead the children of Israel out of bondage.
- b. Moses spent forty years in Midian.
- c. He went to the best school that the world could offer at that time, but it was not enough to prepare him to deliver the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.
- d. **James 1:5**, *If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men liberally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him.*
- e. We must understand that education will not give us favor with God.
- f. As we look at this passage of Scripture, it is appropriate that we go back and look at why God would deliver such a nation as Israel.
- g. Certainly, they had not served God. As a matter of fact, they served idols rather than God, they were unfaithful to Him. There were so many things that the Israelites were doing wrong but God chose to rescue them anyway.
- h. **As we contrast that with our own salvation; none of us are worthy of salvation, God saves us because He provides His grace for us. Ephesians 2:8** *For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God:*
- i. **Exodus 2:24-25**, *And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob. 25: And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.*
 1. God is preparing Moses to deliver the children of Israel out of the land of bondage.
 2. Being forty years ahead of God before, Moses' sensitivity had to be heightened.
 3. He had to understand the things of God. He did not remember that if you live by the sword, you die by the sword. **Matthew 26:52**, *Then said Jesus unto*

him, Put up again thy sword into his place: for all they that take the sword shall perish with the sword.

4. **First, God came to save the whole world. I could not help but to remember *John 3:16, For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.***
5. The Word of God says the king of Egypt died in the process of time. ***Exodus 2:23 And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by reason of the bondage.***
6. After the death of the king, the cry of the children of Israel is heard by God.
7. Notice that God delivers Israel for two primary reasons. He heard their groaning and secondly, He remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
8. In their desperate attempt and desperate hope – God reveals Himself unto them.
9. I could not help but to be reminded of you and I, who are conceived in sin and shapen in iniquity. ***Psalms 51:5, Behold, I was shapen in iniquity; and in sin did my mother conceive me.***
10. Abraham's offspring in the land after forty years caused God to devise a plan for them.
11. God has developed a plan for you and me also.
12. That plan is outlined for us in ***Romans 3:23-24, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God; 24: Being justified freely by his grace through the redemption that is in Christ Jesus:***
13. ***"Being justified freely"*** – means we are redeemed without a cause.
14. ***John 15:25, But this cometh to pass, that the word might be fulfilled that is written in their law, They hated me without a cause.***
15. God now prepares Moses to do a job.
16. Men should not seek justice; but God's grace and mercy.
17. God's people are not worthy of salvation but like the Israelites were not worthy of redemption; God hears their groanings and He remembered the covenant that He had made with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
18. He also makes a covenant with you and me. That covenant is in ***John 6:29, Jesus answered and said unto them, This is the work of God, that ye believe on him whom he hath sent.***
19. That means we must come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. We must have the righteousness of Christ to get to Heaven. ***Romans 3:22, Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:***
20. If we do not have His righteousness, then we will not get there. Contrary to what most people believe we cannot be almost perfect. Remember He is coming back for His church without spot or wrinkle. ***Ephesians 5:27, That he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle, or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish.***
21. We must be righteous and that can only come through the blood of Jesus Christ. ***Romans 3:22 Even the righteousness of God which is by faith of Jesus Christ unto all and upon all them that believe: for there is no difference:***

22. It is His blood that makes the atonement for the soul. **Leviticus 17:11**, *For the life of the flesh is in the blood: and I have given it to you upon the altar to make an atonement for your souls: for it is the blood that maketh an atonement for the soul.* **Romans 5:11**, *And not only so, but we also joy in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom we have now received the atonement.*
23. God provided His grace for us in that while we were yet sinners. **Romans 5:8**, *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*
- j. With that introduction let us take a close look at God's call to Moses.
- 3. FIVE POINTS TO THE MESSAGE**
- a. **...the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.**
1. **Exodus 3:1-2**, *Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. 2: And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.*
 2. This is a miraculous sight before the eyes of Moses.
 3. We can say what we want, but the burning bush was not consumed.
 4. Moses was intrigued by this, so he turns aside to see what it was all about.
 5. I have always said that **the Bible is the Preserved Word of God, and it is trustworthy.** It is not on trial, it does not need to be altered, nor does it need to be updated. **It just needs to be believed.** We must remember that the Bible does not contain the Preserved Word of God it **is** the Preserved Word of God.
 6. One of the best evidence that proved the Bible is true is the long existence of the nation Israel.
 7. I believe this burning bush offers us some-what of a type of Israel; they have come across every possible opposition on the face of the earth, yet they are still around. For centuries they have survived like no other nation.
 8. God has stood by them although they have been a stiffnecked people. **Exodus 32:9**, *And the LORD said unto Moses, I have seen this people, and, behold, it is a stiffnecked people:*
 9. Moses is keeping his father-in-law's flock. Jethro is a priest of Midian.
 10. **and he led the flock to the backside of the desert**, - God is about to use Moses to a great degree.
 11. Moses realized that his strength would not do the job for God.
 12. The way most men get into trouble with God is that we refuse to humble ourselves, we become so high and mighty, God teaches us a couple spiritual truths and the first thing we are out of control; we are puffed up with pride. **Proverbs 16:18**, *Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall.*
 13. God cannot use us when we are puffed up with pride. He tells us that weakness is strength with Him. **2 Corinthians 12:10**, *Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.*

14. Here we find Moses on the backside of the dessert. **And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.**
 15. I believe this angel of the Lord is none other than the pre-incarnate Christ. The Lord Jesus Christ is about to instruct Moses as to what God wants him to do.
 16. Moses had lived in Pharaoh's palace and was schooled in all the wisdom of Pharaoh's house. He was considered Pharaoh's son and would have been the next Pharaoh.
 17. However, Moses chooses to hear the Preserved Word of God now.
 18. Regardless of what we are involved in it is necessary for us to stop and listen to the Preserved Word of God.
 19. Has the Holy Spirit spoken to your heart? Do you know for a fact that you have salvation which is in none other than our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ? **2 Corinthians 13:5, Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves. Know ye not your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates?**
 20. This burning bush was not consumed; Israel has never been consumed.
 21. Look around and see if you find Babylon, the Medo-Persian Empire, the Grecian Empire, and the Roman Empire. We will not find any of those today.
 22. God is about to speak to our heart through this passage and we must be attuned to what He has to say.
- b. ...I will now turn aside, and see this great sight,...**
1. **Exodus 3:3-5, And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt. 4: And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. 5: And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.**
 2. This is holy ground because the Lord Jesus Christ is there and is speaking to Moses.
 3. I have seen signs in our own town that say, "this is Holy ground." There is no Holy ground here in America. The only Holy ground there is, is where the Lord Jesus Christ calls Holy.
 4. Moses, in all his training, in the palace of Pharaoh; he did not realize in the presence of God that it was Holy ground.
 5. God reminds him of that. God is going to teach Moses a great lesson.
 6. Notice God called him from out of the midst of the bush. This is the pre-incarnate Christ.
 7. Those of you who have never been exposed to the fact that there is a trinity; God's Preserved Word clearly teaches it. **1 John 5:7, For there are three that bear record in heaven, the Father, the Word, and the Holy Ghost: and these three are one.**
 8. They are all one, they are all the same and they are all God. To be truly saved we must believe that there is a Trinity. Let no man teach you any other way because we must learn to lean on God's Preserved Word.
 9. Moses is now in the presence of God; he is receiving a message from Him and the message was **Draw not nigh hither:** meaning get ready to listen.
- c. ...I am the God of thy father,...**

1. **Exodus 3:6**, Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.
 2. The Lord Jesus Christ has revealed God to us. **John 10:30**, I and my Father are one. **John 14:9**, Jesus saith unto him, Have I been so long time with you, and yet hast thou not known me, Philip? he that hath seen me hath seen the Father; and how sayest thou then, Shew us the Father? 1 Timothy 2:5 For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus;
 3. We must understand that the Bible clearly teaches that no man hath seen God at any time. **1 John 4:12**, No man hath seen God at any time. If we love one another, God dwelleth in us, and his love is perfected in us.
 4. The only begotten Son which is in the bosom of the Father has declared Him **John 1:18**, No man hath seen God at any time; the only begotten Son, which is in the bosom of the Father, he hath declared him.
 5. **The only way we can know God is through the Lord Jesus Christ, who is God; He came and shed His blood on the cross. Philippians 3:10** That I may know him, and the power of his resurrection, and the fellowship of his sufferings, being made conformable unto his death;
 6. Moses hides his face for he was afraid to look upon God.
 7. Now God is going to give Moses a mission.
 8. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and the God of Jacob. It is very plainly stated as to who He is.
- d. And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians,...**
1. **Exodus 3:7-8**, And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; **8:** And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.
 2. God is ready to give Moses his mission.
 3. God does not save us and leave us with nothing to do. He always has a mission for us.
 4. Moses has a special mission of leading the children of Israel out of Egypt.
 5. No one else had that mission besides Moses.
 6. God is ready to redeem; He has heard their cry.
 7. The Lord is always ready to provide redemption for us. He not only redeems from something, but He always redeems unto something.
 8. It reminds me of **1 Thessalonians 1:9**, For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;
 9. **Ephesians 2:5-6** indicates very vividly the concept of God's salvation. Even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, (by grace ye are saved;) **6: And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:**
 10. God not only saves us, but He gives us a position. That is the reason why one can never lose their salvation. He saves the soul, gives us a position and that

- position is in Christ. **2 Corinthians 5:17** *Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new.*
11. That position is never altered or changed; however, as we grow in grace in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ, we become more Christ-like each day.
 12. He has taken us out of Adam and placed us in the Lord Jesus Christ.
 13. We have a seat in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. ***sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:***
 14. We have been bought with a price and that price was the precious blood of Jesus Christ. **1 Corinthians 6:20, For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.**
 15. We are brought out of death and put into life. We are brought out of darkness and put into light. We have been brought out of hell and put in Heaven; He has raised us up and seated us in Heavenly places in Christ Jesus. **Romans 6:3-4, Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? 4: Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life. Deuteronomy 30:19, I call heaven and earth to record this day against you, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and cursing: therefore choose life, that both thou and thy seed may live: Ephesians 2:6, And hath raised us up together, and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus:**
 16. It is a misnomer for people to say "If, one of these days I get to Heaven." If we are truly saved and born again, He tells us emphatically we **are** seated in Heavenly places in Christ.
 17. The children of Israel are going to be taken out of bondage. They are going to be given a land that God promised Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.
 18. Never buy into the notion that God has done away with His chosen people. He has not. **Romans 11:2, God hath not cast away his people which he foreknew. Wot ye not what the scripture saith of Elias? how he maketh intercession to God against Israel, saying,**
 19. The salvation of God is all about redeeming mankind. He has redeemed you and I and He has also redeemed Israel out of Egypt. **John 17:4, I have glorified thee on the earth: I have finished the work which thou gavest me to do.**
 20. One of these days He will go get them from the four-corners of the earth and bring them back into the land. **Matthew 24:31, And he shall send his angels with a great sound of a trumpet, and they shall gather together his elect from the four winds, from one end of heaven to the other.**
- e. **Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me:...**
1. **Exodus 3:9-11, Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. 10: Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt. 11: And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?**
 2. It is amazing to look at the attitude of Moses before and after

3. Before God took him to the back side of the desert for forty years and trained him, Moses was cocky and arrogant. As a matter of fact, he slew that Egyptian. He thought he could, by himself, deliver Israel out of the hand of those that oppressed them.
4. When we find out we are weak and cannot do the job, God will step up and do the job through us. That is depending on God my friend. **That is stress-free living if you will.**
5. Moses asks *Who am I.* Men and women who have been called by God need to sometimes ask the question, who am I and realize we are not sufficient for the job. Job found out the hard way. **Job 38:4, Where wast thou when I laid the foundations of the earth? declare, if thou hast understanding.**
6. When God wants that job done, He will equip us to do that job to excellence.
7. Elijah the prophet was brave enough to walk right into the court of Ahab and Jezebel and tell them there should be no rain or dew for the years that are to come. **1 Kings 17:1, And Elijah the Tishbite, who was of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the LORD God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my word.**
8. He was not as brave as he seems, but God put him in the desert where He trains His men. Elijah drank from the brook. The brook was dried up from the drought. He watched the brook grow smaller and smaller every day. He says his life is no more than a dried-up brook. **1 Kings 17:7, And it came to pass after a while, that the brook dried up, because there had been no rain in the land.**
9. This is the same Elijah that spent numerous times eating out of an empty flour barrel that God kept on replenishing. He found out that there was nothing that God was unable to do. He realized that God would use him if he would do what God called him to do. He faced the prophets of Baal and brings down fire from Heaven. **1 Kings 17:14, For thus saith the LORD God of Israel, The barrel of meal shall not waste, neither shall the cruse of oil fail, until the day that the LORD sendeth rain upon the earth.**
10. This is the same God who took care of things in the wilderness for the lad when Hagar's water was spent. **"And God Opened her eyes and She Saw"**
11. It was the apostle Paul in **2 Corinthians 12:10** who said, **Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong.**
12. Paul tells us there is no infirmity, reproaches, persecution, or distresses that should take us off the field where God has called.
13. When Moses learned he could not deliver the children of Israel himself; he was ready to listen to God and depend on Him.
14. All the training that Moses had did not equip him to do the job that God wanted him to do. God had to train him.
15. God cannot use a person who is prideful and strong. When we think we are strong in our own right then that is when God will not use us. **1 Corinthians 1:27, But God hath chosen the foolish things of the world to confound the wise; and God hath chosen the weak things of the world to confound the things which are mighty;**
16. Moses now recognizes his limitations and his weakness.

17. Every pastor must realize their limitation and weaknesses. None of this is about us; it is about the Preserved Word of God going forth in power, simplicity and in truth. It is about the WORD pricking the hearts and lives and people who are unsaved sitting under the message of the Gospel and find suddenly that they are lost and need to come to Jesus.
18. I can tell you there is no salvation in any other. **Acts 4:12, Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven given among men, whereby we must be saved.**
19. God is willing and able; He knows exactly how to deliver the children of Israel. Moses did not have that kind of knowledge.

4. CONCLUSION

- a. It is a level playing field.
- b. **Romans 3:23, For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;**
- c. **Romans 3:10, As it is written, There is none righteous, no, not one:**
- d. **Romans 10:9-10, That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved. 10: For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.**
- e. Always remember redemption is out of something into something.
- f. **1 Thessalonians 1:9, For they themselves shew of us what manner of entering in we had unto you, and how ye turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God;**
- g. Would you please stand?

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