

Sent by the Redeemer
Exodus 3:7-12
April 24, 2024

Question: In what ways can you relate to Moses in our text?

The Lord commissions Moses (7-10)

verse 7

The Lord communicates to Moses what was told us in **2:23-25**

The Lord calls the Israelites “my people”

1. Covenant relationship
2. A people chosen by God, in His grace, for Himself

“I know their sufferings”

- Expresses concern

8a “and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians”

“I have come down”

1. An anthropomorphism
2. Communicates that God is intervening in the flow of human affairs

“to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians”

1. The metaphor signifies power
2. The Egyptians were the most powerful kingdom in the world

verse 8b

God’s redemption does not only bring people out of a place of bondage, it also brings them into a place

Just as God had often promised to the patriarchs centuries prior

- **Gen. 12:7** Then the LORD appeared to Abram and said, “To your offspring I will give this land.”
- **13:14-15** The LORD said to Abram, after Lot had separated from him, “Lift up your eyes and look from the place where you are, northward and southward and eastward and westward, for all the land that you see I will give to you and to your offspring forever.

“a good...land”

- “a land flowing with milk and honey”

“a...broad land”

1. In contrast to the narrowness of the settled land in Egypt along the banks of the Nile
2. God names six people groups that were living in the land
 - God’s intention is to remove these six people groups in judgment
 - **Gen. 15:16** “And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, **for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete.**”

vv 9-10

Question: Are these words shocking? Why or why not?

The bottom line of the whole incident of the burning bush

The Lord has revealed that He has come down to deliver the Israelites (verse 8). Yet He sends Moses to be the human instrument through whom the Lord will do so

- to be the Lord’s representative

“I will send you to Pharaoh”

- The most powerful ruler in all the world

Though redemption is only possible by supernatural intervention and power, yet God raises up individuals through whom He will work

Moses objects to his commissioning (11)

verse 11

Moses objects because of his personal inadequacy

Moses is no longer the man he was in **2:11-14a**

The Lord has humbled Moses over the past 40 years, preparing him to be His instrument/representative

Humility is essential in a servant of the Lord

We see such words of humility repeatedly in Scripture

- **Judges 6:11-15**
- **2 Samuel 7:16-18**
- **Jeremiah 1:4-6**
- **2 Corinthians 2:15-16**

Question: Why is humility essential for serving the Lord?

Though humility is essential for serving the Lord, something else is needed that Moses lacked

Though Moses rightly recognized his personal inadequacy, he was wrongly using it as an objection

The Lord gives assurance (12)

12a He said, “But I will be with you,

Question: What are some others times in Scripture when God said, "I will be with you"? Why has He said this so many times?

Moses’ question was, “Who am I that I should do this?” The Lord’s response is, “But I will be with you.”

1. What matters is not your personal adequacy, but who will be with you!
2. Think of who was speaking to Moses!
3. The answer to Moses’ question is, “It does not matter who you are, or what your capabilities are. What matters is that God has called you, and that He is with you to support you in the task He has given you.”
4. The exodus did not depend on the competence of Moses, but on the presence of God

The call to God’s service always comes with the promise of His presence!

verse 12b

The accomplishment of the task given him by God would be the sign

The Lord is assuring Moses that the mission will succeed, and is calling Moses to trust Him.

- Trust in the Lord is just as essential as humility for serving the Lord

After Moses would trust the Lord, and bring the people out of Egypt, and they would serve God at Mt. Sinai, then for the next 40 years of Moses' ministry he would be able to look back at what God did, and be reassured that God had commissioned him

Some Christians lack confidence to serve the Lord, because they do not trust Him

Yet the Lord has called us to trust Him, and has given us reason to do so

“when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain”

1. The “you” who shall serve God at Mt. Sinai is plural
2. The word ‘serve’ is a word for worship, and has in mind God as the great King
3. Israel would be redeemed in order that they would worship God
4. It was God’s plan from the very beginning that the exodus would be for His glory

As believers in Christ, we too have been redeemed in order that we would worship God

- **1 Pet. 2:9-10** “But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God’s people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.”
- **2 Cor. 5:14-15** “For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised.”

Conclusion

We see in this passage that those who would serve the Lord must be humbled before Him, and must trust Him.

Have you been like Moses, saying to God, “Who am I that I should do your calling?” If so, maybe you need to hear God’s repeated words anew, “But I will be with you!”