



The Oaks Baptist Church
Grand Prairie, Texas

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Moses Exodus 3:1-12

Aim and Application of the Lesson

The lesson examines the facts of the call of God to **Moses**. The study's aim is to show that God's directions always overcome our objections. The study's application is to emphasize that if we are willing to follow God's call, we can be sure He will provide all we need to fulfill it.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

Lesson Introduction and Background

Our text is a small but crucial portion of Moses' encounter with the Lord at the burning bush. Moses had personally witnessed the oppression of his fellow Hebrews while he was in Egypt, and, according to Acts 7:22-25, he had some understanding even then that he was to be God's deliverer of his people. That, however, was forty years prior to the meeting at the burning bush. Having fled Egypt, Moses had settled down in Midian and was living the life of a shepherd in the employ of his father-in-law. Although it had been forty years since he had left Egypt and his people behind, the plight of the Hebrews undoubtedly remained on Moses mind. Even as he was awed by the Lord's presence in the bush, Moses must have been greatly relieved to hear that the Lord also had seen the oppression of the Hebrew people and had heard their cries for deliverance. The Lord's assurance in our text that He was aware of the Israelites' situation in Egypt actually was a reassurance, for just moments before He had told Moses the same thing (Exod. 3:7) and then added that He, the Lord, was going to deliver the oppressed people and bring them into the Promised Land (vs. 8). While the announcement of the Lord's coming deliverance must have caused Moses to rejoice, the news that Moses was the human deliverer the Lord would use to accomplish His work must have been shocking and intimidating. Moses clearly thought his opportunity had passed forty years earlier. It seemed absurd that now the Lord would call him to return to Egypt, confront the mighty pharaoh, and bring the Israelites to freedom. Moses had failed forty years earlier, and now he was eighty years old. He had lived apart from his people as long as he had lived among them. In addition, Egypt was a major power. How could one man hope to counter the power of Pharaoh? Moses had his own excuses ready to offer the Lord, and he proceeded to do just that. He questioned his own abilities and feared how the people would respond to his efforts to free them. Moses overlooked some important things, however. First and foremost was that the Lord said, "I will send thee unto Pharaoh." And earlier, He had said, "I am come down to deliver them" (Exod. 3:8). Moses focused on his inabilities and limitations rather than on the ability and limitless power of the One who was sending him. God had not passed Moses by. Rather, He had been preparing him for this very task. For forty years, Moses had been trained in "all the wisdom of the Egyptians" (Acts 7:22), and for another forty years he had gained knowledge of the desert through which he would ultimately lead his people. The Lord's calling of the aged Moses reminds us that when God calls people to a task, He also prepares them, accompanies them, and empowers them to complete it to His glory.

(Adapted from the Bible Expositor and Illuminator Commentary)

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK:

You need not be afraid of where you're going when you know God's going with you

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK:

Dear Lord, help me to remember that You are with me, even when I'm unsure of my own abilities. Give me the faith to believe that You can help me to do anything You ask me to do.

SCRIPTURE FOR THE WEEK:

But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

(Exodus 3:11 NKJV)

(from "Our Daily Bread", Sept 28, 2013)

Series: God's Urgent Call

UNIT: Calling of Prophets

NEXT WEEK

Isaiah

(Isaiah 6:1-8)

NOTES AND CROSS-REFERENCES

God's Divine Contact (Exodus 3:1-4)

God knows how to get our attention (1-3)

Four Ways God uses to get our Attention

1. God positions us to get our attention

Positions through travel (Acts 9:3-6)

Positions through work (Ruth 2:19-20)

Positions without knowledge of destination (Genesis 12:1)

Positions through loneliness (Gen 32:22-25)

2. God causes situations and circumstances to happen to get our attention

Sometimes by affecting the mind (Dan 4:28-33)

Sometimes by affecting the human body (Num 12:1-10)

Sometimes through weather (Jonah 1:3-7)

Sometimes through Angels (Acts 10:3)

3. God convicts us to get our attention

Conviction through God's Word (Psalm 25:4)

Conviction through visions (Acts 10:11-15)

Conviction through steadfastness to obedience (Daniel 1:3-8)

4. God contacts us specifically to get our attention

Sometimes to do a special duty (Acts 8:26)

Sometimes for a warning (1 Samuel 3:10-11)

Sometimes in the midst of trials (Judges 6:12-14)

When God speaks, we should listen (4)

We should listen because we know God (1 John 4:6)

We should listen because of being in the presence of God (Acts 10:33)

We should listen because the Bible teaches us to be quick to listen (James 1:19)

We should listen because it adds to learning (Prov 1:5)

We should listen so we can live in safety (Prov 1:33)

We should listen because it is a blessing (Prov 8:34)

God's Divine Plan (Exodus 3:5-10)

Being in God's presence is always a holy experience (5)

Holy because God is holy (1 Peter 1:14-16)

Holy through the sacrifice of Jesus (Hebrews 10:10)

Holy through the Holy Spirit (1 Cor. 6:11)

When God makes something holy, man should be very careful how it is handled (1 Chron 13:9-10)

It is always in God's plan to reveal Himself to man (6)

Revelation through Jesus (John 14:9-10)

Revelation of God's will (Eph 1:9)

Revelation through the prophets (Rom 16:25-26)

Revelation through the Church (Eph 3:10)

Revelation of righteousness through faith (Rom 3:21-22)

Revelation of God's wrath (Rom 1:18-20)

God's plan always contains deliverance for His people (7-9)

Deliverance through the sanctifying work of the Holy Spirit (2 Thess 2:13-14)

Deliverance through grace (2 Tim 1:8-9)

As God delivered those in the Old Testament, He will deliver us (2 Peter 2:9)

God delivers even into our old age (Isaiah 46:4)

God has always delivered and will continue to do so (2 Cor. 1:10)

When God reveals His plan to man, He has a part for man to do (10)

God has plans for each one of us (Jer 29:11)

God delivers us for a purpose (Jer 15:11)

God created us to do good works (Eph 2:10)

God predestined us and called us for His purpose (Rom 8:29)

God has plans for some that may include dishonor (Rom 9:19-21)

God's Divine Assurance (Exodus 3:11-12)

Man tends to always have an excuse for not doing God's will (11)

Excuses started in the Garden of Eden (Gen 3:8-12)

Moses gave the excuse that he couldn't talk (Ex 4:10-12)

Aaron gave the excuse of peer pressure (Ex 32:21-24)

Excuses make one unfit for service (Luke 9:59-62)

God's assurance is that He will always be with His people (12)

God promises to be with us to the very end (Matt 28:20)

The Holy Spirit will be with believers forever (John 14:16)

God will never forsake His people (Deut 31:6)

The Psalmist points out that he has never seen any righteous forsaken (Ps 37:25)

God loves and will never forsake His faithful ones (Ps 37:28)

Man's response to God's assurance is to be obedient and serve God (12)

Our response should be out of love for God because if we love God, we will obey Him (John 14:15)

Our response is an obligation to live by the Holy Spirit (Rom 8:12-14)

Our response should be to be obedient and serve God regardless of the circumstances (Dan 3:16-18)

Our response should be to offer our whole selves as living sacrifices to God (Rom 12:1)

Our response should be to throw off everything that hinders and serve God (Heb 12:1-2)

Our response should be to be thankful and worship God (Heb 12:28)