

## MOSES SAID IT FIRST

### Exodus 3:1-16

**Introduction:** There was a man who saw some people being severely abused so he stepped in to help but to his surprise both the abusers and the people being abused turned on him and he had to leave the country. He ended up in a remote place where he had a life changing encounter with the God of the people he had tried to help. He found out that their God knew of their situation and already had a plan and it included him. He questioned this God as to whether he was the right man for the job, finding all sorts of excuses to not do it. However the God was insistent and persuasive so this man became a believer and did what the God wanted him to do. This man's name was Moses.

The same God that called Moses to lead Israel out of bondage also has things He wants His children today to do but they often are reluctant and ask the same questions Moses asked:

#### I. WHO ARE YOU?

1. Moses wanted to know exactly who God was and what He had in mind for him to do.
  - God spoke to Moses through a burning bush that wasn't consumed.
  - God turned Moses' staff into a snake, then his hand into leprosy and back to normal.
  - God revealed Himself as being eternal, self existent, the creator, sustainer, sovereign, all powerful and all faithful.
  - Moses ended up on his face before God in submission.
2. The God whom Moses encountered is the same God who still calls people today to do things.
  - Like Moses, people of today want to know more about God before doing very much.
  - Moses didn't know the God of Israel until he met on a mountain side but when the meeting was over, Moses was on his face before almighty God.
  - That hasn't changed today either. Once a person meets God he/she is on her/his face before Him.

#### II. WHO AM I?

1. Moses thought God had the wrong person for the job of delivering Israel out of Egypt.
  - He gave all kind of excuses for not doing what God wanted him to do.
  - God had an answer for every excuse or reason Moses gave until finally God had enough of Moses' excuses and became angry.
2. Again like Moses, people offer all sort of excuses and reasons for not doing things for God.
  - When asked to teach, serve the church in some way, the excuses are the same as those of Moses: "you can find someone better than me," "I don't think I could do that," "There's plenty of others who are more qualified than me..."
  - What acceptable excuse could a child of God possibly have to not do what God wanted?
    - Why would anybody refuse to do what God asked?
3. Remembering what God has done for the believer: forgiven, justified, saved, pardoned, reconciled, sanctified, declared righteous, indwelt by the Holy Spirit, a home in heaven, who could say "no" to such a wonderful God?
4. What part of the believer does not belong to God? Does not God have the right to ask any of His children to do anything He wants? Is not the child of God to be obedient?

### III. TO WHOM DO I BELONG?

1. Moses did not know that much about God and didn't know that God knew all about him.
  - God had a purpose for Moses from his birth and had been preparing things for the time when Moses was to step in and do what God had planned for him to do.
2. God knows about every person and like Moses, has plans for each life, something that only that one person can do for God. Also like Moses, people don't know that God already knows them and has plans for their lives.
3. God did not expect Moses to use his own strengths and wisdoms to do what God wanted and God showed Moses that, by using the simple wooden staff of Moses to do miracles.
  - God doesn't expect those of today to do things for Him by using their own strengths and skills. God will provide gifts and whatever is needed for each person to do what He wants done, as He did for and through Moses.
4. Christians belong to God and God doesn't make mistakes, so when God gives someone something to do for Him, God will provide all that is needed, so just do it and thank Him for giving you something to do for Him.

### IV. WHY AM I HERE?

1. How did Moses end up on the side of God's mountain?
  - It was time for Moses to meet God and find out what God had for him to do.
2. In God's time, every one of His children will be given something only he/she can do and God uses different means to reveal what His plans are. For Moses it was a mountain side and God speaking through a burning bush. God uses different methods for His children.
3. It was in God's time that Moses met God and it will be in God's time when His children receive their "assignments" as well.
  - "*...wait upon the Lord...*" is advice from God. Don't run ahead, don't lag behind, God will use His children how and when He wants.
4. Moses is remembered for the great things he was involved with in God delivering His children out of Egyptian bondage. God did it through Moses. Moses was the instrument God used but God did the delivering.
  - Remember that whatever a child of God is privileged to do with/for God, it is God who is behind it all and all glory and honor is His, not the child of God or the person seen.

### CONCLUSION:

1. Christians, believers, God's children, these are the ones God uses to do His work.
2. God calls, equips, assigns, sends, and goes with His children to do their appointed duties.
3. God has something special for each of His children to do for Him. Nobody else can do it for God has not assigned it to anybody else. If that person does not do it, then it does not get done.
4. Look at the church you attend. Is every christian doing his/her God-given work?
5. Look at yourself. Have you said what Moses said, "you've got the wrong person.."?
6. What do you owe God? What have you given God? What will you give God?
7. Remember Moses. Look at what God did through a man who told God He had the wrong person.