

When God Drafts You

PASTOR MIKE YODER • EXODUS 3

God proclaims His promised plan. Moses declares his imperfection and hesitation. God pursues His plan anyhow.

God's Warning to Moses (3:1-6)



Moses leaves Egypt and goes to Midian.

God is holy, and He is the one who makes or declares places and people to be holy.

The trepidation humans feel before the Lord is not, therefore, the trembling of the lowly before the Almighty or the created before the Creator, but the fear of sinners endangered by holiness.

And they were calling to one another: “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord Almighty; the whole earth is full of His glory.”

At the sound of their voices the doorposts and thresholds shook, and the temple was filled with smoke.

“Woe to me!” I cried. “I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty.”

God's Commission of Moses (3:7–10)

God had to get them out of Egypt, this land which they had learned to love too deeply. Physical bondage was the result of something far more serious but less obvious: spiritual slavery to a land and people to whom they were to remain strangers.

Tom Julien

Moses may have viewed returning to an unknown situation in Egypt with trepidation, but he was immediately reassured that, whatever else had changed, one thing remained the same — God.

God meets us initially where we are, at our recognized point of need, however shallow, and from this He leads us on to acknowledgment of needs at a deeper level.

God Promises His Presence (3:11,12)

Self-distrust is good, but only if it leads to trust in God. Otherwise, it ends as spiritual paralysis, inability and unwillingness to undertake any course of action.

When Moses was faced with his vocation, his reaction was “I can’t, therefore I won’t.” The Lord sought to bring him to the point where he would say instead, “I can’t, but *He* can, therefore I will.” That is the obedience of faith.

Moses' position was, "Look, I'm not up to the job. You shouldn't have picked me." The Lord's reply was, "Of course you are not up to the job. I knew that when I chose you for it. The point is not your ability but Mine!"

God Reveals His Name (3:13–15)

Yahweh refers to God being the Creator and Sustainer of all that exists and thus the Lord of both creation and history, all that is and all that is happening — a God active and present in historical affairs.

**God Predicts Liberation
for His People (3:16–23)**

From their former persecutors God would supply those needs, further demonstrating His power and control over all people and circumstances.

God has ultimate confidence to carry out His redemptive plan. So should we, as we make ourselves available to Him.

When we are tempted to say, “God has forsaken...God has forgotten....Why are things like this?” Exodus quietly reminds us that the contrary is true: God has not forsaken us, He has not forgotten us and our need and, despite appearances, His promises and purposes remain firm and their fulfilment is on the way.

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