



# CHRIST

*In the Old Testament*

Moses, Christ, and the Burning Bush

Exodus 3



FAITH BUILDERS



# Background

## End of Genesis

- Jacob, his sons, and their families move to Egypt at the invitation of Joseph and Pharaoh
- Jacob dies
- Joseph tells his brothers before he dies that “God will surely take care of you and bring you up from this land to the land which He promised on oath to Abraham, Isaac and to Jacob.”

# Background

## Exodus 1

- A new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph and who enslaved the Israelites under hard labor
- Despite their oppression, God allowed the Israelites to greatly multiply in Egypt

# Background

## Exodus 2

- Moses was born to parents from the house of Levi
- To save him from being killed, he was put into a basket in the Nile River and found by a daughter of Pharaoh, who adopted him as her son
- Moses grew up with royal privileges and advantage
- At age 40 he fled to Midian after killing an Egyptian due to his harsh treatment of an Israelite



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- At age 40 he fled to Midian after killing an Egyptian due to his harsh treatment of an Israelite
- Moses lived in Midian for 40 years, married, and had 2 sons
- The Israelites in Egypt cried out because of their bondage
- God heard their cries and remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob

# Moses, Christ, and the Burning Bush

*Exodus 3*

*The circumstances of Moses seeing the burning bush (1-3)*

- *As a shepherd in Midian for nearly 40 years, he finds himself at Mount Horeb (1)*

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- *The angel of the Lord appeared to him in a burning bush (2-3)*

# The Christophany in the Burning Bush

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- God calls Moses, tells him not to come near, and to remove his sandals (4-5)

**Revelation 22:8–9** <sup>8</sup>I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed me these things. <sup>9</sup>But he said to me, “Do not do that. I am a fellow servant of yours and of your brethren the prophets and of those who heed the words of this book. Worship God.”

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- Is deemed holy and worthy of worship (5)



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- Conveys being all-knowing (7,9)

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- *God reveals that He has seen the affliction of His people in Egypt (7,9)*
- *God tells Moses He has come down to deliver them to a good and spacious land (v8)*
- *God commissions Moses to go to Pharaoh and bring His people out of Egypt (10)*

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Moses' consternation at God's call upon him (11-15)

# Moses, Christ, and the Burning Bush

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- God promises to be with him and that the people will worship Him on this very mountain (12)
- Moses objects because of his lack of authority (13)

**Joshua 24:14** <sup>14</sup>“Now, therefore, fear the LORD and serve Him in sincerity and truth; and put away the gods which your fathers served beyond the River and in Egypt, and serve the LORD.”

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- God conveys His self-existence and eternality, and gives His name "I AM" and YHWH "LORD" (14-15)

# The Name of God

*Exodus 3:14-15*

## I AM WHO I AM

- Hebrew 'ehyeh 'ăšer 'ehyeh
- God's explanatory revelation of His eternal, self-existent, self-sufficient nature

## I AM

- Means “to be”

## Yahweh

- Hebrew YHWH which comes from the same root “to be”
- Known as the Tetragrammaton
- Is the sacred, personal, covenant name of God
- Most Bible translations show as LORD (all caps)

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**John 8:58** Jesus said to them, "Truly, truly, I say to you, before Abraham was born, I am."

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- Is the great “I AM” (14)



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*God's detailed instructions to Moses (16-22)*

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God's detailed instructions to Moses (16-22)

- Regarding the elders of Israel (16-18a)
  - Tell them how God has appeared to you, how He sees your affliction, and how He will deliver them from Egypt
- Regarding the king of Egypt (18b-20)
  - With the elders, go to Pharaoh and ask that the people be allowed to worship in the wilderness
  - He will not initially agree, but after God strikes Egypt, he will let you go
- Regarding the people of Israel (21-22)
  - God will give the people favor with the Egyptians, who will shower them with gifts when they leave

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- Claims to be the God of Moses’ father, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob (6,15,16)
- is referred to as Yahweh “LORD” in speaking to Moses (7,15,16,18)
- Conveys being all-knowing (7,9,12,19)
- Conveys being all-powerful (8,17,20-22)
- Is the great “I AM” (14)

# Table Discussion

Discuss some of these points of reflection and questions at your tables

1. Christ is seen in our text as truly divine and identified as God, I AM, and Yahweh
2. How does it change your perspective of Christ to see Him described in this way?
3. How does it change your perspective of proper worship considering how Christ is treated in this passage?
4. God promised to provide Moses with everything he needed to accomplish what He called him to do
5. Can you identify with Moses in feeling inadequate? What did you learn from how God responded to Moses?