

# SEARCHING THE SCRIPTURES

AN OVERVIEW OF THE OLD TESTAMENT

JN. 5:39



Jn. 5:39 “**Search the scriptures....they are they which testify of me.**”

Jn. 5:46 For had ye believed Moses, ye would have believed me: for **he wrote of me.**

Rom. 15:4 For whatsoever things were **written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope.**

Moses left Egypt when he was 40 years old. For the next 40 years, he was on the back side of the Midian desert, taking care of his father-in-law's flocks. An 80 year-old Moses saw a strange phenomenon while going about his routine with Jethro's flock – a bush was burning but not consumed. Out of the burning bush, God spoke to Moses about the “holy ground” where he was standing and the need to remove his shoes.

I. GOD'S TIMING FOR HIS IMPLEMENTATION OF DELIVERANCE, Acts 7:30a

Acts 7:30 “And when forty years were expired...”

## A. The Gravity of the Plan

- ❖ The gravity of the plan is exhibited in the time God used to implement it.
- ❖ The Exodus would affect the histories of both the nations of Israel and Egypt.

## B. The Grace for Patience

## II. GOD'S TACTICS OF HIS INTERRUPTION FOR DELIBERATION,

A. Moses Was Interrupted from His Routine Engagement – Ex. 3:1-2a, Acts 7:30

B. Moses Was Interested in the Remarkable Event, Ex. 3:3

## III. GOD'S TELLING OF HIS INTRUCTIONS FOR DELIVERANCE

A. God's Revelation of the Purpose of the Interruption to Moses, Ex. 3:4-5

After God had Moses' attention, He instructed Moses about the value of sanctification before giving him further revelation about Himself and the Exodus.

- ❖ The beauty of “sanctification” is God enabling us to be used for His glory.

2 Tim. 2:21 If a man therefore purge himself from these, he shall be a vessel unto honour, **sanctified, and meet for the master's use, and prepared unto every good work.**

- ❖ The Lord plainly identified Himself to Moses in Ex. 3:6:

Ex. 3:6 Moreover he said, **I am the God** of thy father, **the God** of Abraham, **the God** of Isaac, and **the God** of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

Acts 7:32 Saying, **I am the God** of thy fathers, the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Then Moses trembled, and durst not behold.

- ❖ Remember...the appearance to Moses was a theophany – an Old Testament appearance of the Lord Jesus Christ.
- ❖ Moses was confronted by God, and He identified with the patriarchs.
- ❖ The immediate response of Moses in being confronted by God was to humble himself, fearing to look upon God.
- ❖ The revelation via the burning bush preceded revealing His purpose for Moses.

❖ The Lord wanted Moses to see what He saw:

Ex. 3:7 And **the LORD** said, **I have surely seen** the affliction of **my people** which *are* in Egypt, **and have heard** their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for **I know their sorrows;**

❖ Moses was 40 years removed from Egypt, but the Lord knew the situation there.

Ex. 3:7 And **the LORD** said, I have surely seen the affliction of **my people** which *are* in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for **I know their sorrows;**



Acts 7:34a **I have seen, I have seen** the affliction of my people which is in Egypt, and I have heard their groaning, and am come down to deliver them.

❖ Three areas of concern for the Lord regarding the children of Israel were...

1. The affliction of His people;

2. The hearing of their agony;

3. Their need for deliverance.

❖ The Lord shared His concern for the children of Israel with Moses and then reiterated it emphasizing His motive for deliverance:

Ex. 3:8 And **I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians**, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

9 Now therefore, **behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me**: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

❖ The Lord gave Moses a clear explanation of His plans.

- “I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians...”
- “...to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey...”
- “...unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.”

- ❖ The Lord expressed His knowledge of, and concern for, the children of Israel.
- ❖ The children of Israel would be delivered from the land of heartache, and directed to the land of milk and honey, but would need to face enemies along the way.
- ❖ The Lord gave Moses His assessment for the need of His deliverance in Egypt, preparing him for the revelation of His next move.

Ex. 3:9 Now **therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me**: and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them.

## B. God's Revelation of the Personal Involvement of Moses, Ex. 3:10, Acts 7:34b-35

Ex. 3:10 Come now **therefore**, and **I will send thee** unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth **my people the children of Israel** out of Egypt.

Acts 7:34b "...And now come, **I will send thee into Egypt.**

35 This Moses whom they refused, saying, Who made thee a ruler and a judge? the same did God send *to be* a ruler and a deliverer by the hand of the angel which appeared to him in the bush."

- ❖ The “therefore” in Ex. 3:10, indicates consequential action – there is a problem that needs a solution.
- ❖ God says, “Moses, I am sending you to bring my people out of Egypt.” Just 2 things.
- ❖ Instead of instant obedience, Moses began to question his ability to accomplish the task.

Ex. 3:11 And Moses said unto God, **Who *am* I**, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

12 And he said, **Certainly I will be with thee**; and this *shall be* a token unto thee, that **I have sent thee**: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

- ❖ Moses had reason to doubt his ability to serve God, but God graciously encouraged him.

# Moses Moves to Midian



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Psa. 32:9 Be ye not as the horse, *or* as the mule, *which* have no understanding: whose mouth must be held in with bit and bridle, lest they come near unto thee.

### Summary

- ❖ The Lord used the “burning bush” to get Moses’ attention, and then revealed His observation of the need for deliverance of the children of Israel from Egypt.
- ❖ After such a revelation, the Lord issued a call to Moses to be the deliverer.
- ❖ Moses expressed his lack of confidence in himself, yet the Lord reassured him of His support.

## Conclusion

Isa. 6:8 Also I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, **Whom shall I send, and who will go for us? Then said I, Here am I; send me.**



# Flame of God

*by Amy Carmichael*

Give me the love that leads the way,  
The faith that nothing can dismay  
The hope no disappointments tire,  
**The passion that will burn like fire;**  
Let me not sink to be a clod;  
**Make me Thy fuel, Flame of God.**

<https://www.webtruth.org/christian-poems-poetry/flame-of-god-poem-by-amy-carmichael/>

2 Chron. 16:9a “For the eyes of the LORD run to and fro throughout the whole earth, **to shew himself strong in the behalf of *them* whose heart *is* perfect toward him...**”

Jer. 29:11 For I know the thoughts that I think toward you, saith the LORD, thoughts of peace, and not of evil, **to give you an expected end.**