

Moses – the Commission

In the second chapter of Exodus, we learned of Moses' birth and amazing deliverance from certain death. His parents had such strong faith in the promises of God that they were willing to send their baby boy floating down the dangerous Nile River, in hopes it would find safety. Indeed, God saw to it that Moses was delivered into the hands of the Egyptian princess who took Moses in as her own son. But Moses' mother was allowed to nurse him until he was old enough to live with his adopted mother and, in that, we saw how well God is able to protect those who have faith in Him and His promises. We also learned how, although Moses grew up in the Egyptian household and was taught in their ways, he never absorbed their lifestyle into his heart. He remained loyal to his people and the God of his fathers, which is why he was willing to kill an Egyptian out of defense for one of his fellow Israelites. But the matter was made known to the Pharaoh himself who sought to kill Moses for this 'act of betrayal' and Moses fled to the land of Midian where he found a wife of the descendants of Abraham through his second wife Keturah. Moses had two sons with Zipporah and spent nearly 40 years in the land of Midian, taking care of his father in law's flocks and then one day...

Exodus 3

1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

As the *Smith's Bible Dictionary* testifies, Horeb was also called Sinai, which is where God would lead the Israelites after He freed them from Egypt. It's also where the Ten Commandments were given and the children of Israel spent a good deal of time there (Ex 16:1,19, 34:32, Deut 1). So, we see that Moses was acquainted with the area because this he took his father in law's flocks to graze there. Remember that Jethro was just a title, not his father in law's actual name. The Companion Bible has a note that the 'backside' of Horeb (Sinai) is the West side, which is very fertile. Note this location was called the 'mountain of God', and is the very mountain God would come down upon to give Israel the Ten Commandments. And it was at this very mountain that Moses saw something very unusual...

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*2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and **the bush was not consumed.***

3 And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

The fire burned in the bush but it didn't go out nor did it spread. So, natural curiosity caused Moses to *draw near* to the fiery bush. Notice that verse 2 says the 'angel of the LORD' appeared *in the flame of fire* that was in the bush. The "angel of the LORD" was God Himself and He has appeared to many people throughout Biblical history: Hagar (Gen 16:7-11), Abraham (Gen 22:11-15), the 'prophet' Balaam (Num 22:22-35), Gideon (Judges 6:11-12, 21-22), Elijah (1 Kings 19:7, 2 Kings 1:3, 15), Joseph (Mth 1:20, 24), Zarachias (Lk 1:11), the shepherds (Lk2:9), Peter (Acts 12:7) and more. Now, it's important to understand that, any time you see the words

LORD in all capitals, the name that is being used is *God's Sacred Name*. And, while this is the first time LORD is used in Exodus, it's used *a lot* throughout the Old Testament. The word LORD is #3068 in the Hebrew and means: *self-Existent* or *Eternal*; *Jehovah*. Now, there is no "J" in the Hebrew language so Jehovah is the *English* translation. And why is this translated as LORD instead of simply using our Heavenly Father's true name? Somewhere down the line, the 'scholars' thought it was blasphemous for the 'common people' to use God's Holy name. This likely stemmed from the Third Commandment which says we are not to take God's Name in vain. While it is true, we are not to use God's name in vain, we are also not to be ignorant of His name for our Heavenly Father's Name *reveals His character to us*. After all, Jesus said...

I have manifested thy name unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word
John 17:6

And I have declared unto them thy name, and will declare it: that the love wherewith thou hast loved me may be in them, and I in them.
John 17:26

So, Jesus intrinsically links our knowing God's Name (YHVH) with knowing Him and His love. And Jesus *manifested* His Name to us so we can keep His Word. So, it is indeed important that we know His name. Why? Because it describes Him and His characteristics: *He is eternal because He is self-existent*. Also of importance, is knowing that Jesus' name comes from a prim root that means *Jehovah-saved* (#3091). Moreover, knowing God's true name helps us to know the difference between Him and Satan, for Satan (disguised as a light giver, 2 Cor 11:13-15) will soon to come to earth, claiming to be the Savior of mankind (2 Thess 2, Mth 25:15, Mk 13:14, Dan 11:31, 12:11, Rev 13 - <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/345>).

So, our Heavenly Father, God Almighty, appeared to Moses out of a fiery bush, which was **not** consumed. And why not? Deut 4:24, 9:3 and Heb 12:29 all tell us that *our God is a consuming fire*. So, why wouldn't this bush be consumed? It is because our Heavenly Father's fire is not like that which we are accustomed to here on earth. Ezekiel had several experiences with God's fire and described it to be *a fire infolding itself, and a brightness was about it, and out of the midst thereof as the colour of amber, out of the midst of the fire* (Ezekiel 1:4 when speaking of God's vehicle) and *as burning coals of fire, and like the appearance of lamps... the fire was bright, and out of the fire went forth lightning* (Ezekiel 1:13). He later saw our Heavenly Father again and described his likeness to be as the appearance of fire: *from the appearance of his loins even downward, fire; and from his loins even upward, as the appearance of brightness, as the colour of amber* (Ezekiel 8:2). Then again, he saw God's throne in a vehicle ('whirlwind') and described it to be *as the colour of a beryl stone* (Ezekiel 10:9) and having fire in the midst of his vehicle (Ezekiel 10:7). Rev 2:18 further tells us that Jesus, the *Son of God*, has *eyes like unto a flame of fire, and his feet are like fine brass*.

So, our Heavenly Father's fire (and His Son, Jesus Christ) is *a form of energy we are not familiar with*. And He can (and does) bring it into this dimension with Him. The closest thing we have in comparison to it, in this dimension, is *electricity*, which is the purest form of energy we know of in this dimension. In fact, our flesh and blood bodies are run by electrical currents; we all have an electrical field in and around our flesh bodies. Consider this in connection with Acts 2:3 where *there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them*. Another interesting side note to this is the fact that the Ark of the Covenant (which was God's throne in this dimension) was made of wood with gold covering the inside and the outside... the perfect conductor for *electricity*. This would explain how Uzzah was immediately struck down dead when he tried to steady the Ark, when they were transporting it one time (2 Sam 6:6-7).

So, because our Heavenly Father is eternal, meaning He's always existed and He *always will* exist (Rev 1:8, 11, 21:6, 22:13) **He IS His own energy source**. This energy source can be deadly, which is why it's called consuming. But it can also be used to *energize*, which is why His Holy Spirit baptizes people with fire when God wants to give energy to fulfil His will (as in spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ - Mth 3:11, Acts 2:3). Therefore, Moses saw God's energy in the form where it was non-consuming. It was simply staying in the bush (symbolic of the fact that our Heavenly Father is THE Tree of Life – Gen 2:9, 3:24) and not moving anywhere else. This is because God's purpose was not to consume but rather *to draw Moses to Him*. And it worked!

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4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.

Our Heavenly Father was watching Moses closely and when he got close enough, He called out to Moses. How did Moses respond? *He answered the call*. This was the appropriate response, by the way. And it will be the first of many times God would speak to Moses. Jesus said that *many are called, but few are chosen* (Matt 22:14) and indeed Moses was called *and* chosen by God to lead His people out of Egyptian bondage. But remember that *Moses answered God's call*. When God calls to you to obey His Word, how do you respond? (Heb 3:7-4:9) Are you too afraid to face yourself to come out of spiritual bondage?

19 As many as I love, I rebuke and chasten: be zealous therefore, and repent.

20 Behold, I stand at the door; and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door; I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.

Rev 3:19-20

God then told Moses to not come any closer but to take his shoes off, for the land he was standing on was holy ground. Surely, Moses took his shoes off in record speed that day. This wasn't the only time God told someone to take off their shoes because they were standing on Holy ground (which let them know they were in the presence of God Almighty – YHVH). Joshua

also had a similar experience shortly before entering the Promise Land (Joshua 6:15). There's more to this than one thinks. Certainly, taking one's shoes off was a sign of respect but shoes are actually a sign of one's 'power' and 'right' (Ps 60:8, 108:9, Deut 25:7-10). So, taking them off was not only being respectful but also submissive to God Almighty, who created all things (Ephesians 3:9, Rev 4:11).

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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.

After Moses took off his shoes, God introduced Himself and explained that He is the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (a.k.a. Israel). Moses (understandably) was afraid to look upon God and hid his face. There was a saying back in those days that anyone who saw the face of God would die. (That's why Jacob was so grateful he was still alive after his experience wrestling with what he realized had to of been God Himself, Gen 32:30). And while Moses was frightened at this first experience with our Heavenly Father, this would not be the last time he saw God face to face. In fact, He would come to know Him quite well for it is written in Ex 33:11 that: *the LORD spake unto Moses face to face, as a man speaketh unto his friend.*

This verse is also important because Jesus Christ used this verse to document that, those who die in this flesh body are *not dead*. They are, in fact, still alive and living with our Heavenly Father in the heavenly dimension (Matt 22:23-32). Ecc 12:6-7 and 2 Cor 5:1-2 further explains that, while our flesh body dies and decomposes back to dirt, our soul (and spirit, which is our intellect) go back to our Heavenly Father in the heavenly dimension. 1 Cor 15 explains that in the heavenly dimension we have a spiritual body instead of a flesh body. *This verse documents that our soul does not die when our flesh body dies.* We, therefore, are much more than just a carnal, flesh body. We have a soul that has the potential to live forever **if** we accept Jesus Christ. However, all souls (good and bad) go back to the 'heavenly' dimension to live (in a spiritual body) until Jesus returns to the earth to reign during the Millennium. At that time, all those on earth will be returned to a spiritual body (1 Cor 15:52) and all of God's children will be taught for 1000 years by Jesus and those who overcame Satan's tribulation (Rev 20:4-6). Then, all who did not make the first resurrection will be judge at the Great White Throne Judgment (Rev 20:11-15). After that, all evil will be done away with and we will live in eternity where *God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes; and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying, neither shall there be any more pain: for the former things are passed away* (Rev 21:4).

So, these Old Testament Scriptures are *really* important to understand because *all* of the New Testament is based upon them (including Jesus Christ's entire ministry). We have to understand *and remember them* as clearly as we do the New Testament for truly, we cannot understand the New Testament without understanding the Old Testament. Remember, that Jesus Christ must be taught (and explained) *by using the Old Testament* (https://t.me/BibleStudyBooks_Exodus/4) or else you are making up 'another Christ' (2 Cor 11:3-4, 2 Thess 2).

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*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;***

Rev 8:4 tells us that, *the smoke of the incense, which came **with the prayers of the saints, ascended up before God** out of the angel's hand.* Note that it is the 'prayers of the saints' that ascend up to God. So, just because we pray to God (and cry out for help) does not mean He'll answer us. It matters greatly *how* we pray to Him and that isn't referring to the method of words we use; **it depends on our heart**. If we are self-righteous, meaning we are pretending to love and obey God, our prayers will not be respected by God. Our Heavenly Father isn't an idiot; He does not appreciate it when we approach Him in prayer with insincerity and/or ulterior motives, which 'vain repetitions' (or chanting) are. While it's ok to pray sometimes using pre-written prayers (such as the Lord's prayer, Mth 6:9-15), God wants our sincere (heartfelt) prayers. Like the blood sacrifices *symbolize*, God wants us to 'spill our guts' to Him and be willing to clean up inside (our heart and mind, Deut 10:16, Deut 30:6, Jer 4:4, Col 2:10-12, 1 Cor 7:18-19). He wants us to be honest, humble, sincere... He wants our true love *and trust*.

We must be willing to listen *and obey* Him. And we must be willing to accept His answer to our prayer. In John 14:13 Jesus said that: *whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son.* But notice that the purpose is to glorify the Son, Jesus Christ. In other words, we shouldn't be asking for things to glorify **ourselves** OR to fill our fleshly desires. If you want physical things then simply *obey God's Word* for Jesus promised God would add the things we *should* have IF we are obeying Him (Mth 6:8, 19-34).

Our prayers should be to the glorification of God, and His Son, Jesus Christ, so we can help His children come back to him. This is why James 5:16 says that *The effectual fervent prayer of a righteous man availeth much.* Those who are 'righteous' care about our Heavenly Father and His children *above* themselves and their prayers will reflect that love and compassion for God and His children. Never forget, God hears our prayers and our cries *IF we are willing to hear Him*. He's not a genie in a bottle who will respond to our every wish if we simply 'rub' Him the right way. That offends Him greatly for it shows we don't truly trust or care about Him. He knows when we need His help but it is our attitude and commitment to Him that determines how He will respond...

17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.

*18 The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him **in truth.***

*19 He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: **he also will hear their cry, and will save them.***

20 The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.

Ps 145:17-20

Jesus also said we must worship God in spirit (which means in our heart and mind) *and in truth* in John 4:23-24. So, trying to worship God by asking Him for things we lust for (or to preserve our pride) *is not praying to Him in truth* because it's asking Him to help you sin. Paul gives us very good advice on how to pray to our Heavenly Father in Phil 4:6-8 as does Jesus in Matt 6:1-8. Moreover, Prov 1:22-33 and Zech 7:7-13 also explain that we must be willing to 'turn' at God's reproof and change our ways (starting with the intents of our heart and thoughts of our

mind) if He is to take heed to our prayers. This is an important point to always remember: IF we want God to take heed to our prayers, *we must be willing to hear and obey Him*.

So, God *heard* Israel's cries and remembered His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. Hard times have a way of humbling people to God...

Exodus 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.*

God now tells Moses that *He came down* (from heaven!) to deliver Israel out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them into the "Promise Land" ...

4 The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens.

5 Who is like unto the LORD our God, who dwelleth on high,

*6 **Who humbleth himself to behold the things that are in heaven, and in the earth!***

7 He raiseth up the poor out of the dust, and lifteth the needy out of the dunghill;

8 That he may set him with princes, even with the princes of his people.

Ps 113:4-8

Our Heavenly Father truly loves us. Although He is the creator of all things in heaven and on earth (and beyond), He still humbles Himself to help His children. This humility was manifested greatly in the fact that He even came into a flesh body, incarnated as Jesus Christ, so He could pay for our sins and free us from Satan's spiritual bondage of deception, which was leading us to spiritual death (Heb 2:9-18, John 1:1, 14). This is why Jesus said He is *meek and lowly in heart* and why we will find *rest for our souls* through Him and *Him only* (Matt 11:29). This is also why the only kind of people Jesus will allow to serve in His new government (the eternal government called the Body of Christ – 1 Cor 12, Eph 4) will be those who are *humble* and *serve* the truth to others (Mth 18:3-4, 23:11-12, James 4:6,10, 1 Pt 5:5-6, Lk 14:8-11, 18:10-14).

But before God came to earth incarnated as Jesus, He came down to deliver Israel out of bondage so He could set up the Kingdom of God on earth by fulfilling His promises to Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. And in doing so, He would then lead them into the Promise Land so they could inherit the land of nations that were terribly wicked. Notably, there are six nations listed in this verse and six in Biblical numerics is *weakness of Man, Evils of Satan, Manifestation of Sin*. And sin they did. These people had mixed with the fallen angels and produced giants, which were hybrids between flesh man and angelic beings and were thus a wicked menace to God's other children on earth (Gen 3:13, 5:16-22, 6:4, Num 13:33, Deut 2:11, 20, 3:11, 13, Josh 12:4, 13:12, 15:8, 17:15, 18:16, 2 Sam 21:16, 18, 20, 22, 1 Chron 2:55, 1 Chron 20:4, 6, 8). Therefore, God allowed the Edomites, Moabites and the Ammonites to clean them out of the land East of the Jordan River (these were all distant family to Israel) and He would give Israel the land to the West of the Jordan River (Deut 2). However, God also allowed Israel to inherit some land East of the Jordan

due to the fact that there were some Amorites (north of Edom, Moab and Ammon) that had not yet been conquered.

Exodus 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.*

God reiterated that He had heard the cry of the children of Israel and added that He had personally seen the oppression of the Egyptians. This should remind us that nothing goes unseen to our Heavenly Father. He even sees right into our hearts and minds (Jer 17:9-10, Rom 8:26-27, Rev 2:23) and He thus hears the cries of those who are striving to obey Him *from their heart* (Ps 10:17-18, Ps 34:4-7, Col 1:12-14). God warns His enemies: *Touch not mine anointed, and do my prophets no harm* (1 Chron 16:15-22).

Exodus 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.

God now gets to the purpose of His ‘visit’ with Moses. He wants Moses to go to Pharaoh and bring Israel out of Egypt. That’s quite a commission. How does Moses respond?

Exodus 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?

Moses’ response wasn’t, ‘Ok Lord, when do you want me to pack my bags?’. No, Moses was very reluctant and asked, basically, why God had chosen him for the job. While it’s easy to criticize Moses for this, we should remember where he was coming from. Moses had grown up in the Egyptian palace and had been run out of the country for killing an Egyptian taskmaster. Although it was in self-defense to his fellow Israelite, the Egyptians didn’t look at it in that way. And, even though the Pharaoh who sought Moses’ life was dead (Exodus 2:23), there were surely still many other people in Egypt who knew Moses, including the current Pharaoh. So, Moses clearly had many inhibitions about going back. And, while he didn’t come right out and refuse to go, He was not eager about obeying our Heavenly Father’s commission. However, Moses did end up obeying our Heavenly Father, which is much more important than *saying* he would obey God and then not obeying Him, as the parable in Matt 21:24-32 clearly explains. As James 2:18 says, *shew me thy faith without thy works, and I will shew thee my faith by my works*. Moses was a ‘doer’ for our Heavenly Father (James 1:22), as this entire book of Exodus will prove...

Exodus 3

*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.***

This was no small commission. Israel had grown into a multitude of people (millions by that time) and that's a lot of people to govern, let alone to try to free from the most powerful nation in the world at that time. But never forget that our Heavenly Father knows us better than we know ourselves (Ps 139:13, Jer 1:5, Gal 1:15). And, He'll never ask us to do something that we are not able to do (1 Cor 10:13). He therefore assures Moses that He will be with him to help Moses bring Israel out of Egypt. And, as a 'token' (sign or evidence, #226) that His Word is true, God promised to bring them back to the same mountain Moses was speaking with God at. So, Moses knew the location they would travel to. Notice that God said, "I WILL be with thee". ***This was God's will***; thus, *it would happen*. It's a promise and Moses should have been assured of that because God's Word is truly as 'good as gold' (better actually - Ps 19:7, 93:5, 111:7) ...

Exodus 3

13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?

Moses has now finally submitted to God's commission and asks: *what is your name?* Why was this important? The term 'God' and 'Lord' are just titles, like to 'Sir', "Mr." and "Mrs." are all titles but, they are not your name. They may describe your status but *they are not your name*. Why was it so important to Moses to know God's name? Well, he just knew that Israel would ask him what God's name is. Why is that? What's in a name? Why are we given a name? *Our name identifies us*. And with God, He names people because their *name describes who they are*. That's why He re-named people like Abram to Abraham and Jacob to Israel. Their new names described what their destiny was. And He also specifically named people (like John the Baptist and Jesus) who had specific purposes in life. So, our Heavenly Father's name *describes Him*. And, the Scriptures clearly tell us that, *in order to know God we must know His name* - consequently, when we forget His name we also forget Him...

O LORD our Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth!

Ps 8:9

I will be glad and rejoice in thee: I will sing praise to thy name, O thou most High.

Ps 9:2

*The seed also of his servants shall inherit it: and **they that love his name** shall dwell therein.*

Ps 69:36

22 I will declare thy name unto my brethren: in the midst of the congregation will I praise thee.

23 Ye that fear the LORD, praise him; all ye the seed of Jacob, glorify him; and fear him, all ye the seed of Israel.

24 For he hath not despised nor abhorred the affliction of the afflicted; neither hath he hid his face from him; but when he cried unto him, he heard.

Ps 22:22-24

How can you praise someone you don't know?

20 If we have forgotten the name of our God, or stretched out our hands to a strange god;

21 Shall not God search this out? for he knoweth the secrets of the heart.

Ps 44:20-21

We must seek God (through His Word) to learn of Him...

16 Fill their faces with shame; that they may seek thy name, O LORD.

17 Let them be confounded and troubled for ever; yea, let them be put to shame, and perish:

18 That men may know that thou, whose name alone is JEHOVAH, art the most high over all the earth.

Ps 83:16-18

14 Because he hath set his love upon me, therefore will I deliver him: I will set him on high, because he hath known my name.

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.

16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

Ps 91:14-16

I know thy works, and where thou dwellest, even where Satan's seat is: and thou holdest fast my name, and hast not denied my faith, even in those days wherein Antipas was my faithful martyr; who was slain among you, where Satan dwelleth.

Rev 2:13

For whosoever shall call upon the name of the Lord shall be saved.

Rom 10:13

9 Know ye not that the unrighteous shall not inherit the kingdom of God? Be not deceived: neither fornicators, nor idolaters, nor adulterers, nor effeminate, nor abusers of themselves with mankind,

10 Nor thieves, nor covetous, nor drunkards, nor revilers, nor extortioners, shall inherit the kingdom of God.

11 And such were some of you: but ye are washed, but ye are sanctified, but ye are justified in the name of the Lord Jesus, and by the Spirit of our God.

1 Cor 6:9-11

5 Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus:

6 Who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:

7 But made himself of no reputation, and took upon him the form of a servant, and was made in the likeness of men:

8 And being found in fashion as a man, he humbled himself, and became obedient unto death, even the death of the cross.

9 Wherefore God also hath highly exalted him, and **given him a name which is above every name:**

10 That **at the name of Jesus** every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth;

11 And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
Phil 2:5-11

We could go on and on and on documenting the Scriptures that tell us it's important to know God's Name, and explain *why* it's important to know His name. Clearly, to forget God's name is to stop worshiping Him, which means we stop obeying Him, which means to stop loving Him ... which means we *willingly sin* and follow Satan's lies, which is what leads us to spiritual death (Rom 6-8). But if we love and obey Him, *we seek His name **and** the righteousness that His name reveals to us, because His name describes His character...*

A good name is rather to be chosen than great riches, and loving favour rather than silver and gold.

Prov 22:1

A good name is better than precious ointment; and the day of death than the day of one's birth.
Eccl 7:1

Even today we still understand the importance of maintaining a 'good name'. It means keeping our credibility in the community that we are people who can be trusted. In some societies, keeping the 'family name' honorable is so important that anyone who does anything that would give the family a 'bad' name, is literally excommunicated from the family. It is no different than with our Heavenly Father; He wants His name to be valued and respected because that means people will value (obey) and respect *Him*. This is, in fact, why He gave us the Third Commandment, which says...

Thou shalt not take the name of the LORD thy God in vain; for the LORD will not hold him guiltless that taketh his name in vain.

Ex 20:7

The word 'vain' is #7723 and means: *evil* (as destructive), literally (**ruin**) or morally (especially *guile*); figuratively *idolatry* (as false, subjective), *uselessness* (as deceptive, objective; also adverbially, in vain).

In other words, we should **not** do evil 'in the name' of the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob, whose name is *Jehovah* (YHVH). If we claim to be His children (and followers of Jesus Christ),

we should act like it. We should not be fake but sincerely try to act like Him. And, in order to truly follow our Heavenly Father, we must also be followers of His only begotten Son, Jesus Christ. Therefore, we should not claim to be a Christian if we aren't going to sincerely try to do what He's told us to do (Lk 6:46-49). To simply claim to be a Christian, but not truly be committed to following Him ends up turning many people off because they see the hypocrisy. This angers our Heavenly Father a lot, as it does when people intentionally use His name to make money in business deals (when they're really trying to rip others off). Worse yet are the Pastors to claim to be Christian but preach doctrines that are contrary to God's Word (preach for profit - Jer 23, Ezek 13, 34). To reiterate: If we claim to be His children (and followers of Jesus Christ), *we should act like it...*

*And whatsoever ye do in word or deed, **do all in the name of the Lord Jesus**, giving thanks to God and the Father by him.*

Col 3:17

*If ye be reproached **for the name of Christ**, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified.*

1 Peter 4:14

11 Wherefore also we pray always for you, that our God would count you worthy of this calling, and fulfil all the good pleasure of his goodness, and the work of faith with power:

*12 That **the name of our Lord Jesus Christ may be glorified in you, and ye in him**, according to the grace of our God and the Lord Jesus Christ.*

2 Thess 1:11-12

The Scriptures clearly declare that it's important (vital even) to know God's Name. We must know His name in order to truly worship. And we must also know His ways so we can *obey* Him in order to *bring glory and honor to His name*. That is why Moses wanted to know God's Name. He was not going to be able to fulfil his commission without knowing God's Name... *and neither can you*. This is why God will finally tell Moses what His Holy name is...

Exodus 3

*14 And God said unto Moses, **I AM THAT I AM**: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, **I AM** hath sent me unto you.*

Our Heavenly Father told Moses His full name is: I AM THAT I AM. He also said Moses could tell Israel that "I AM" sent him to free them from Egyptian bondage. What does this mean?

"**I AM**" is #1961. It's written as '*hayah*' (pronounced 'haw-yaw') and is a primitive root [compare OT:1933] that means *to exist, i.e. be or become, come to pass (always emphatic, and not a mere copula or auxiliary)*.

“**THAT**” is # 834 and written as '*asher* (pronounced as ash-er'); this is a primitive relative pronoun (of every gender and number); who, which, what, that; also (as an adverb and a conjunction) when, where, how, because, in order that, etc.:

So, God is saying HE EXISTS... He always HAS existed and He *always* WILL exist. And *He will be that which He wants to be*. This is what His name means because it *describes Him*. Remember what Jesus said...

*I have manifested **thy name** unto the men which thou gavest me out of the world: thine they were, and thou gavest them me; and they have kept thy word.*

John 17:6

Jesus Christ states to the Father, in prayer, that He manifested His name. The word “manifested” is translated from a Greek word that means “to render apparent” (#5319). It can also mean to “declare,” or to “show one’s self.” In other words, the only begotten Son of God, Jesus Christ, is telling our Heavenly Father, “*I’ve let them know who you are.*” So, **understanding God’s true name is important because He is made known through His name**. And His name is not “God” nor is it “Lord.” Those are just English titles we use for Him. They’re very appropriate titles. But titles, nonetheless. And His name is not even Jehovah. That’s a close *English translation* of His Hebrew name. But there’s no letter “J” in the Hebrew language. And there are no vowels, either.

In the Hebrew language, our heavenly Father’s sacred name is YHVH, pronounced Yah-veh, or sometimes Yah-ha-veh. It’s from the Hebrew tetragrammaton that we just learned of: “I am that I am” which basically means, “I will be what I will be.” (Note to the wise: in the Massorah text there is NO ‘w’, **it is a ‘v’**. So, His name is **not** pronounced “Yaw-eh”, it is Ya-yeh”). And it can be summed up in the term “the *self-existent one*” (#3068). **Our heavenly Father is the only one who is self-existent**. There are many supernatural beings in the heavens. But there are no self-existent beings other than our heavenly Father. **We were all created by Him, and we’re all dependent upon Him for our existence**. (Even Satan was created by God as Ezekiel 28:13,15 documents). Yes, we can live eternally, if we’re faithful to Him and to His Word by accepting His Son Jesus Christ as our Savior (and King) and work to “keep” (#8104, to guard or preserve) His Word. But **enjoying eternal life is not the same thing as being self-existent**. As distinguished from all of His creation, He’s the only self-existent one. He is, and He always has been. There’s never been a time He hasn’t existed, and there will never be a time that He doesn’t exist. “I am that I am” sums it up.

So, it’s obvious from the Scriptures God wants us to know His name; but again, why is it so important to Him? Because **God has shown us who He is through His name**. Thus, if we want to get to know Him, we must know His true name. And while it’s ok to call Him by His titles, we must never forget what His name really is and what it really means. To understand this better, consider how you are with your children. You probably don’t mind them calling you Dad or Mom but *they need to know your name so they know they are **your child***. In life, people will ask them who their parents are and they need to know you by your names because there’s a lot of

people who are called ‘mom’ and ‘dad’. Likewise, there’s a lot of entities and things called ‘god’ and ‘lord’. So, while **it’s not wrong to use titles to refer to YHVH, knowing His name is truly very important so we know who He is, that we are His child and He is our Heavenly Father.**

For a special study on the etymology YHVH’s name: <https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/946>.

Moses had a big commission and he thus needed to know God’s Holy Name (YHVH) *in order to fulfil his commission*. Likewise, those who are chosen (selected) to serve YHVH in these ‘latter days’ need to know YHVH’s name they too can fulfil their commission (John 15:16).

Exodus 3

*15 And God said moreover unto Moses, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you: **this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.***

God (YHVH) now explains that He gave Moses His sacred name for a “*memorial unto all generations*”. The word ‘memorial’ is #2143 and means: *a memento*, abstr. *recollection* (rarely if ever); by implication, *commemoration*. It’s translated in the KJV as - memorial, memory, remembrance, scent. A memento is *something that serves to warn or remind* us. So, God’s Holy name is both a warning and a reminder of who He is and what He can do if we obey verses disobey Him (Lev 26 and Deut 28). Thus, again, it’s vital to know His true name: YHVH.

Exodus 3

16 Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt:

*17 And I have said, **I will** bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.*

The first order of Moses’ commission was to go gather the elders of Israel who were living in Egypt (which is symbolic of spiritual bondage). Note that *it is **God’s will*** to bring Israel out of Egypt. This means it **WILL** happen. It was prophesied in Gen 13:15 and it would come to pass. But God is not unorganized. He is a very efficient leader. He demands order and self-control. This is why Jesus had the five thousand people to sit down and wait to be served food instead of letting them come and grab what they wanted like a mob does. They were to sit down and *wait* so the food could be dispersed in an orderly manner. Likewise, God had Moses go gather the elders of Israel first. He then would share the plan with them and they would then share it with Israel via the communication methods they had already in place. This shows us that, while Israel was enslaved to Egypt, they still had a form of government set up within their own people. Their elders were their *leaders*.

Moses was to inform the elders that YHVH is the God of their forefathers Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Israel) and that he appeared to Moses to tell him that He had heard Israel's afflictions and would bring them out of Egypt and lead them into the "Promise Land", which was the land of six nations listed here. It was a good land that was "flowing with milk and honey", which means it's a land filled with *a lot* of natural resources.

Exodus 3

18 And they shall hearken to thy voice: and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

God (YHVH) promises Moses that the elders would believe him and he was to then take them to Pharoah and explain that their God (YHVH) had met with them and demanded they go sacrifice in the wilderness. Note that God didn't say to tell Pharoah to let them go and they'll be gone *forever*. He simply said to let them journey three days out to sacrifice to their God. While it's likely Pharoah had suspicions they wouldn't come back, God still did not want Moses to tell the Pharoah any more than was needed. As 1 Sam 16 also testifies to, God does not expect us to give a lot of information to the enemy. This is also why Jesus spoke in parables (Mk 4:11-12).

Exodus 3

*19 And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand.
20 And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.*

So, God warns Moses up front that the Pharoah wasn't going to let them go immediately. It would take many wonders (by God) before Pharoah would let them go. In other words, it's not going to be a 'quick and easy' exit! In fact, (as we shall soon see) God would even purposely harden Pharoah's heart to make sure all He had time to fulfill all His pre-determined 'wonders' upon Egypt. YHVH had good reasons for doing so. The mighty wonders that He would do in Egypt would become the gold standard for Israel's education. All generations were to look back at the wonders God brought upon Egypt and learn from them. For example...

51 The proud have had me greatly in derision: yet have I not declined from thy law.

52 I remembered thy judgments of old, O LORD; and have comforted myself.

Ps 119:51-52

So, the Exodus became the bedrock for Israel's education insomuch that *they learned of God's mighty power during that time*. And they were to *remember* what He did in Egypt so they would fear to disobey Him. We are to continue to do so today. As 1 Cor 10 tells us, the Old Testament is filled with examples for us to learn from. That is why the Exodus teaches us living today how God will free us from *spiritual* bondage. The *Exodus is a type for what is coming*, just as Moses was a type for our Savior, Jesus Christ.

Additionally, the mighty wonders YHVH did would make His name well known...

*And shewedst signs and wonders upon Pharaoh, and on all his servants, and on all the people of his land: for thou knewest that they dealt proudly against them. **So didst thou get thee a name, as it is this day.***

Neh 9:10

God's name (YHVH) was glorified by the mighty wonders He did. It made both the Israelites and the Egyptians fear (and revere) Him greatly. In other words, He got their respect due to all the mighty wonders He did - He proved His power and His might.

17 Ah Lord GOD! behold, thou hast made the heaven and the earth by thy great power and stretched out arm, and there is nothing too hard for thee:

18 Thou shewest lovingkindness unto thousands, and recompensest the iniquity of the fathers into the bosom of their children after them: the Great, the Mighty God, the LORD of hosts, is his name,

19 Great in counsel, and mighty in work: for thine eyes are open upon all the ways of the sons of men: to give every one according to his ways, and according to the fruit of his doings:

*20 Which hast set signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, even unto this day, and in Israel, and among other men; and **hast made thee a name**, as at this day;*

21 And hast brought forth thy people Israel out of the land of Egypt with signs, and with wonders, and with a strong hand, and with a stretched out arm, and with great terror;

22 And hast given them this land, which thou didst swear to their fathers to give them, a land flowing with milk and honey;

Jer 32:17-22

*11 **I will remember the works of the LORD: surely I will remember thy wonders of old.***

12 I will meditate also of all thy work, and talk of thy doings.

13 Thy way, O God, is in the sanctuary: who is so great a God as our God?

*14 **Thou art the God that doest wonders: thou hast declared thy strength among the people.***

Ps 77:11-14

And again, this is a type for how it will be in these 'latter days' for Moses and Aaron are types of the two witnesses (Zech 4, Rev 11) who will testify against the antichrist (Satan). And God will give them power to shut heaven, that it rain not in the days of their prophecy: and have power over waters to turn them to blood, and to smite the earth with all plagues, as often as they will (Rev 11:6).

The purpose is to show the world that God (and His Son, Jesus Christ) has power over **all** His creation, including Satan. Satan thinks he can displace our Heavenly Father, which is why he will be on earth trying to spiritually seduce everyone into worshiping him and becoming part of his world government (<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/345>). Thankfully, Jesus Christ (the true

Christ) will return to put down Satan's rebellion and Satan will be locked in a pit for 1000 years while Jesus and His government will be teaching those who worshiped Satan the difference between good (Jesus) and evil (Satan) (Ez 44, Rev 20:4-6).

We need to understand that Satan's rebellion has been going on for a long time (special study on this: <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/192?single>) and we are living in the days that Jesus warned us about in Mth 24, Mark 13 and Luke 21 - where Satan, who is the abomination of desolation (<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/235>) will be kicked out of heaven (Rev 12) *to this earth* and claim to be the savior of mankind (<https://t.me/BibleStudyTruth/950>). We're told in Ephesian 6 to put on the spiritual armor to guard our mind and heart against Satan's deceiving lies so we can fight the good fight (1 Tim 6:12). The Bible does not tell us we will be rapturing away (<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/334>) but rather that *we will be here during the tribulation of the antichrist* and we must mentally and spiritually prepare for it **now** so we don't get deceived (<https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/392>, <https://t.me/BibleStudyDownload/393>).

Exodus 3

21 And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty:

By the time God got done plaguing Egypt, the Egyptian people were begging Pharaoh to let Israel go. It was due to the mighty works (plagues) that the Egyptians would come to fear and revere YHVH so much. And on account of this, they would be very nice to the Israelites, which is what God refers to here when saying Israel would find 'favor in the sight of the Egyptians. To give a modern-day example: you wouldn't treat the children of your boss badly, would you? Most people would treat them very kindly (even with *preferential* favor) because they don't want to anger their boss. Why? Because their boss can make life *really* hard for them, even fire them. Likewise, the Egyptians didn't want to anger YHVH anymore (they were tired of the plagues) so they were *very* 'favorable' to the Israelites.

Exodus 3

22 But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

The word 'borrow' here is not the same in the Hebrew as it is to us in the English. It's #7592 and means: to *inquire*; by implication, to *request*; by extension, to *demand*. In other words, the Israelite women were to go ask the Egyptian women (even demand if necessary) for goodly things. This wasn't just jewelry and clothing. The word 'jewels' in the Hebrew is a pretty broad term: *something prepared*, i.e. **any** apparatus (as an *implement, utensil, dress, vessel or weapon*) (#3627). It's translated in the KJV as - armour ([*-bearer*]), artillery, bag, carriage, furnish, furniture, instrument, jewel, that is made of, one from another, that which pertaineth, pot, psaltery, sack, stuff, thing, tool, vessel, ware, weapon, whatsoever.

So, the Israelites were to spoil the Egyptians and take from them *whatever* they wanted, so long as they could carry it with them out of Egypt. This was ‘back payment’ so to speak, for their service as slaves for so many years. Our Heavenly Father is very fair, as it is written...

14 The LORD upholdeth all that fall, and raiseth up all those that be bowed down.
15 The eyes of all wait upon thee; and thou givest them their meat in due season.
16 Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.
17 The LORD is righteous in all his ways, and holy in all his works.
18 The LORD is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth.
19 He will fulfil the desire of them that fear him: he also will hear their cry, and will save them.
20 The LORD preserveth all them that love him: but all the wicked will he destroy.
Ps 145:14-20

So, we see in this third chapter of Exodus our Heavenly Father not only revealed (introduced) Himself to Moses but He also gave Moses a very important commission. Not only that, He also gave Moses the entire ‘game plan’ in a nutshell. And, while Moses was pretty reluctant to go back (understandably) he did finally concede to obey our Heavenly Father. After all, Moses chose YHVH *over* the riches of Egypt way back when he was a *young* man, filled with vigor and desires (Heb 11:24-26) so his heart certainly was desirous to obey YHVH. Truly, God (YHVH) had good reason to choose this man, Moses, to lead His people out of Egyptian bondage. Num 12:3 reveals the reason was that *Moses was very meek, above all the men which were upon the face of the earth*. And we know from Jesus that: *Blessed are the meek: for they shall inherit the earth* (Matt 5:5). Moses is therefore a type for us living today. Those who want to live eternally must humble themselves to our Heavenly Father and His Son, Jesus Christ. We must seek His will in our lives. In other words, we must seek to serve Him the way He wants us to, even if it means fulfilling a commission that requires us to face ourselves. God (YHVH) always has good reason for the things He asks us to do for His entire plan of Salvation rests upon saving His children from Satan’s lies and deception. People need the truth and it’s our job to give it to them in the manner the Word of God and Holy Spirit prescribe to us. That is, after all, what free’s us from spiritual bondage...

*15 So when they had dined, Jesus saith to Simon Peter, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me more than these? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, **Feed my lambs**.*
*16 He saith to him again the second time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? He saith unto him, Yea, Lord; thou knowest that I love thee. He saith unto him, **Feed my sheep**.*
*17 He saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord, thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, **Feed my sheep**.*
John 21:15-17

31 When the Son of man shall come in his glory, and all the holy angels with him, then shall he sit upon the throne of his glory:

32 And before him shall be gathered all nations: and he shall separate them one from another, as a shepherd divideth his sheep from the goats:

33 And he shall set the sheep on his right hand, but the goats on the left.

34 Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand, **Come, ye blessed of my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world:**

35 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me drink: I was a stranger, and ye took me in:

36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

37 Then shall the righteous answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, and fed thee? or thirsty, and gave thee drink?

38 When saw we thee a stranger, and took thee in? or naked, and clothed thee?

39 Or when saw we thee sick, or in prison, and came unto thee?

40 And the King shall answer and say unto them, **Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me.**

41 Then shall he say also unto them on the left hand, Depart from me, ye cursed, into everlasting fire, prepared for the devil and his angels:

42 For I was an hungred, and ye gave me no meat: I was thirsty, and ye gave me no drink:

43 I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick, and in prison, and ye visited me not.

44 Then shall they also answer him, saying, Lord, when saw we thee an hungred, or athirst, or a stranger, or naked, or sick, or in prison, and did not minister unto thee?

45 Then shall he answer them, saying, Verily I say unto you, **Inasmuch as ye did it not to one of the least of these, ye did it not to me.**

46 And these shall go away into everlasting punishment: but the righteous into life eternal.

Matt 25:31-46

The lips of the righteous feed many: but fools die for want of wisdom.

Prov 10:21

AMEN.