

The God Who Sees, Hears, and Becomes

We find ourselves today in **Exodus chapter 3**, looking at a man named Moses. Now, remember, Moses had spent forty years in the palaces of Egypt thinking he was a "somebody." Then he spent forty years in the backside of the desert realizing he was a "nobody." It's right there, in the middle of the "nowhere" of our lives, that God so often decides to show up.

The School of the Wilderness

In Exodus 3:1, we see Moses keeping the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law. He's at Mount Horeb, the "mountain of God." Now, those forty years in the desert weren't wasted. God was enrolling Moses in the "School of Survival." He was learning the terrain, finding the water holes, and understanding the climate.

God never wastes your seasons of waiting. You might feel like you're in a desert right now, but God is using this time to give you the "practical savvy" you'll need for the big project He has ahead for you.

The Burning Bush: A Holy Encounter

As Moses is going about his business, he sees a bush that is burning but not consumed (Exodus 3:2-4).

When Moses turns aside to look, God calls him by name: "*Moses, Moses!*" God always meets us where we are, but He demands that we recognize who He is. He tells Moses, "*Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground*" (Exodus 3:5).

Then God identifies Himself. He says, "*I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob*" (Exodus 3:6). He isn't a new God; He is the faithful, covenant-keeping God.

A God Who Responds

Notice the heart of God in Exodus 3:7-8:

- I have surely seen the oppression.
- I have heard their cry.
- I know their sorrows.
- I have come down to deliver them.

In the Hebrew language, this is emphatic. It's "Seeing, I have seen; knowing, I have certainly known." The world often scoffs and asks, "*Does God even know what's happening?*" But the Bible tells us His ear is open to our cry.

God doesn't just look down and say, *"Oh, what a shame."* He acts! He told Moses, *"I have come down to deliver them... and to bring them up"* (Exodus 3:8). He doesn't just take us out of "Egypt" (the world); He brings us into a "land flowing with milk and honey" (the abundant life in Christ).

"Who Am I?" vs. "I AM"

When God tells Moses that *he* is the one being sent to Pharaoh, Moses hits a wall of insecurity. He asks, *"Who am I?"* (Exodus 3:11).

Forty years earlier, Moses was a hot-tempered Levite ready to take on Egypt by his own strength. But the desert had mellowed him. He was now meek—perhaps a bit too hesitant. But God doesn't give Moses a pep talk about self-esteem. He simply says, *"I will certainly be with you"* (Exodus 3:12).

Then Moses asks, *"What is Your name?"* And God gives that glorious declaration:

"I AM THAT I AM." (Exodus 3:14)

In the Hebrew, this is the verb "to be." It means God is the Becoming One. He is saying to you, *"I am whatever you need."* Are you weak? I AM your strength.

- Are you lost? I AM your way.
- Are you in turmoil? I AM your peace.

The Name of God	Meaning for the Believer
Yahweh	The Self-Existent, Covenant Keeper
I AM	The One who becomes what you lack

The Cost of Deliverance

God forewarned Moses that Pharaoh's heart would not easily yield. It would require a "mighty hand" and a series of "wonders" to break the chains of Egypt (Exodus 3:19–20). Yet, God promised that when the Israelites finally departed, they would not leave empty-handed. By "spoiling the Egyptians," they weren't committing theft; rather, the Egyptians gave freely as God settled the account for four centuries of unpaid labor. It was a divine restoration of wages—proving that He is, above all, a God of justice.

Practical Application & Challenge

For the Believer: Are you trying to fight your battles in your own strength, like Moses did forty years prior? Or are you shrinking back in fear, asking "Who am I?" The answer isn't in who you are, but in who I AM is.

Your challenge this week: Take that one area of "oppression" or "sorrow" in your life and consciously hand it to the Great I AM. Stop looking at the desert and start looking at the One who is with you in the fire.

An Invitation to Life

Perhaps you feel like those Israelites—oppressed, hurting, and crying out for a deliverer. There is a greater deliverance than just coming out of Egypt. We were all slaves to sin, but Jesus Christ came down to deliver us. He didn't just see our need; He met it by shedding His blood on the cross to pay for our sins. He died in our place, but the resurrection declares that He is God, Savior, and Lord! He is alive today, and He is calling your name.

If you don't know Him, you can give your life to Him right now. Simply acknowledge your need, believe that He died for you and rose again, and ask Him to be your Lord. He is the "I AM," and He wants to become your salvation today.