

Quarter Three: Exodus: Journey to the Promised Land

Jill Morikone

Lesson 2—The Burning Bush

Tuesday: The Name of the Lord

July 8, 2025

- **Last Week:** “Oppression: The Background & the Birth of Moses”
 - Exodus 1 & 2:
 - Slavery in Egypt; birth of Moses; Moses’ 1st 80 years
- **This Week:** “The Burning Bush”
 - Exodus 3 & 4
 - The burning bush: Moses’ call by God
 - 5 Questions by Moses & God’s answers

Memory Text: “And the Lord said: ‘I have surely seen the oppression of My people who are in Egypt, and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters, for I know their sorrows. So I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and large land, to a land flowing with milk and honey’” (Ex 3:7, 8, NKJV)

The week in brief:

- 1. **Sunday:** The Burning Bush (John L)
 - Ex 3:1 – 6 – Moses’ years of preparation in the wilderness for the call of God; the burning bush & God’s introduction
- 2. **Monday:** The Angel of the Lord (SQ)
 - Ex 3:7 – 12 – the identity of the Angel of the Lord as the pre-incarnate Christ; the groaning of God’s people & His coming deliverance; Moses’ 1st Q: “Who Am I?”; God’s answer: “I will be with you”
- 3. **Tuesday:** The Name of the Lord (Jill)
 - Ex 3:13 – 22 – Moses’ 2nd Q: “Who Are You?”
- 4. **Wednesday:** Four Excuses (Ryan)
 - Ex 4:1 – 17 – 3rd Q: “What if they don’t listen to me?” God’s answer: divine signs; 4th Q: “I’m not a good speaker!”; God’s promises; 5th statement: “send someone else”
- 5. **Thursday:** The Circumcision (James)
 - Ex 4:18 – 31 – Moses’ failure to circumcise his youngest son; Moses’ wife steps up

Tuesday: The Name of the Lord

Exodus 3:13 – 22;

- The Call of God:
 - My people are suffering & in bondage
 - I’m calling **you** to deliver them
 - Sending you to Pharaoh
 - Bring My people out of Egypt
- **Moses’ 5-fold objection**

- **Q1: “Who Am I?” (Why me?) (SQ)**
 - God’s answer: “I will be with you”
 - Isaiah’s call: Who am I?
 - Isa 6:5 – “...I am a man of unclean lips & I dwell in the midst of a people of unclean lips....”
 - Jeremiah’s call: Who am I?
 - Jer 1:6 – “...Ah, Lord God! Behold, I cannot speak, for I am a youth.”
- **Q2: “Who are You?”**
 - Vs 13: “Then Moses said to God, ‘Indeed, when I come to the children of Israel and say to them, “The God of your fathers has sent me to you;” and they say to me, “What is His name?” what shall I say to them?’”
 - *If asked to do something, first Q’s:
 - Do I know you?
 - Do I trust you?
 - Moses is referencing God’s answer in Vs 6
 - “I am the God of your father—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.”
 - Who are You? = focus of lesson
 - God’s answer: this is My name

2nd Answer: “Who are You?”

- Vs 14 – “And God said to Moses, ‘**I AM WHO I AM.**’ And He said, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, “**I AM** has sent me to you.”’”
 - Heb: *haw-yaw* = “to be, become, exist...” (3,561 occurrences)
 - Compares to Gk version – when Jesus declared Himself, “I AM”
 - John 8:58 – “Jesus said to them, ‘Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, “AM.”’”
 - Tried to throw stones at Him, but He disappeared
 - Grammatically, this phrase can be translated in a present tense: “I am who I am”
 - Or future sense: “I will be who I will be”
 - Name indicates that God is eternal
 - Transcendent God = God outside of space & time, God’s infinite power, beyond human understanding
 - Immanent God = God’s love & concern for the world, & presence in the lives of the believers
 - God’s immanence gives Him awareness of & compassion for our suffering & sin
 - God’s transcendence gives Him the power to heal, rescue & redeem
 - Application of name:
 - There’s been divine silence for 400 hundred years
 - People groaning under bondage
 - Where is God?

- Why doesn't He see?
 - Why doesn't He hear?
 - Why doesn't He fix it?
- God says: I both see & care about your bondage, & I will deliver you
- **Takeaway #1: God's name (*haw-yah*) reveals He both sees our need & He has the power to heal, rescue & redeem**
 - Do you think God's doesn't see you? Or care for you?
 - He sees & hears & knows AND He can deliver
- Vs 15 – “Moreover God said to Moses, ‘Thus you shall say to the children of Israel: “The **Lord** God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you. This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations.”’”
 - Lord = *Yah'-weh* (phonetic: *yeh-ho-vaw'*) (Yhvh – composed of 4 Heb consonants)
 - Pronunciation used most often by Heb scholars, based on linguistic reconstruction (but still might not be the original pronunciation)
 - Often written in all capital letters “LORD”
 - 6,220 occurrences
 - God's most common designation
 - Derived from Heb verb (*haw-yah*) = “to be; to exist” – same word above
 - I AM who I AM
 - I will be who I will be
 - The name *yah-weh* = the sacred, covenantal name of God in the Heb Bible
 - He is a personal God, the God of the covenant, who makes Himself known through the act of redemption (He demonstrates His power by His love & care)
 - **Takeaway #2: God's name (*yah'-weh*) reveals He is the God of the covenant who redeems us**
 - He is the God of the God
 - He is faithful to His promises
 - He will redeem us
 - People sold under bondage needed to be redeemed:
 - Brought out from slavery
 - Rescued
- Vs 16 – “Go and gather the elders of Israel together, and say to them, ‘The **Lord God** of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared to me saying, “I have surely visited you and seen what is done to you in Egypt.”’”
 - Lord = *yah-weh*
 - God = *el-o-heem'* = plural noun, used with singular verbs & adjectives (2,500+ times)
 - Emphasis the Godhead (3 in one), while still be only one God (monotheism)
 - Used for God or of “gods” in the ordinary sense or magistrates
 - First name of God used in the Bible
 - Gen 1:1 – “In the beginning, **God** created...”
 - *El-o-heem'* = mighty Creator God, who can recreate us into His image

- **Takeaway #3: God's name (el-o-heem')** reveals **He is the mighty God who can not only create, but also recreate us in His image**
 - People sold under bondage: needed to be recreated in every possible way
 - Morally
 - Spiritually
 - Emotionally
 - Physically
- Vs 19, 20 – “But I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not even by a mighty hand. (20) So I will stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders which I will do in its midst; and after that he will let you go.”
 - Prophetic declaration: I will declare to you what will happen, b4 it comes to pass
 - **Takeaway #4: Trust God, He knows what He's doing**
 - They won't let you go, but I have a plan
 - 10 plagues coming
 - Pharaoh will change his mind

God's answer to “Who Are You?”

- **#1:** God's name (*haw-yah*) reveals He both sees our need & He has the power to heal, rescue & redeem
- **#2:** God's name (*yah'-weh*) reveals He is the God of the covenant who redeems us
- **#3:** God's name (el-o-heem') reveals He is the mighty God who can not only create, but also recreate us in His image
- **#4:** Trust God, He knows what He's doing