

MONDAY**The Angel of the Lord**

- **Exodus 3:2** “The angel of the LORD” appeared to Moses in flames of fire “from within a bush”
- **Exodus 3:4** It was our Creator God = Messiah Himself =
 - pre-incarnate Lord Jesus Himself speaking to Moses
 - “from within the bush”
- Do not be confused w/ title “angel of the LORD”
 - depiction of Messiah = Jesus Christ.
 - Theophany = pre-incarnate appearance of Creator God
- Term angel itself simply means “messenger” (Hebrew mal’akh),
 - Always depends on context whether this angel is to be interpreted as human or divine

Malachi 3:1 ¹“Behold, I send My messenger [mal’akh = angel], And he will prepare the way before Me. And the Lord, whom you seek, Will suddenly come to His temple, Even the Messenger of the covenant, In whom you delight.

- Many instances in Bible where “the angel of the LORD” refers to the divine person (study, for example, **Gen. 22:11, 15–18** spoke to Abraham from heaven, sacrifice/Isaac = proved to be God ; three pre-incarnate theophanies by Lord Jesus Christ in Judges e.g/ Judg. 2:1, 2 spoke saying “I will never break My covenant w/you” ; **Zech. 3:1, 2** Angel of Lord speaks as Lord rebuking Satan
- This angel of the Lord speaks not only in the name of the Lord,
 - but He is the Lord Himself. Jesus is God’s messenger to communicate the Father’s Word to us.

Read Exodus 3:7–12. How did God explain to Moses why He wanted to intervene on behalf of the Israelites enslaved in Egypt?

- Under whips of slave-drivers, **by day** Hebrews groaned as they built the Pharaohs’ supply cities w/ brick and mortar

- Expecting God to perform another miracle for His people, **by night** they moaned in prayer for the deliverer to arrive

Exodus 3:7 And the LORD said: “I have surely seen the oppression of **My people** who are in Egypt,

- He called them “My people” = even before Sinai and the ratifying of the covenant, they were His people, and He would cause them to dwell and prosper (if they would obey), in the land of Canaan as He had promised their fathers.

Exodus 3:7 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.**

- Suffering touches every life – often in unexpected ways
- In our pain, we might ask, “Where is God?”
- From Gen to Rev, God reveals Himself as = up-close-personal Father who draws near to His children in pain
- He enters our suffering w/ love / compassion / purpose
- **Exodus 3:7** “I have surely **seen** the affliction of my people... I **know** their sufferings.”
 - He doesn’t merely see—He knows = He feels our pain
 - **Isaiah 63:9** “In all their affliction, He was afflicted.”
- Where is God? Scripture answers:
 - **Psalms 34:18** “The Lord is near to the brokenhearted and saves the crushed in spirit.”
- Our Creator didn’t merely observe suffering from heaven
 - God became Son of Man – entered our human experience, walked thru sorrow/pain firsthand
- **Isaiah 53:3** He is “a man of sorrows = acquainted w grief”

⁸So 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... ⁹Now therefore, behold, the cry of the

children of Israel has come to Me, and I have also seen the oppression with which the Egyptians oppress them. ¹⁰Come now, therefore, and I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring My people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.”

¹¹But Moses said to God, “**Who am I** that I should go to Pharaoh, and that I should bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

¹²So He said, “I will certainly be with you. And this shall be a sign to you that I have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain.”

QUOTE

- What a task God presented to His servant!
- Moses, therefore, responded with a question: “Who am I?”
- That is, grasping the significance of what is going to happen and what his role is going to be in all this, Moses wonders why someone like himself would be chosen.
- Here, early on, we have an indication of his character, his humility, and his sense that he is unworthy of what he is being called to do.

Why is humility, and a sense of our own “unworthiness,” so important for anyone who seeks to follow the Lord and do anything for Him