

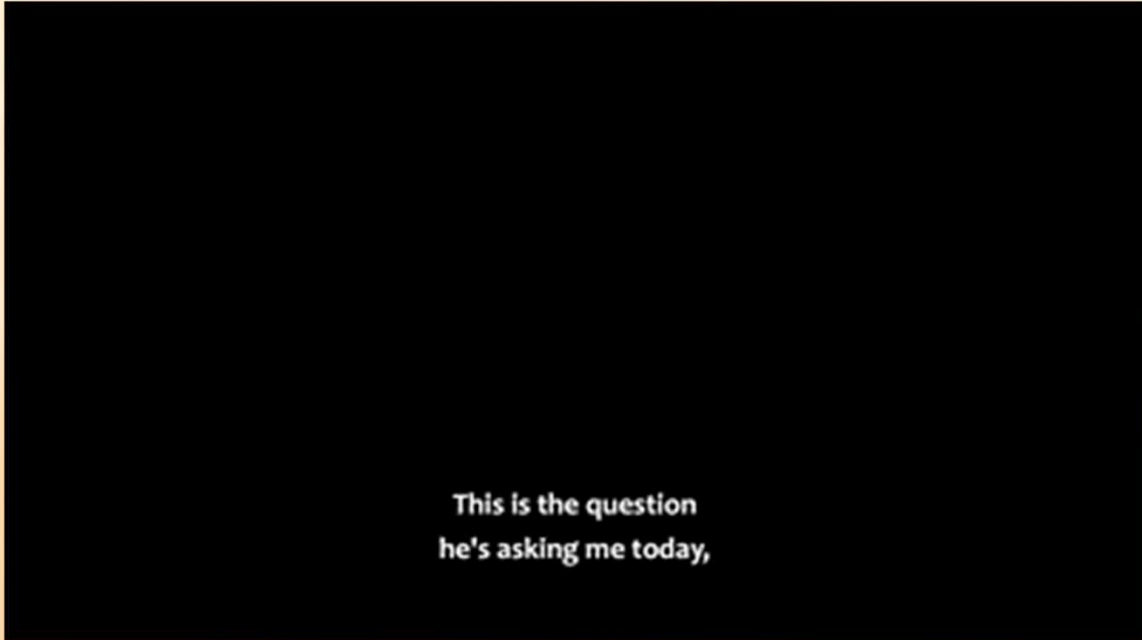
**Is God Enough?**  
**Exodus 3:13-15**

*God is always enough*



## Is God Enough?

- **James 4:4 AMP**, “You adulteresses [disloyal sinners—flirting with the world and breaking your vow to God]! Do you not know that being the world’s friend [that is, loving the things of the world] is being God’s enemy? So whoever chooses to be a friend of the world makes himself an enemy of God.”



This is the question  
he's asking me today,

## Is God Enough?

- The question James is asking Christians is the same one God has been asking Moses that day on the back side of his mountain of failure
  - “Am I enough for even you?”
  - “Am I enough for you to put your complete trust and faith in me?”
  - “Am I enough for you to bring the Nation of Israel out of slavery to Egypt and bring them into the Promised Land just like I have said?”
  - “Am I enough to use you Moses in this process of redemption even when I consider all of your issues?”

## Is God Enough?

- God has revealed much of Himself to Moses
  - He is a covenant remembering God
  - He is greater than Creation's Laws of Physics and Nature
  - He is greater than Moses' life plan of hiding on the backside of his mountain called failure
  - But taking on Pharoah and the Egyptian gods, Moses doubts and asking himself the question, "Are you enough Lord?"
    - "Are you enough Lord for someone like me?"
- This may be the same question on your hearts this morning, "God, are you still enough for me in 2024?"

## Scripture

- **Exodus 3:13-15 NIV**, 13 Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”
  - 14 God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’”
  - 15 God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the 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, the name you shall call me from generation to generation.”

## Is God Enough?

- I wonder if Moses is really saying to God, “I don’t really know you. I just know about you.”
- I know and was taught about the Egyptian gods
  - Ra is the god of the sun, order, kings, sky and the king or father of all Egyptian gods, but I really don’t know him
  - Hapi was the powerful god of the Nile River and the annual flooding that brought rich silt to the river's banks, allowing the Egyptians to grow crops, but I really don’t know this god either
  - Nor any of the other 10 great Egyptian gods

## Is God Enough?

- Basically, Moses is asking God, “Who are you God and are you capable to finish what you have promised, are you enough? After all it’s been over 400 years.”
- **Vs. 13**, “Suppose (*not saying I will*) I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers (*Notice the word “your”*) has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”
  - Sounds to me like Moses is trying to be sneaky
  - What can I find out about you God by knowing your name?
  - Is there something about knowing it that can give me an advantage?
  - Is there something about knowing your name that will allow **ME** to fix my circumstances, change my identity, fulfill my dreams, get off this mountain, allow me to see myself as a success

## Is God Enough?

- Don't even try to play your silly human games with God
  - **Psalm 139:1-2 ESV**, "O Lord, you have searched me and known me! 2 You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern (*know*) my thoughts from afar."
  - **Psalm 139:4 NIV**, "Before a word is on my tongue you, Lord, know it completely."
- So how does God respond to Moses?
  - Does God push Moses further down with condemnation and ridicule?
  - Does God strip Moses of even his little self-worth?



## God gives Moses His name that is so simple, yet so deep it is impossible to capture its full essence

- Essence - the most significant element, quality, or aspect of a thing or person
- Just as God is so deep, we can never fully capture His fullness, uniqueness, perfection in His name
- **Romans 11:33-36 NIV**, 33 Oh, the depth of the riches of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable his judgments, and his paths beyond tracing out!
  - 34 “Who has known the mind of the Lord? Or who has been his counselor?”  
35 “Who has ever given to God, that God should repay them?” 36 For from him and through him and for him are all things. To him be the glory forever! Amen.

## God gives Moses His name that is so simple, yet so deep it is impossible to capture its full essence

- ehyeh asher ehyeh – “I AM WHO I AM”
  - To the Jewish mind, God has opened His heart allowing us get a glimpse of who He is
  - This name was boiled down to, Yahweh meaning “I am”
- God is known by several titles in Scripture
  - Elohim: "Creator, Mighty and Strong"
  - Jehovah Jireh: "the LORD will provide" or "the LORD my provider"
  - Jehovah Shalom: "The Lord is Peace"
  - El Elyon: "God Most High"

## God gives Moses His name that is so simple, yet so deep it is impossible to capture its full essence

- The word ehyeh is the first-person common singular of the verb (*I, me, my, and mine*) - to be or exist
  - Used in normal situations there is a connection to define the I am- “I am watching the sheep,” “I am walking on the road,” or “I am his father”
  - When used as a stand-alone description (*not connected to or requiring a connection*), I AM is the ultimate statement of self-sufficiency, self-existence, and immediate presence
  - To the Jewish mind, hearing the second I AM, they would have heard, “I am one”
    - **Isaiah 45:5 NIV**, I am the Lord, and there is no other; apart from me there is no God.

## **God gives Moses His name that is so simple, yet so deep it is impossible to capture its full essence**

- God's existence is not contingent or does not rely upon anyone or anything else
- His plans are not contingent and does not rely upon any other circumstance
- He promises that He will be what He will be; that is, He will be the eternally constant and consistent God
- He stands, ever-present and unchangeable, completely sufficient in Himself to do what He wills to do and to accomplish what He wills to accomplish
- When God identified Himself as I AM WHO I AM, He stated that, no matter when or where, He is there

## God gives Moses His name that is so simple, yet so deep it is impossible to capture its full essence

- **Revelation 1:8 NIV**, “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”
  - This is true of Him for all time, but it would have been especially appropriate for a message in Moses’ day to a people in slavery and who could see no way out
  - I AM was promising to free them, redefine them, bless them beyond measure, and they could count on Him to complete it!

## God gives Moses His name that is so simple, yet so deep it is impossible to capture its full essence

- **Exodus 5:1-2 NIV**, Afterward Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh and said, “This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: ‘Let my people go, so that they may hold a festival to me in the wilderness.’”
  - 2 Pharaoh said, “Who is the Lord, that I should obey him and let Israel go? I do not know the Lord and I will not let Israel go.”
    - Pharaoh stood in opposition to the Lord, not willing to concede that there was a power higher than himself
    - He was not willing to yield his plans to the One who was all-powerful and all-sufficient and all-knowing
    - In essence, Pharaoh was saying “I am who I am, and therefore I will not yield to another.”

## God gives Moses His name that is so simple, yet so deep it is impossible to capture its full essence

- This seems to be the deep-seated sin of humanity
  - God is “The Great I AM,” but we continually want to be our own “I AM”
  - **Genesis 3:6 NIV**, When the woman saw that the fruit of the tree was good for food and pleasing to the eye, and also desirable for gaining wisdom, she took some and ate it. She also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate it.

## Jesus clarified God's "I AM" name with His life and words

- **John 8:58-59 NIV**, 58 "Very truly I tell you," Jesus answered, "before Abraham was born, I am!" 59 At this, they picked up stones to stone him, but Jesus hid himself, slipping away from the temple grounds.
- **John 6:3 NIV**, Then Jesus declared, "I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.
- **John 8:12 NIV**, When Jesus spoke again to the people, he said, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."



## Jesus clarified God's "I AM" name with His life and words

- **John 10:9-10 NIV**, 9 I am the gate; whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out, and find pasture. 10 The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy; I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.
- **John 11:25 NIV**, 25 Jesus said to her, "I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; 26 and whoever lives by believing in me will never die. Do you believe this?"
- **John 14:6 NIV**, Jesus answered, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.

## Jesus clarified God's "I AM" name with His life and words

- Jesus is the great "I AM" in human form
  - **John 1:1-5 AMP**, In the beginning [before all time] was the Word (Christ), and the Word was with God, and the Word was God Himself. 2 He was [continually existing] in the beginning [co-eternally] with God.
    - 3 All things were made and came into existence through Him; and without Him not even one thing was made that has come into being. 4 In Him was life [and the power to bestow life], and the life was the Light of men.
    - 5 The Light shines on in the darkness, and the darkness did not understand it or overpower it or appropriate it or absorb it [and is unreceptive to it].

## Is God Enough?

- Moses had questions that needed answered, and they are the same ones for us today
  - Can I fully trust God or who will you trust?
  - Where will you get your identity?
  - Where will you get your truth to live by?
  - What will you do now?
  - **John 13:7 NIV**, Jesus replied, “You do not realize now what I am doing, but later you will understand.”

## Is God Enough?

- **Matthew 16:24 NIV**, Then Jesus said to his disciples, “Whoever wants to be my disciple must deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”
  - You have a cross to bear in this life, the cross of sin, separation, and shame or the cross of redemption
  - The question then is “where is your cross leading?”

## Is God Enough?

- **Matthew 16:25 NIV**, For whoever wants to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for me will find it.
  - You will find your true self, identity only in the cross of Jesus Christ
  - You will find the true meaning of life only in the cross of Jesus Christ
- **Matthew 16:26-27 NIV**, 26 What good will it be for someone to gain the whole world (*everything this world has to offer*), yet forfeit their soul (*eternity*)? Or what can anyone give in exchange for their soul? 27 For the Son of Man is going to come in his Father's glory with his angels, and then he will reward each person according to what they have done.
  - Eternity is a choice, so choose carefully this morning because eternity is real
  - Without Christ it is an eternity of loss-ness

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