



Moses' Identity, Exodus 3:6-8

Moses' Identity

- **John 6:44 NIV**, “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day.”
 - The natural man has no ability to come to God, nor does he even have the desire to come
 - Because his heart is hard and his mind is darkened, the spiritually lost person doesn't desire God and is actually an enemy of God (*Rom. 5:10*)
 - **John 16:8 ESV**, “And when he comes, he will convict (*draw*) the world concerning sin and righteousness and judgment”

Moses' Identity

- We see this demonstrated in the life of Saul
 - **Acts 26:12-15 NIV**, 12 On one of these journeys I was going to Damascus with the authority and commission of the chief priests. 13 About noon, King Agrippa, as I was on the road, I saw a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, blazing around me and my companions. 14 We all fell to the ground, and I heard a voice saying to me in Aramaic, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads."
 - 15 Then I asked, "Who are you, Lord?" "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting," the Lord replied.
 - Saul gets a new identity in Jesus Christ and a name change to Paul
- Moses like Saul was on the backside of a dark mountain and what he needs is to grasp once again who he is, a Hebrew man and not an Egyptian failure

Last week

- Before Moses can grasp his real identity, he must grasp the wonder of God Almighty since his identity runs through God
 - **Exodus 3:2-3 NIV**, 2 There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. 3 So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.”
 - Notice the drawing of Moses toward Himself

Last week

- **Exodus 3:4-5 NIV**, 4 When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.” 5 “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.”
 - God revealed to Moses, “He is”
 - God revealed to Moses, “He knows”
 - God revealed to Moses, “He is holy”
 - God revealed to Moses the path his life had taken was not worthy to be in His presence so let the past just drop to the ground and leave it there
 - Moses you are not your past
 - And then God something marvelous, He gives Moses his true identity

Scripture

- **Exodus 3:6-8 NIV**, 6 Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.
 - 7 The Lord said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. 8 So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.

God reveals Moses is one of His own because God is a covenant keeping God

- In other words, God keeps His promises, He does what He says, and nothing or no one can prevent Him from accomplishing them
 - **Numbers 23:19 NIV**, “God is not human, that he should lie, not a human being, that he should change his mind (*because of changing circumstances or desires*). Does he speak and then not act? Does he promise and not fulfill?”
 - Do we see this with Adam and Eve – “sin you die”?
 - Do we see this with Noah and the Flood?
 - Do we see this with the Nation of Israel in slavery to freedom?
 - Do we see this in the coming of the Messiah as promised to Adam and Eve?

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- **Malachi 3:6 NIV**, “I the Lord do not change. So you, the descendants of Jacob, are not destroyed.”
- Not only is God a covenant keeping God, but He is also Moses’ covenant keeping God
 - Moses had spent around 40 years deep in the teaching, beliefs, social setting, riches of Egypt
 - Servants bowed down to him, obeyed his every wish, kept close in case Moses might want or need something
 - Moses was deeply indoctrinated in the polytheistic teaching of Egypt’s religion
 - After this long of indoctrination it would be easy for Moses to see himself as Egyptian

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- But
 - **Exodus 2:1 NIV**, “Now a man of the tribe of Levi married a Levite woman”
 - **Exodus 2:11 NIV**, “One day, after Moses had grown up, he went out to where his own people were and watched them at their hard labor.”
 - Where did Moses learn they were his own people?
 - Can you hear his family speak truth into Moses’ life in those early years?
 - “Moses, you will find yourself totally encased in Egyptian culture, religion, status, thinking but never forget who you really are”

God reveals Moses is one of His own because God is a covenant keeping God

- But it is really hard to remember this, to make it yours, when you have been living on the backside of the mountain called failure
 - So God begins reminding Moses is who Moses really is
- “I am the God of your father” - Moses, the blessings of your father still flow down to you
 - “I am the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.”
 - The unconditional promise I made to Abraham and all his descendants is also meant you Moses
 - **Vs. 8**, “So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites.”

God reveals Moses is one of His own because God is a covenant keeping God

- Moses did not feel like a faithful Israelite, look like, or think like a faithful Israelite, but he was an Israelite
 - See yourself Moses who and what you really are
 - Let me define you
 - “I am a covenant keeping God and I’m here to remind you of this Moses”

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- What was Moses' response?
 - "At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God."
 - Ashamed of what he had done, had become, losing faith in the God of his fathers
 - **Isaiah 6:5 NIV**, "Woe to me!" I cried. "I am ruined! For I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, and my eyes have seen the King, the Lord Almighty."

God reveals Moses is one of His own because God is a covenant keeping God

- Moses' experiences did not keep God from touching his life
 - His poor judgments did not stop God of using him
 - His failures did not stop God from developing Moses into the Moses we admire today
 - And yours won't either
 - **Isaiah 43:19 NIV**, See, I am doing a new thing! Now it springs up; do you not perceive it? I am making a way in the *(Your)* wilderness and streams in the *(Your)* wasteland.

God reveals even though He is Holy (*separate*) He has never been absent

- **Vs. 7**, The Lord said, “I have indeed (*surely, most certainly, without any doubt*) seen (*up close and personal*) the misery of my people in Egypt.”
 - “and I have heard them crying out” in their misery
 - Not just their prayers but in those times where tears are the only words spoken
 - “and I am concerned about their suffering”
 - God really loves His people
 - That right there should ease your anxieties, fears, allow faith to enter your circumstances

God reveals even though He is Holy (*separate*) He has never been absent

- **Vs. 7**, The Lord said, “I have indeed (*surely, most certainly, without any doubt*) seen (*up close and personal*) the misery of my people in Egypt.”
 - Grasp this Moses, I know them personally, deeply, eternally
 - The Hebrew reads as if God had personally experienced this with His people
- God has been silent but never absent from His people
 - He has been walking through this crisis with them
 - He has seen with eyes of understanding
 - He has heard with ears of passion
 - He is concerned or sorrowful that leads to action, in the proper time, which Moses, is now

God reveals even though He is Holy (*separate*) He has never been absent

- Andrew Murry, “In time of trouble, say, First, He brought me here. It is by His will I am in this strait place; in that I will rest.
 - Next, He will keep me here in his love, and give me grace in this trial to behave as his child.
 - Then say, He will make the trial a blessing, teaching me lessons he intends me to learn, and working in me the grace he means to bestow.
 - And last, say, In his good time he can bring me out again. How and when, he knows.
 - Therefore, say, I am here (1) by God's appointment, (2) in His keeping, (3) under His training, (4) for His time.”

Moses' Identity

- Joni Ericksen
 - 1967 - Seventeen-year-old Joni Eareckson Tada takes the dive that left her a quadriplegic, dramatically changing her life



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