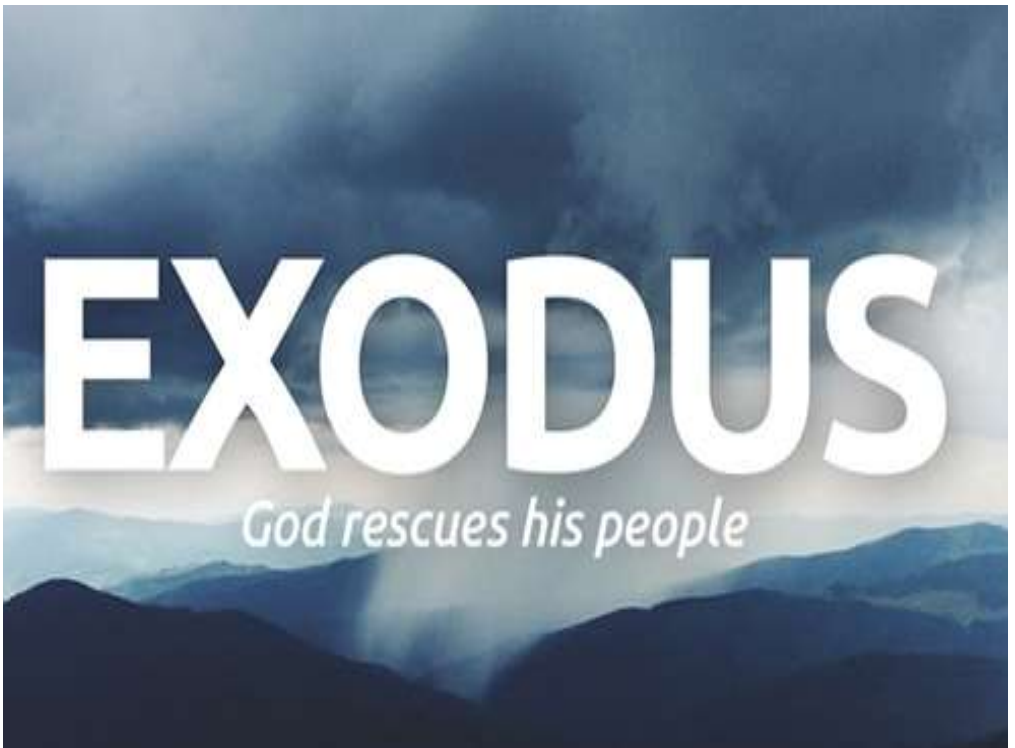


Let's Worship God

6th-11th January 2020
Exodus



EXODUS

Monday - Exodus 3.1-12: Revelation, Reluctance, and Reassurance (1)

Moses, God's chosen deliverer is far away in Midian and seems to be very reluctant to return to Egypt. And so God makes himself known to Moses in a conversation that runs from verse 1 of chapter 3 down to end of verse 17 in chapter 4. On this particular day Moses is up on Mount Horeb, which is also called Mount Sinai, and he sees an unusual sight. A thorn bush is burning but it isn't being consumed by the fire. We are told that this fire is the very appearance of the LORD. Out of curiosity Moses moves closer when he hears a voice calling him, then God says "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." Moses meets God. Or perhaps more accurately, God makes himself known to Moses.

God reveals to Moses that he is holy. The word holy means set apart or pure. It is holy ground and fire often symbolizes God's brilliant perfection, his unapproachable light.

God reveals that he is gracious. The fire is raging but the bush is not being burnt up. God is a consuming fire, but the bush is still living. And the same can be said for Moses. He is before the holy God, but he is not consumed. God has been gracious and given access to Moses.

God reveals that he keeps his promises. Verses 6-7. God sees, hears and knows. The LORD, the Covenant God, is going to fulfill the promises he has made.

God reveals that he is the saving God. Verse 8. He will save a people for himself. He is the God who delivers his people.

But Moses is reluctant. In verse 11 Moses makes his first excuse, "Who am I?" So God reassures Moses in verse 12, "But I will be with you." What great reassurance as God calls on his deliverer to fulfill the task of bringing the people of Israel out of Egypt. God will go with him. And just as God has promised so he will do. Jesus Christ willingly was sent as the one, true deliverer, and in Jesus Christ we too are sent to bring the Good News to others. Just as God has made known who he is to us, so he sends us with the Good News. Let us not be reluctant like Moses, but willing like our Saviour.

Questions

1. What kinds of excuses can we make to God?
2. Why is it reassuring to know that God is with us?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks that God is with His people.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 8 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Tuesday - Exodus 3.13-22: Revelation, Reluctance, and Reassurance (2)

Moses is still reluctant. This time his excuse is that he doesn't know the name of God?

God reveals himself as the Covenant God, the LORD. When we read the name LORD in the Bible this is referring to the name Yahweh, the special name of God as the God of promise. Repeatedly in this section we are told that the LORD is God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. God is saying I am still keeping that promise. God calls himself "I AM WHO I AM." This the name that is connected to the name LORD in capital letters, or Yahweh. God is the eternal God who always is, the living God, the God of promise. This promise is reaffirmed in verse 17, "I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land... flowing with milk and honey".

God reveals himself as the sovereign and all-knowing God. In verses 19-22 God tells Moses that he knows the king of Egypt will not let the people go unless he is compelled to do so. God knows that his people will be set free after the plagues. God knows that they will not leave Egypt empty handed. But how can God know all these things? The answer is because he is in control. God is in control of all things. And God will work all of these things together for the good of his people and for his own glory.

What a reassurance this must have been to Moses as he prepared to return to Egypt. Who is the God who goes with him? It is none other than the eternal, covenant keeping, sovereign, all knowing God. The God who delights to save his people. Surely now Moses will be ready to return to Egypt to fulfill the task that God has prepared for him to do!

God calls us to follow him through Jesus Christ. This includes being his witnesses, living holy and blameless lives, being ready to forgive just as we have been forgiven. Perhaps we can make excuses or think of reasons as to why we can't obey at this stage. But we are also to remember that it is the same God who is with us as was with Moses.

Questions

1. In what ways are we called to follow and obey God?
2. How does it help to know that God is the same God that was with Moses?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would follow God without making excuses.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 9 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Wednesday - Exodus 4.1-9: Revelation, Reluctance, and Reassurance (3)

Moses' reluctance seems to know no bounds. This reluctance is now expressed in the supposed unbelief of the people. "What if they don't believe me?" This is the third objection, or excuse, that Moses has raised. But we have to remember that God's people have been experiencing slavery and oppression. They have had it tough. They have been suffering. And so maybe Moses has a point. They might not want to listen about a God who seems to have forgotten about them for so long. Why would they want to listen about a God who has not helped them in their suffering?

So God reveals himself as the powerful God.

He provides Moses with 2 signs to perform so that his people will believe. The first is that Moses is to throw down his staff and it will turn into a serpent. Moses is then to pick the staff back up again. The serpent is a representation of evil. It was a serpent that Satan inhabited to tempt Eve, and Pharaohs were represented by serpents. God is saying I will give you power over the enemy. I will supply what is needed to tame the serpent.

The second sign is that Moses puts his hand into his cloak and when he takes it out it is covered in leprosy. But when he puts it back into his cloak and removes it, it is healthy. God is saying I am the God who will bring death, but I also bring life. God is powerful. I am the God who can and will do all that I have said.

Through God the Son we see what God is like. God is the powerful God who defeats sin and death. In Jesus Christ we see the holiness of God, the grace of God, his promise to save, and his power to save. God has made himself known. We have his revelation. Here is the reassurance for Moses. He doesn't come with just words, but signs. He can show the people that God does care, that God will defeat the serpent, and that God will bring life to where there is death. As we go and bear witness we have this sign, Jesus Christ who died on the cross and rose again. God defeats sin and the power of death. God gives life, eternal life. Be reassured, God is powerful God who can save.

Questions

1. Why might we use the excuse that people will not believe God's Good News?
2. What great sign has God given to us that he is the God who saves?

Prayer Points

1. Give thanks for salvation in Jesus Christ.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 10 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Thursday - Exodus 4.10-17: Revelation, Reluctance, and Reassurance (4)

Moses isn't finished with his excuses. There are 2 more he would like to make! His fourth excuse is found in verse 10. I don't have the gifts. That's really not my strength. I don't know if I could do that. I feel very insufficient to do what you have asked me to do. I'm not able to do it. His last excuse is in verse 13, "please send someone else." I don't want the responsibility. Anyone but me. As we look at these excuses it is amazing to think that Moses believes he knows better than God. God, you have chosen the wrong person. God, you have made a mistake in having me here at this time. God, you don't know what you're doing, let me put you right on a couple of points. At the heart of Moses' reluctance is his belief that he has better reasons to disobey God than to obey God. It is as if Moses is saying, "God, it is better for me to disobey you than to do what you tell me to do."

The holy, gracious, promise-keeping, saving, power-working God calls us to specific tasks. We are called to follow and live obedient, worshipful lives. We are called to serve, to witness, to fellowship together. We are called to give ourselves and serve our King and Saviour. Yet we too can make excuses. I'm not good enough. I don't know enough, I don't have the abilities that others do. I'm just not sure God has me in the right place. Please Lord just use someone else. Like Moses we can make sinful excuses.

But God reassures Moses again. This time letting him know that he is not alone. Verse 12, "I will be with your mouth and teach you what you shall speak." God is going with Moses and will help him. And God is also going to give him human help, Aaron his brother. Moses will enjoy fellowship with Aaron to help him, and the very presence of God will be with him.

We too have these wonderful gifts from God. His presence with us by the Holy Spirit indwelling us, teaching us, comforting us, and the fellowship of our brothers and sisters in Christ. As we are called to serve and live for Christ remember he is with us and we have the fellowship of believers.

Questions

1. In what ways might we think we have better reasons to disobey God than to obey?
2. What help does God give to us as we serve him?

Prayer Points

1. Pray that we would be obedient in doing what God calls us to do.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 11 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Friday - Exodus 4.18-26: God's Covenant Working

Today's passage is difficult. It all seems very strange and difficult to understand, and this before we ask what does this have to do with us! But this is all to do with God's Covenant working. We see firstly that **God punishes the Wicked**. God will say to Pharaoh, "Let my son (Israel) go that he may serve me. If you refuse to let him, behold I will kill your firstborn son." God is going to bring judgment on the wicked. This idolatrous, proud, wicked regime was holding Israel captive. So God gives Pharaoh an opportunity. Let my people go or remain in your sin and suffer the consequences of your sin. God's decision to harden the already unbelieving heart of Pharaoh leads to a deserving condemnation. The same is true for Moses and his family as they make their way back to Egypt. God is angry, and seeks to put him to death. The problem is that Moses has not kept the covenant obligations of circumcision. Moses has failed God. All those who have broken any part of God's law deserve punishment.

Secondly we see that **God saves his people**. Jacob and his descendants are God's firstborn. Firstborn is a title. It is the relationship between the Covenant God and his chosen one. The chosen one is in the position of a firstborn son with its privileges and inheritance. Zipporah, aware that God judges the wicked but saves his people, circumcises her son, so that in obedience to the Covenant demands he might be recognised as one of God's people, a firstborn son. Zipporah acknowledges that apart from the shedding of blood there is no relationship, no salvation. This strange event points us to Jesus Christ. He is the firstborn son, not created, but the eternal Son of God who has been given a position of honour. And he is our bridegroom of blood. The one united to us because of his death on the cross. He is our bridegroom of blood, and we are his bride. There is no relationship with God outside of the cross of Christ. If we have not come to him trusting in his way, then we are still enemies and deserving of wrath. Since the cross there is no need for shedding of blood and so the sign of the covenant has changed to baptism. God reminds us that we are either in his covenant community, either his firstborn, or we are the wicked who deserve to die.

Questions

1. Why is it wrong to compare our 'goodness' to those around us?
2. How do Zipporah's actions reveal her understanding of God's covenant family?

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the salvation of family and friends.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

"You shall have no other gods before me." Exodus 20:3

Praise: Psalm 119: Part 12 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

EXODUS

Saturday - Exodus 4.27-31: Moses Returns to Egypt

What is to be our response to the work of God? We have seen Moses' reluctance and his failure to keep the covenant obligations. Moses failed in these areas. Exodus would be a very short book if God was not gracious and forgiving! As Moses returns to Egypt he meets with Aaron and the first thing we are told is that Moses told Aaron all the words of the Lord with which he had sent him to speak, and all the signs that he had commanded him to do. Moses is now obedient and willing. The Covenant God has appeared to Moses, he has been gracious to Moses, he has equipped Moses, and now Moses is the obedient servant. We are to seek to be obedient, knowing that it isn't our obedience that saves, but only the gracious working of the Covenant God through Jesus Christ our Saviour.

Our second response is to be one of worship. As the journey to Egypt continues, Aaron and Moses go to the elders of Israel. Aaron speaks all the words that the LORD had spoken to Moses, and he does all the signs in the sight of the people, and they believed, they bowed their heads, and they worshipped. This worship comes from the realisation that the Covenant LORD has seen and heard. In response to God's gracious covenant love and working they bow their heads and worship.

God knows our suffering, our slavery, our affliction. God the Lord has paid attention and he has brought salvation to us through Jesus Christ. In Jesus Christ we have been set free, we have been adopted as sons and daughters, firstborn sons and daughters, with all the privileges and the inheritance of a firstborn child, and we have been united to Christ through his blood, we are his bride. God's covenant love has been set on us. The Covenant God remembers his promises and he works salvation. So let us then be obedient and worship his great and glorious name.

Questions

1. Name some of the blessings that we have in God's Covenant family.
2. Spend time worshipping and thanking God for all he has given us in Jesus Christ.

Prayer Points

1. Pray for the preaching and hearing of God's Word tomorrow.
2. Use prayer points from your congregation.
3. Pray for family matters.

Memory Verse

“You shall have no other gods before me.” Exodus 20:3

Praise: Psalm 119:Part 13 - See www.rpglobalalliance.org for Psalm tune helps.

The goal of Let's Worship God is to encourage and help you in your worship of God each day.

**God tells us that
Ezra read from
the book of the Law
day after day
and that
the people of God
were filled with joy!**

Let's Worship God is produced for the RP Global Alliance
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If you have any queries please contact - admin@rpglobalalliance.org