

## *Moses Meets God*

### *Exodus 3:1 -22*

*I AM is the ultimate statement of self-sufficiency, self-existence, and immediate presence. God's existence is not contingent upon anyone else. His plans are not contingent upon any circumstances. He promises that He will be what He will be; that is, He will be the eternally constant 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. It is similar to the New Testament expression in Revelation 1:8, "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, and they could count on Him! [gotquestions.org](http://gotquestions.org)*

- I. Moses had been in Midian for forty years. During that time, he lost his identity as an Egyptian, married, had children, and worked for his father-in-law Jethro as a shepherd. He is now 80 years old, seemingly content to live out his life as a shepherd. What had he been thinking of throughout the years. Did he think about the Israelites and their plight? Did it seem hopeless, and what about God's covenant promises to them? And the Israelites, what were they thinking? They'd been suffering for many years, and I wonder, as they looked back over the years, if they felt that God had forgotten them. This God they never met. The God they heard about and worshipped. His covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob. How their existence as a people of God began, the famine, the story of Joseph and how they ended up in Egypt, in the fertile land of Goshen. What about now? What about hope? Had He forgotten them as they cried out to him because of their suffering? Little did they know their lives were about to change through one man who had no idea that his life was about to get swept up into God's incredible will for him, and for His beloved people the Israelites. God was about to introduce himself to them in ways that the world had never seen, nor will see again, until God, once again, makes His powerful presence known when Christ returns.

Ex. 3:1-9  
Ps. 90:1-4  
Gen. 15:7  
Jn. 10:27  
Ex. 15:11  
1 Cor. 1:30  
Eph. 1:4  
Heb. 8:10  
Matt. 22:31-32  
Gal. 1:3-4  
Rom. 3:20-23  
Ps. 34:7  
Ps. 145:18

- II. If we are to serve God well, then we must know Him. To know God, who is Spirit, is to understand His nature, which has been revealed to us through both general (the created order, Rom. 1:20) and special (the Scriptures, 2 Tim. 3:16) revelation. Moses had never met God, so his initial encounter with Him was meant to reveal to him the true nature of His existence as the one and only true God who is holy, eternal, and self-existent. Without that understanding, Moses would not have the confidence and conviction needed to stand up against Pharaoh, the most powerful man in the world. In like manner, the more we know God and who we are in Christ, the stronger our conviction will be to uncompromisingly serve Him over the ways of a very powerful evil world system. Conversely, the less we know of Him, the weaker our stance for Him will be and the more likely we'll acquiesce to the world's ways.

Ex. 3:10-16

Rom. 10;14-15

Phil. 2:12-13

Matt. 28:20

Heb. 13:5-6

John 8:58

**Yahweh, YHWH, I AM** “This is known as the tetragrammaton (meaning “four letters”). Because of the lack of vowels.”

*God told Moses His name was I AM because God simply is; there was never a time when He did not exist, or a time when He will cease to exist. Guzik*

יְהוָה: **Y<sup>e</sup>hōvâh** = self-Existent or Eternal. The existing one. The proper name of the one true God.

אֱלֹהִים **’ēlōhîym** (plural intensive – singular meaning) = The true God

**John 4:24** *God is spirit, and those who worship Him must worship in spirit and truth.*

- III. Another important aspect of the character of God that Moses needed to understand was the uncompromising, unchanging nature of His faithfulness in keeping His covenant promises to Israel. He laid out for Moses exactly what would go down to show him that He is in absolute control of all things. He was establishing in Moses the need to trust Him when the going got tough. Our response to that could be, well if God spoke to me as directly as he did to Moses, then I would have no problem trusting Him. The thing is, He does speak to us directly through His Word. Trust is a choice; it is a vital part of knowing Him. The success of Moses' calling as the great liberator of Israel boiled down to one thing, would he trust God to be true to His Word? That's what we wrestle with, isn't it? In all His promises, will He be true to me, can I trust Him? My response to that is, we must, for He is faithful and through Him you were called into fellowship with His Son, Jesus Christ our Lord (1 Cor. 1:9).

Ex. 3:17-22

Gen. 15:14

**2 Tim. 2:10-13** *10 Therefore I endure everything for the sake of the elect, that they also may obtain the salvation that is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory. 11 The saying is trustworthy, for: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; 12 if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he also will deny us; 13 if we are faithless, he remains faithful—for he cannot deny himself.*