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Moses in the School of God - The Burning Bush - Part 2

At the burning bush Moses was made aware he was on Holy Ground. Wherever God is present it is holy. For instance, the Tabernacle was a holy place because God was there. How holy is a gathering when the saints meet for there am I in the midst of them (Matt. 20:18-20). Is it possible that we are not aware that this is a holy environment, but can it degrade into a religious ritual? This leads to the consideration of, what does “holy” mean? Putting the unexplainable simply, the holiness of God is the moral perfection of God (for everything has a moral relationship) affecting everything He ever has done, is doing or will do.

Knowing the situation at the Burning Bush was holy, it is with carefulness we watch step by step the unfolding of God’s presence to Moses.

- a) The angel of the Lord calls Moses and his response was, “Here am I” (Ex. 3:4). It was not, I will do your will with some conditions, it was a whole hearted submission without knowing what lay ahead. He was to be given an understanding of the greatness of God along several avenues:
 - i) The sovereignty of God
 - ii) The grace of God
 - iii) The knowledge of God
 - iv) The graciousness of God in calling him despite his past to do a great work for His glory.

Moses’ first objection:

“Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh” (Ex. 3:11). Moses was to learn a fundamental lesson, God will never reveal his purposes for an individual without giving them the ability to fulfil His purpose (Ex. 3:10). Moses was not told he would deliver the children of Israel, God had made it clear that He (God) would do the delivering (Ex. 3:8; 17, 20). God’s answer, “I will be with thee” (Ex. 3:12).

Moses’ second objection:

“Who shall I say sent me?” (Ex. 3:13). It is to be remembered that at this time the children of Israel were idolaters (Ezek. 20:7-8), so it was reasonable for those who would ask what God he was the spokesman for. God’s answer is, “I AM THAT I AM” (Ex. 3:14). What did that mean? It has several avenues of truth:

- a) I am absolutely genuine, there is no hypocrisy, I am all that I am and all you ever will need.
 - i) “I am the LORD, I change not” (Mal. 3:6)
 - ii) “I am the LORD, and I will bring you out . . . I will redeem you” (Ex. 6:6)
 - iii) I am the LORD in supremacy (Ex. 12:12)
 - iv) I AM of identity, “I AM THAT I AM” (Ex. 3:14)
 - v) “I am the way, the truth, and the life”, He is the God of necessity (Jn. 14:6)
 - vi) “I am he that liveth, and was dead; and, behold, I am alive for evermore” (Rev. 1:18), He is the God of eternity.
- b) The Manifestations:
 - i) The manifestation of His Name, “I AM THAT I AM”
 - ii) The manifestation of His power, “I am the God of Abram”, that is resurrection.
 - iii) The manifestation of God’s purposes for Moses, “I will send thee” (Ex. 3:10)
 - iv) The renewed manifestation of God’s purposes for:
 1. Israel - To deliver them (Ex. 3:8)
 2. To bring them to a good land (Ex. 3:9)

Moses’ third objection:

“I am not eloquent. . . I am slow of speech” (Ex. 4:10). I perceive that God was getting somewhat annoyed with Moses. Had Moses limited God’s knowledge, intimating God did not know he had an impediment? God answered, “Who hath made man’s mouth?” (Ex. 4:11). Moses had to learn two truths: when God chooses an individual to do a work, He knows their natural physical inabilities but in grace, He will tolerate man’s objections.

- a) Many have heard of Mr. Eternity from Sydney Australia. This child of God could not write but believed God wanted him to bring eternity before the people of Sydney and wherever he went in Australia. Over many years he wrote the word “Eternity” on thousands of streets. When there was the celebration for the

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year 2000, across the Sydney Harbour Bridge, in the perfect script of Mr. Eternity, was the word “Eternity”, and downtown close to the City Hall there is a little restaurant and on the floor is a plaque with the word “Eternity” written on it. God used a man with little education to spread the gospel across the world. It is a very foolish thing to limit God in what He wants the individual to do. When I think of Joni and her disability yet she has been able to do so much for God. My friend, Mike McFadyen in Boise, had West Nile virus and was so near death, yet he survived and was in a wheelchair the next 14 years before the Lord called Him home. What a magnificent example to all who knew him, shepherding the sheep, helping in the ministry and in hospitality, yet completely bound by a wheelchair and unable to move any part of his body except for one hand. The lesson is, physical limitations do not necessarily prevent us from the work of God.

. . . . *Rowan Jennings*