

SLAVES SET FREE
A Study in the Book of Exodus
Holy Bible, New International Version ©2011

God, Moses, and You Exodus 3—4:17

*"Do not be afraid. Stand firm and you will see the deliverance the LORD will bring you today.
The Egyptians you see today you will never see again. The LORD will fight for you;
you need only to be still."* Exodus 14:13–14

Day 1: Read Exodus 3—4:17.

1. As you read through the passage, list at least three things it teaches us about God.

2. In Hebrew thinking, character is revealed in name. By what two names does God describe himself in this week's passage? (3:6, 14)
 - a. How does the "old" name show that he is consistent and a promise-keeping God, "the same yesterday and today and forever" (Heb. 13:8)? (Gen. 17:4–8; Ex. 2:24)

 - b. How does the new name (3:14) show that he is self-existent, uncreated, unlike all the false gods and idols of man's hands and imaginations?

3. Considering God's name in Exodus 3:14, why do you suppose the Jews tried to stone Jesus in John 8:58–59? What claim was Jesus making for himself?

Day 2: Read Exodus 3—4:17.

4. Luke 24:25–27 tells us that the Old Testament is actually a book all about Christ. Abraham, Moses, Joshua, David, etc., are all pictures of Christ. How do you think Moses' mission is similar to Christ's? (3:10)
 - a. How is Christ's mission superior to Moses'? (Mt. 1:21)

 - b. How is Christ's response superior to Moses'? (4:10, 13; Jn. 12:27; Heb. 10:7)

5. What is a prophet? (Deut. 18:18–19; Jer. 1:5, 9)

a. How is Moses a prophet? (4:12)

b. How is Jesus the supreme prophet? (Jn. 1:1, 14; Heb. 1:1–2)

Day 3: Read Exodus 3:7–10.

6. Why did God appear to Moses?

7. Moses was 40 when he fled to Egypt (Acts 7:23) and 80 when he was assigned his life's work (Ex. 7:7)! Have you ever considered that your best years may be yet to come, that God may have some surprises for you, perhaps some important work in your "retirement" years?

8. God often seems to stack the deck against himself—men past their prime as leaders, women too old to bear children, armies too small, a ragtag band of fishermen to launch a world revolution. Why do you think he does that? (Jdg. 7:2–3; Zec. 4:6)

What encouragement or hope is there in that for you?

9. The Israelites cried out to God for a *long* time for deliverance from Egypt before he finally acted! Is there anything or anyone for whom you've been praying for years and almost given up on? Does reading Exodus 3 make a difference in your attitude or patience in praying and waiting? (Lk. 18:1–8; 2 Pet. 3:8–9)

Day 4: Read Exodus 3—4:17.

10. List Moses' reservations about the job God gives him. (3:11, 13; 4:1, 10, 13)
11. What reservations do you sometimes have for thinking you are not usable to God?
12. How does God deal with Moses' questions and objections? (3:12, 17, 21; 4:1-4, 12, 14)
13. How have you seen God deal with you?

Day 5: Read Exodus 3:18-22.

14. In this passage God reveals in detail exactly how events will unfold. How does the reminder of God's control over the future encourage you in the midst of your own problems?
15. What assurance does God give to a reluctant Moses? (3:12)
16. This assurance happens to be the chief blessing of the covenant that God makes with his people throughout the ages. Find it in the following passages: Gen. 28:15; Josh. 1:5; Jer. 1:8; Mt. 28:20.
17. How does this encourage you in your own life?