

Sermon Reflections

Meet God (Part 1) • Exodus 3:1–15

Summary: God's full sufficiency in Himself makes up for all our inadequacies and insecurities. Step forward in faithful obedience to His call on your life, because He is able.

Meet God: The Great I AM

1. A Holy God Calls a Fallen Man (vv. 1–5)

- Moses' encounter with God completely changed his life's direction. What was it about this meeting with God that so impacted Moses? While each believer has similarly had a time in life that they encountered God, why does that impact lessen over time, and why do we take God for granted? Why do we forget Who He is and what His characteristics are?
- Moses had a new life in Midian, but he was never comfortable, always seeing himself as a wanderer. In what ways have we seen in Exodus that Moses is pictured as a wanderer? What does it look like to be a wanderer/sojourner in your life on earth? Why do we tend to forget that this is, and must be, our condition? What goes wrong when we forget this? What things does God do to remind us that we are wanderers here? What do we learn from other wanderers in the Bible?
- The burning bush that did not depend on consumption of the bush for its continued flame pictures God's eternity and self sufficiency. How would you define the doctrine of God's self sufficiency? Also, why is God's attribute of self sufficiency on display in this episode that will start the process of Israel's redemption from bondage? Why is a biblical understanding of God's attributes essential for proper interpretation of Scripture and its applications to us?
- In Exodus 3:5 the ground was holy due to God's presence. What does it mean for something to be holy? Why do we see here and in Isaiah 6:1–7 that unholy things cannot approach that which is holy? How does atonement make unholy things fit for the presence/place of holiness? Works cannot make one holy—only Christ has made that possible—but is there still need in our culture, similar to Moses removing his shoes, for actions that can or should be done to show respect for God's holiness? If so, what would those actions include, or, if not, what has changed for believers today and in what ways will believers' behavior be altered by God's holiness?

2. A Faithful God Conscripts a Failed Man (vv. 6–10)

- Moses's parents taught Moses about God's promises to the Patriarchs. If it is still important today for one generation of believers to pass on God's commands and promises to subsequent believers, what are ways this can be done? What are ways you participate in this?
- The hope in the midst of our weakness is that God is faithful even when we haven't been. He bent down in the Incarnation, humbling Himself even to the Cross. We see Moses's reticence to serve God; what do you see as his reasons? The church needs people to witness, teach Bible studies, lead family devotions, publicly teach, host fellowship groups or otherwise perform hospitality, specifically seeking to evangelize and have spiritual conversation, etc.; what other spiritual needs can you name that should be addressed? What needs are presenting themselves to you currently where you should try to serve the GBC body and also your family? What is one specific action for the body and also for your family that you can take this week as a starting point? What discourages you from doing this, and what role does your faith in God have in helping you to attempt what is challenging?