Discovering the Treasures of the Word

<u>Exodus</u> Lesson #2, Chapters 3-4

These chapters contain more nuggets than we have time to mine! Ask the Lord to open your eyes to behold wonderful things from His Word (Psalm 119:18) and for a willingness to take it to heart (1 Thessalonians 2:13).

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1.	A number of important details greet us in Exodus 3:1. What do you learn about what was going on in Moses' life at that time?
	a. Look up Acts 7:23, 30 to determine Moses' age and how long he'd been in Midian.
	b. Horeb is also known as what mountain? Compare Exodus 19:10-11 with Deuteronomy 4:10.
2.	Briefly describe the events of Exodus 3:1-6. Did you find any particular detail or information interesting in those verses? If so, what was it?
3.	What do you learn about the angel of the Lord in Exodus 3:2?
	a. What added information about the angel of the Lord do you glean from Exodus 3:4-6 and Acts 7:30-33?

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	b. Based on what you've learned, who is the angel of the Lord?
4.	The Lord very clearly communicates two important pieces of information about Himself to Moses in Exodus 3:5-6. What does the Lord want Moses to know and understand about Him? Why?
5.	How is that same information vital for us today as we interact with the Lord and live before Him? See also Leviticus 10:3; Hebrews 10:22 and Genesis 17:7-8; Exodus 2:24.
6.	From Exodus 3:6 and Acts 7:32, what is Moses' reaction when he realizes what's happening and who he is interacting with? What else do you learn as you read the following Scriptures? See Genesis 17:3; Judges 13:21-22; Isaiah 6:1, 5; Matthew 17:5-6.
	a. Why are those reactions good and right in dealing with a holy God?
7.	After miraculously revealing His identity in the preceding verses, God now makes a series of pronouncements of things He knows or intends to do in Exodus 3:7-12. List what you observe about what God <i>knows</i> or <i>intends to do</i> .
8.	Now summarize what you learn about the character and nature of God from your observations. How should understanding this about God make a difference in your life today, this week, in your life?

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9.	In spite of talking with a bush, and a burning one at that, standing in God's presence, and being encouraged by many truths about God's character, Moses still has a difficult time coming to terms with his calling. What is Moses concerned about? See Exodus 3:11, 13.
10.	Moses asks for God's name so he can introduce Him to the Israelites in Egypt. What do you learn? See Exodus 3:14-15.
	a. Since this was the first time God used His name, Moses didn't have any other teaching to round out his understanding of God's name. Thankfully, we do have added instruction. Look up the following Scriptures that add to our own understanding of God's name: Exodus 6:2-3; Isaiah 43:10-13; 44:6; 66:1; John 8:24, 28, 58.
	b. What does God want to convey to us in <i>His name</i> ?
11.	God reveals His plan for rescuing the Israelites in Exodus 3:16-22. God, who knows all things, even prepares Moses for some of the bumps and roadblocks that will occur. a. What are the first things Moses will <i>do</i> ?
	b. What reactions Moses will <i>encounter</i> ?
	c. How will God intervene?

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12.	As chapter 4 begins, Moses' unwillingness or fear at accepting the mantle of "leader" once again exhibits itself. What is Moses' concern <i>this time</i> ? See Exodus 4:1. How does God patiently provide for His commissioned servant in Exodus 4:2-9?
13.	Oh goodness gracious! Moses <i>continues</i> in his unbelief and unwillingness to accept God's call. What further concerns does he bring to the Lord in Exodus 4:10? What is God's loving solution for Moses (Exodus 4:11-12)?
14.	Even after all God's accommodations and encouragements, how does Moses respond in Exodus 4:13?
15.	This time Moses' quibbling earned a different response from the Lord. What do you learn from verse 14? Yet, even in His rebuke to Moses, how did the Lord continue to provide for him, so he could do the job God had called him to do? See Exodus 4:14-17.
16.	We can learn some amazing lessons from this point in Moses' life. Consider what you learn about God's willingness to help and provide for His children in whatever He may call us. What insights do you gain as you ponder God's call for Moses' life, even though Moses in no way felt prepared or able to accomplish it? How does that strengthen your heart for those times when you're called to do something outside your comfort zone?
17.	We see in Exodus 4:18-20 Moses finally accepting his new role as deliverer to the nation of Israel. What steps does he take to fulfill his calling (Exodus 4:18-20)?

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18. Once Moses arrives back in Egypt, what admonishment and encouragement does God give to his somewhat reluctant emissary? See Exodus 4:21-23. 19. Exodus 4:24-27 contains an interesting little story, yet it tells us much if we consider it a bit further. First, what did God intend to do to Moses? a. The "why" isn't given, but it obviously had something to do with circumcision. What did circumcision signify? See Genesis 17:7-14, 23-27. b. When did God relent in His anger against Moses according to Exodus 4:25-26? 20. What was it that Moses should have done, but didn't, that it put him in peril of death? What does this teach you about obeying the Lord, no matter who you are, or what your calling may be? 21. Where does Moses' long-awaited reunion with his brother take place? See Exodus 4:27, then compare with Exodus 3:1. Who set the meeting up for the brothers? 22. After Moses fills Aaron in on God's plans, they return to the people. What did the brothers do first? See Exodus 4:29-30.

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a. How did the people of Israel respond to Moses and Aaron? See Exodus 4:31.

23. Exodus 4:31 contains a point of application for us today. When the Israelites learned of God's care, concern, and intended deliverance, the text says, "they bowed low and worshiped." What is exemplary about their response? What are some ways *you* can worship the Lord when you read about His care and concern for you? Take some time to read the following Scriptures and then spend time in worship to the Lord: Psalm 118:5-9; 121:1-8; 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17; 3:3; Hebrews 13:5-6; Jude 24-25.

"It is certain that our happiness in heaven will consist in part in our perfect knowledge of the blessed and boundless God. And it is as certain that our holiness in this world depends a lot upon our knowledge of Him. They who know His beauty and bounty cannot but love Him, and they who know His power and faithfulness cannot but trust Him!" George Swinnock

¹ George Swinnock, *Voices from the Past, Volume 2* (Edinburgh: The Banner of Truth Trust, 2016), page 265.