



Way Point Chronicles

Traveling through the Old Testament by Chronological Stories

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Way Point 31

A Bush on Fire

Story of the Call of Moses

Travel Log

Personal Notes

After the promise was made to Abraham that his descendants would become numerically as the sand on the sea and stars in the sky it seemed, humanely speaking, that it was not going to happen. Many years passed and the number of Abraham’s descendants were still few. In fact, there were only 70 or so that went into Egypt during the time of Joseph.

The dating of Joseph by Reese’s *Chronological Bible* for the birth of Jacob was 1807 BC and the death of Abraham was in 1792 BC. It was almost a hundred years later that Joseph was sold into slavery in 1699 BC and in 1686 was reunited with his brothers, brought Jacob, and his brother to Egypt to live. The events we looked at last Way Point took place in about 1503 or some 183 years after they came to Egypt.

The reason I give you these dates is that we need to understand that the fulfillment of God’s promises did not happen overnight but over a period of many years, in human reasoning anyway. This also helps us to advance our timeframe for this Way Point.

I- Date Line 1463 in the Backside of Desert:

Moses flees Egypt and goes to the backside of the desert. He marries Zipporah and settles down for a life as a shepherd. *Exodus 3:1 Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.* Abraham has been dead over 300 years.

As he keeps the flocks, a very nomadic occupation because of the constants search for water and forage, he comes to the mountain of Horeb.

Horeb is the mountain range of which Sinai was one of the most prominent mountains. s.

II- God in the Burning Bush:

This was in all probability a very secluded and lonely life for Moses. He passed the days with self-entertainment and thinking. As he comes close to the mountain, notice what takes place.

Exodus 3:2 And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

As he walks along something catches his eye. He may have thought, “Is that a bush on fire on the hillside? Is my mind playing tricks on me, he may have asked. But wait, the bush is on fire but it is not burning up. Something must be going on. I’ve got to check this out.” *Exodus 3:3 And Moses said,*

Horizontal lines for personal notes.



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I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

Please notice also out of verse two that the “angel of the LORD” was in the midst of the bush. This, remember, is considered to be the Lord Jesus by most.

So Moses goes to check out the bush and is confronted by a voice speaking to him. *Exodus 3:4 And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush...* Now can you imagine the scene? He may have looked around to see if someone else was there. A voice has just spoken from the burning bush.

Exodus 3:4b ...and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I. The voice knows his name. God calls our Moses and his response was Here am I.

God tells him that he is standing in a holy place. *Exodus 3:5 And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground.*

This reminds us that to approach the Holy God of the universe it should not be something done flipping and irreverent but with a healthy sense of holiness and awe.

God identifies Himself to Moses as the God of his forefathers.

Exodus 3:6 Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. Remember please that the voice is the Angel of the Lord, the Lord Jesus. Another solid proof of His deity.

Abraham has been dead from this life for hundreds of years but was still alive in eternity. Pertaining to this verse *Matthew 22:31-32* says, *But as touching the resurrection of the dead, have ye not read that which was spoken unto you by God, saying, 32 I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? God is not the God of the dead, but of the living.*

God is also reminding Moses that the promises He made to Abraham are still in force and have not been rescinded or nullified. God has kept and will keep all of His promises. The past fulfillment of promises gives us assurance of future fulfillment of those to come as well. One of these is addressed in *2 Peter 3:4; 8-9* And saying, *Where is the promise of his coming? for since the fathers fell asleep, all things continue as they were from the beginning of the creation. ...8 But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. 9 The Lord is not slack concerning his promise, as some men count slackness; but is longsuffering to us-ward, not willing that any should perish, but that all should come to repentance.*



Coordinates:
Exodus 3:1-4:18

Sights to See:

- 1- God's promises are secure and certain even if we do not see them come to pass in our lifetime. Human death does not do away with any of God's promises.
- 2- God saw the afflictions of His people then as well as now.
- 3- Approaching God should never be done without a reverence and awe.
- 4- God had his time for deliverance of Israel. Moses had to wait 40 years after he thought it was time.
- 5- God may not speak to us from a burning bush but has commissioned all of us to go and do.
- 6- God has the answer to all of the excuses we can come up with. He will fill our mouths, guide our paths and use us if we are willing to be used.



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Remember the vast time spans that have passed here from the promise to Abraham to Moses. Time pass does not negate the promise. It is all in His time.

Notice Moses reaction when he realized he was in the presence of the Holy God of the universe. *Exodus 3:6b...And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.*

III- Moses Commission:

Moses had been ready to be the deliver of Israel some 40 years before this time. Now God commission him to go be the deliver. Notice the Bible account of the commission of Moses. Notice the eyes, ears and heart of God has been in tune with the children of Israel. Remember, 40 years before the same was said. God was still listening.

Exodus 3:7-10 And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; 8 And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey...10 Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

Moses hears the voice of God as He tells him he is being sent to deliver Israel.

The response of Moses is who and I that can do this and who should I tell them has sent me. *Exodus 3:11-14 And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt? 12 And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain. 13 And Moses said unto God, Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them? 14 And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM; and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. This was a natural question from Moses. Remember he had been rejected before so now he needs assurance.*

IV- God's Promises:

God gives Moses additional instructions concerning what he was to say to the children of Israel and especially the leaders of the people. *Exodus 3:18 And they shall hearken to thy voice...God promised that they would hear him this time. He is to go with the leaders to Pharaoh and say, "The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God." God knows this will not work so he tells Moses in Exodus 3:20 And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go. 21 And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty: 22 But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.*

Please notice the promise made that pertains to the wealth of Egypt being taken out of Egypt by the Israelites at the Exodus. God's promises are amazing.

