

# The Great – I AM!

March 24, 2019 – Exodus 3:1-5; 14-15 (NIV)

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*“Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the desert and came to Horeb, the Mountain of God. There The Angel of the Lord - מלאך - יהוה (Jesus) appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, I will go over and see this strange sight – why the bush does not burn up. When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, Moses! Moses! And Moses said, Here I am.*

*Do not come any closer, God said. Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground. ....*

*God said to Moses, I AM WHO I AM. – אהיה אשר אהיה - This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you. God also said to Moses, Say to the Israelites, The Lord, the God of your fathers – The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you. This is My Name forever, the Name by which I AM to be remembers from generation to generation.”*

In the Gospel of John 8:48-58 – The Jews were attacking the Lord Jesus, and they exclaimed to Jesus: *“Who do You Think You are?”* (Jn 8:53)

And Jesus gave an explanation that ended with these words:

John 8:58 – *“I tell you the truth, Jesus answered, before Abraham was born, I AM!* - Εγώ Ειμι -

*At this the Jews picked up stones to stone Him,”*

Today in these Inspired, Inerrant, Infallible, Holy Words of our Lord as recorded in Exodus chapter 3 Moses sees a sight that to his human reason, makes no sense. There is a bush that is burning, but it is not being consumed. It is from this bush that the Lord God calls to Moses and tells Moses His Name. God says; I AM WHO I AM!

The One Who is calling from the Burning Bush is The Angel of the Lord, and in this case it is a reference to the Second person of the Trinity, it is a reference to Jesus before He became flesh and blood, before Jesus became God incarnate.

The Angel of the Lord identifies Himself even more with the words:

Vs. 15 – *The Lord, the God of your fathers – The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you. This is My Name forever, the Name by which I AM to be remembers from generation to generation.*

The reason that the Angel of the Lord appeared to Moses was because God was calling Moses to lead the people of Israel out of Slavery in Egypt. The Children of Israel had been in Egypt from the time of Joseph until the time of Moses. (In Exodus 12:40-41 – it is written that the Israelite people lived in Egypt 430 years.) Now at the age of 80 – God is calling Moses to lead God’s people out of Egypt. Moses, who had earlier in his life killed an Egyptian Slave master, is here being called by God to lead God’s people out of Egypt! (Imagine what the tabloids would do with that information!) God used Moses to do HIS Work of leading Israel out of Slavery in Egypt. How might God use you despite your frailties, your skeletons in the closet, your doubts? But none the less, despite all the frailties of Moses, God the Great I AM, used Moses to lead the people of Israel to safety. Moses could not and cannot save mankind from sin and death! Only God can and did on the cross of Calvary. As mentioned earlier Jesus declared Himself to the Jews to be the Great - I AM.

Throughout Scripture, Jesus makes reference of Himself as The I AM. A couple of additional examples include the following:

John 11:25 – *I AM The resurrection and the Life. He who believes in Me will live, even though he dies; and whoever lives and believes in Me will never die.*

**John 14:6** – *Jesus says – I AM the Way and the Truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me.*

This God Who spoke to Moses from within the burning bush, is your God and Savior.

The God who delivered Israel from slavery in Egypt, is Your Savior Who delivered You from Sin, death, and Hell and won Heaven for you with His Holy Precious Blood which He shed on the cross of Calvary. And your God and Savior is Living as He rose from the dead, and the tomb is empty. Heaven is Your home. AMEN