

## Old Testament Stories

# “Moses and the Burning Bush”

Exodus 3 – 4:17

☞ What would you like to praise God for today?

☞ Pray for God’s guidance as you study



1. Why do you think God used the burning bush to get Moses’ attention (v. 1-3)?  
What if he had simply begun speaking instead?
2. How does “I AM” uniquely designate God (v.14)? How does Jesus take on this name for himself and with what implications?
3. Who is responsible for carrying out God’s plan (v. 16-22)?
4. What is the part to be played by God? By Moses? By the elders of Israel? By the king of Egypt?  
By the Hebrew women?
5. If God were to identify himself as “I Am \_\_\_\_\_” how would he fill in the blank for you?
6. What has been God’s “call” in your life? What would it take to get your attention and commitment to accept a new mission in life?

7. What's the best excuse you've heard lately from a determined procrastinator?
  
8. What 3 objections does Moses raise? How does God respond to each objection?
  
9. Why is God so angry (Ex. 4:13-14)? Is God taking back part of the job he had assigned Moses or assuring him success with Plan B?
  
10. Consider Ex. 4:11. How has God exercised his sovereignty over your limitations?
  
11. What do you hear God saying about your excuses? What concerns do you still have about doing or following God's will?

**Prayer:** For one another

## **LIFE GROUPS**

*A safe place to build friendships and grow spiritually.*

- L** ♦ Learn..... applying Biblical truth for everyday living
- I** ♦ Invite.....welcoming others to our fellowship
- F** ♦ Fellowship.....nurturing Christ centered caring relationships
- E** ♦ Evangelism..... reaching others with the hope of Christ

## DID YOU KNOW?

The burning bush has been popular symbol among [Reformed](#) churches since it was first adopted by the [Huguenots](#) ([French Calvinists](#)) in 1583 during its 12th National [Synod](#):



Burning Bush of the  
Presbyterian Church  
of Ireland

- The current symbol of the [Reformed Church of France](#) is a burning bush with the [Huguenot cross](#).
- The motto of the [Church of Scotland](#) is *Nec tamen consumebatur* - [Latin](#) for *Yet it was not consumed*, an allusion to the biblical story of the burning bush, and a stylised depiction of the burning bush is used as the Church's symbol.
- The Burning Bush is also used as the basis of the symbol of the [Presbyterian Church in Ireland](#), which uses the Latin motto *Ardens sed virens*, meaning *Burning but flourishing*, and based on the same passage. The same logo is used from the separated [Free Presbyterian Church of Ulster](#).

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**The “I AM” is the God who is, that is, the God who exists.** There were many “no gods” in both Egypt and Canaan, which were worshipped, but in contrast to all of these “gods” was the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He is the God who is, the only true God.

**The “I AM” is the God who exists independently.** Theologians speak of God as self-existent. God is the Creator, but has no creator. He exists apart from any dependence on anything or anyone. He is a God who does not need help, either to exist or to accomplish His will. Thus, there is nothing which can prevent God’s will from being accomplished.

**The “I AM” is the God who exists independently and unchangeably.** As the “I AM,” God is not the God who **was** anything, in the sense that He changes. Whatever He was, He continues to be, and He will be forever. The God who is exists not only really, and independently, but also unchangeably. Therefore, whatever God has begun to do He will bring to completion, because there are no changes which necessitate any alterations in His original plans and purposes.

On the human level, we know only the opposite. We plan to build a house, but unforeseen contingencies usually involve considerably more time and money. Public projects are no different. Have you ever heard of a freeway, a bridge, or a new bomber being completed on schedule, and at the originally estimated cost? As the “I AM” we never need to agonize about the completion of what God has promised.

As the “I AM,” God exists, independently, unchangeably, eternally. God is eternal and unchanging. How often we have put our trust in a political candidate, only to find that he changes once he has been elected. Campaign promises often are mere rhetoric. Those few politicians who do attempt to keep their promises eventually get voted out of office or die. Consequently our hopes which are founded on men are very short-lived. God is eternal; thus each and every promise is as solid as a rock. If God is both eternal and unchanging, then nothing which He has purposed and promised to do can ever fail.