

## INTRODUCTION.

- A. Scripture text: **Exodus 3:1-10**.
- B. The bush got the attention of Moses. Do we recognize a burning bush in our life; good, bad, or indifferent? Do we pay close enough attention as to the events in our life that might be God's providential power?
- C. Sometimes things happen in life for a purpose. God's providence is always working in our best interest. While we do not see a literal burning bush in our lives, there may be things happening that can have the same effect.
- D. Let us do an expository look at Ex. 3:1-10 and the story of Moses and the burning bush.

## I. THE BURNING BUSH WAS A REVELATION OF GOD.

- A. A revealing of the supernatural in common life (3:1).  
Now Moses was pasturing the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the west side of the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.
  - 1. God's presence is with us, even in the humblest of occupations.
  - 2. In times past God has miraculously intervened to communicate to man. While we doubt that this happens today, God can intervene in our lives through His providential care.
- B. A revealing of the supernatural in nature (3:2):  
And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a blazing fire from the midst of a bush; and he looked, and behold, the bush was burning with fire, yet the bush was not consumed.
  - 1. The bush was burning, but did not burn up (be consumed).
  - 2. God has control (power) over the things of nature.
  - 3. Jesus controlled the elements of the wind and sea (Mk. 4:41).
- C. A revealing of the supernatural in God's people.
  - 1. God empowered Moses to go back to Egypt and do miraculous things.
  - 2. God had a ministry that He desired for Moses to do.
  - 3. God has work for us to do today as well, in the church. It may not be supernatural but God may be using other Xians and events to spur you on to greater Xian service.
- D. A revealing of the supernatural revelation of God's word.
  - 1. Through the HS, God inspired the prophets and other Bible writers to pen the truth that man needs.
  - 2. While allowing for the different personalities and cultures of the writers, God has expressed through them everything we need to know.
  - 3. It is a supernatural because it comes from God, and will outlast the world (Mt. 24:35).  
"Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words shall not pass away."

## II. THE BURNING BUSH WAS A WARNING FOR PREPAREDNESS.

- A. Cultivate a spirit (attitude) of duty (3:1).  
Now Moses was pasturing the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian; and he led the flock to the west side of the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God.
  - 1. Many see the word duty as a bad thing.
  - 2. But duty means an obligation or responsibility. Christians are obligated to serve the Lord.
  - 3. X's commands are not burdensome (1Jn. 5:3), therefore, it should be a joy to serve the Lord and accomplish His will.  
For this is the love of God, that we keep His commandments; and His commandments are not burdensome.
- B. Cultivate a spirit of devout inquiry (3:3).  
So Moses said, "I must turn aside now, and see this marvelous sight, why the bush is not burned up."

1. God does not mind being investigated. If fact, the more we do so the better He will become in our sight.
2. We can know God through nature, His Son, and His word.
- C. Cultivate a spirit of readiness (3:4).  
 When the LORD saw that he turned aside to look, God called to him from the midst of the bush, and said, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."  
  1. Isaiah made the same statement when asked to do a great work (Isa. 6:8).
  2. What do we do when opportunity to serve in the church knocks at our door?
  3. How ready are you to serve the Lord?
- D. Cultivate a spirit of humility and reverence (3:5).  
 Then He said, "Do not come near here; remove your sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground."  
  1. God demands and commands respect. Our Creator deserves it when in His presence.
  2. Many times, the NT tells us to be humble in spirit for God's blessings (Mt. 5:3; Jas. 4:6-7).  
 (Mt 5:3) "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.  
 (Jas 4:6-7) But He gives a greater grace. Therefore it says, "GOD IS OPPOSED TO THE PROUD, BUT GIVES GRACE TO THE HUMBLE." 7 Submit therefore to God. Resist the devil and he will flee from you.

### III. LESSONS FROM THE BURNING BUSH.

- A. God revealed Himself to man (3:6).  
 He said also, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob."  
 Then Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.  
  1. What an awesome thought! No wonder Moses hid his face, I would!
  2. Man in his own wisdom will not come to know God, so God has revealed Himself so that we might know Him (1Cor. 1:21).  
 For since in the wisdom of God the world through its wisdom did not come to know God, God was well-pleased through the foolishness of the message preached to save those who believe.
- B. God knows our troubles and afflictions, He is concerned and aware (3:7,9).  
 And the LORD said, "I have surely seen the affliction of My people who are in Egypt, and have given heed to their cry because of their taskmasters, for I am aware of their sufferings. 9 "And now, behold, the cry of the sons of Israel has come to Me; furthermore, I have seen the oppression with which the Egyptians are oppressing them.  
  1. As we have studied on Wed. PM, in the letters to the seven churches of Asia in Rev. 2,3. God and Christ "knows our deeds."
  2. But the good thing is that He knows our struggles too (Heb. 2:14-18; 4:15).  
 (Heb 2:14-18) Since then the children share in flesh and blood, He Himself likewise also partook of the same, that through death He might render powerless him who had the power of death, that is, the devil; 15 and might deliver those who through fear of death were subject to slavery all their lives. 16 For assuredly He does not give help to angels, but He gives help to the descendant of Abraham. 17 Therefore, He had to be made like His brethren in all things, that He might become a merciful and faithful high priest in things pertaining to God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people. 18 For since He Himself was tempted in that which He has suffered, He is able to come to the aid of those who are tempted.  
 (Heb 4:15) For we do not have a high priest who cannot sympathize with our weaknesses, but One who has been tempted in all things as we are, yet without sin.
  3. God knows and is concerned when we are hurting.
- C. God promises to bless His people (3:8).  
 "So I have come down to deliver them from the power of the Egyptians, and to bring them up from that land to a good and spacious land, to a land flowing with milk and honey, to the place of the Canaanite and the Hittite and the Amorite and the Perizzite and the Hivite and the Jebusite.  
  1. God is in the "blessing business" and He does a perfect job of it. He knows how to give good gifts to His people (Mt. 7:7-11).  
 "Ask, and it shall be given to you; seek, and you shall find; knock, and it shall be opened to you. 8 "For everyone who asks receives, and he who seeks finds, and to him who knocks it shall be opened. 9 "Or what man is there among you, when his son shall ask him for a loaf, will give him a stone? 10 "Or if he

shall ask for a fish, he will not give him a snake, will he? **11** “If you then, being evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more shall your Father who is in heaven give what is good to those who ask Him!

2. God is the giver of every good and perfect gift (Jas. 1:17).  
Every good thing bestowed and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation, or shifting shadow.
- D. God gives us a work to do (3:10).  
“Therefore, come now, and I will send you to Pharaoh, so that you may bring My people, the sons of Israel, out of Egypt.”
  1. Working people are usually happy people.
  2. In the church we have three great works to be involved in:
    - a. Evangelism (soul-winning).
    - b. Edification (teaching, encouraging, and meeting spiritual needs).
    - c. Benevolence (giving and meeting physical needs).

### **CONCLUSION AND INVITATION.**

- A. Has there been a “burning bush” in your life?
- B. Respond to God’s providence working in your life by being obedient to Him.
- C. Respond to God’s providence by doing more in the church to accomplish His will.
- D. Plan of salvation for non-Xians; erring Xians.