

WHAT IS THAT IN THINE HAND?

EXODUS 3:1-14; 4:1-20 (Text 4:2)

Introduction

This is a small but important part of one of the glimpses into Moses life! I believe there are many lessons that God would have us learn from this passage of Scripture:

I. ALL THINGS ARE POSSIBLE WITH GOD! (3:1-3)

Moses saw something in the desert that seemed impossible to be happening, but it was happening. A bush on fire that was not being consumed. And then the LORD God communicated to him out of the midst of the fire!

Little did Moses know when he saw that burning bush that wasn't consumed, that the LORD God was about to call Moses to do something that was impossible with Moses...apart from God, that is!

After the LORD communicated with Moses after this manner, **he should have understood that the LORD God can do anything!**

He was going to need to know that in the days ahead as he answered the call of God on his life!

Others in the Scripture also had their "God can do anything" moments!

Abraham's wife, Sarah was one of those. The LORD told Abraham that He and Sarah were indeed going to have a child in their old age just as He had promised them! Sarah laughed! Whoops! When she did the LORD asked Abraham...

Genesis 18:14—"Is any thing too hard for the LORD?"

The Virgin Mary was another one of those. When the Angel Gabriel told all about how she was going to give birth to the Savior of the world. She said, "**How can this be seeing I know not a man?**" The Angel told her how the virgin birth would be accomplished and also told her barren cousin Elizabeth who was "**well stricken in years**" was already 6 months along in her pregnancy! (With John the Baptist, the forerunner of Jesus!)

Luke 1:37—"For with God nothing shall be impossible."

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Those who heard Jesus' speak with the Rich Young Ruler

Luke 18:24-26—"24 And when Jesus saw that he [the rich young ruler] was very sorrowful, he said, How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God! 25 For it is easier for a camel to go through a needle's eye, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God. 26 And they that heard it said, Who then can be saved? Luke 18:27- "And he said, The things which are impossible with men are possible with God."

Oh how we need know that we serve One Who can do the impossible!

II. GOD SOMETIMES CALLS AND USES THOSE THAT THE WORLD THINKS STRANGE! (3:4-6)

A. Moses Had A Strange Upbringing!

He was an Israelite who was raised initially by his birth mother in Pharaoh's house as Pharaoh's Daughter's Child. (Exodus 2:1-10)

B. Moses Had Been An Utter Failure As An Adult! (Exodus 2:11-15)

However, His failure in the flesh was of the LORD in order to teach him that he would need to depend upon the LORD in the future!

And my was he ever going to need that lesson!

C. Moses Got Content On The Back Side Of The Desert!

He was basically out in the middle of nowhere! He was tending sheep for a fellow that became his father-in-law!

Now the LORD was going to send him back to Egypt where shepherds were an abomination to the Egyptians.

However, this experience as a shepherd was to help him shepherd the flock of God!

1 Corinthians 1:26-29

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God had his undivided attention there though with this burning bush that wasn't being consumed! That's not something that he was used to seeing!

If we were going to send someone to deliver Israel out of Egypt, Moses probably wouldn't have been on our top ten! But He was God's choice!

GOD SOMETIMES CALLS AND USES THOSE THAT THE WORLD THINKS STRANGE!

III. GOD UNDERSTANDS THE PROBLEMS THAT WE FACE! (3:7; Cf. 1 Peter 5:6-10)

Hebrews 2:18—"For in that he himself hath suffered being tempted, he is able to succour them that are tempted."

IV. GOD HAS A WILL FOR HIS CHOSEN PEOPLE! (3: 8-10)

A. **God Had A Will For His Servant Moses!**

B. **God Had A Will For His People Israel!**

C. **God Still Has A Will For His People Israel! (Romans 9, 11)**

D. **God Has A Will For Me And For You!**

Ephesians 5:17—"Wherefore be ye not unwise, but understanding what the will of the Lord is."

V. MEN CAN COME UP WITH MANY EXCUSES FOR NOT DOING GOD'S WILL!

A. **God, Who Am I To Do This For You?
(i.e. I Have No Ability!) (3:11-12)**

It sounds humble enough. But the bottom line is that Moses didn't want to go!

The truth is that none of us are anybody and none of us are worthy! God alone is worthy!

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John 15:5—" . . . without me ye can do nothing."

1 Corinthians 3:7—"So then neither is he that planteth any thing, neither he that watereth; but God that giveth the increase."

1 Corinthians 15:10—"But by the grace of God I am what I am; and his grace which was bestowed upon me was not in vain; but I laboured more abundantly than they all: yet not I, but the grace of God which was with me."

Philippians 4:13—"I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

God, Whom Am I To Do This For You?

B. **God, What Am I Going To Say? (i.e. I Have No Message!) (3:13-14)**

God gives us the message!

Romans 1:16—"For I am not ashamed of the gospel of Christ: for it is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth; to the Jew first, and also to the Greek."

1 Corinthians 15:3-4--"For I delivered unto you first of all that which I also received, how that Christ died for our sins according to the scriptures; {4} And that he was buried, and that he rose again the third day according to the scriptures:"

C. **God They Will Not Listen To Me Or Believe Me! (i.e. I Have No Authority!) (4: 1-9)**

Matthew 28:18-20—"18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 Go ye therefore, and teach all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 Teaching them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, I am with you always, even unto the end of the world. Amen."

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Acts 1:8—“But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you: and ye shall be witnesses unto me both in Jerusalem, and in all Judaea, and in Samaria, and unto the uttermost part of the earth.”

Jesus is our Authority and the Holy Ghost is our power!

D. God, I Am Not A Man Of Words!

(i.e. I Have No Eloquence!) (4: 10-12)

(Cf. 1 Corinthians 2:1-5)

It is not about what we can say or how we can say it, but about how surrendered we are!

It is not about confidence in self, but confidence in the LORD and His Holy Spirit!

It is not about how great we can talk, but about the power of the message!

The Holy Spirit can take the Sword of the Spirit in the hands of a surrendered saint and perform radical surgery on the stony heart of the basest of sinners!

E. God I Really Don't Want To Be The One!

(i.e. I Have No Inclination!) (4:13-16)

God basically said...Just do it! I will give you some help!

Philippians 2:13—“For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure.”

VI. GOD CAN DO WONDERS WITH WHAT WE ALREADY HAVE IN OUR HANDS IF WE JUST SURRENDER IT TO GOD! (4:2-4, 11)

1 Corinthians 6:19-20—“What? know ye not that your body is the temple of the Holy Ghost which is in you, which ye have of God, and ye are not your own? {20} For ye are bought with a price: therefore glorify God in your body, and in your spirit, which are God's.”

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VII. WHAT WE HAVE BECOMES THE LORD'S WHEN WE SURRENDER IT TO HIM!

4:2 – a rod,

4:17 – this rod,

4:20 – the rod of God.

Conclusion

Our God can do anything! He is the God of the impossible!

Though we may not be very much and though we are undeserving and can't do anything on our own, and though we may not have very much, God still chooses to do a work in us who belong to Him!

God understands each problem that we now face or ever will face!
And He can meet our every need!

What we need to see is that God has a will for **each of us!**
We are not to make excuses because where God calls, He provides!

He is the Almighty, all sufficient God Who is able to do the impossible!

Ephesians 3:20-21—“20 Now unto him that is able to do exceeding abundantly above all that we ask or think, according to the power that worketh in us, 21 Unto him be glory in the church by Christ Jesus throughout all ages, world without end. Amen.

What we need to do is chunk all of our lame excuses and surrender to God what He has already given to us and then watch Him do wonders with it!

Because when we surrender something to the LORD we need to remember that it becomes His to do with what He pleases!