

**REMEMBER WHO GOD IS!
EXODUS 3:1-15**

Introduction

The preacher of a Church was greeting folks in the entryway and noticed a little boy was admiring a plaque that adorned one of the walls. As he was staring at it he asked the preacher what it was. The preacher told him “That’s a plaque to remember the members of the Church who had died while in the service.” The little boy looked up to the preacher and said, “Was that in the morning service or evening service?”

Maybe that’s why it’s so hard to get some folks into **CHURCH**—They’re afraid they might die in the **CHURCH SERVICE**.

Tomorrow is **MEMORIAL DAY**. To some it will be **just another holiday day off from work**. To some it is an opportunity **to travel or maybe to have a cookout or family get together**. Many will enjoy the **MEMORIAL DAY sales, races, events and even fireworks displays**. There is nothing inherently wrong with any of those things as long as we **DON’T LOSE SIGHT OF WHAT THE DAY IS ACTUALLY ABOUT!**

If we are not careful, **MEMORIAL DAY** can get lost in all of the **COMMERCIALISM** and **EVENTS** of our day and we can **LOSE ITS SIGNIFICANCE**. What I’m saying is: **MEMORIAL DAY and MEMORIALS ARE ESTABLISHED FOR US TO REMEMBER and/or to COMMEMORATE CERTAIN THINGS!**

Let’s not forget that the **FREEDOMS** that we have and enjoy in this country **didn’t just happen** on their own! Our **FREEDOMS** were **initially gained and have ever since been DEFENDED** by many, many thousands of soldiers and sailors. Many of which **FOUGHT** to their own death so that we might be and remain **FREE!**

Understand that we rightly owe a **DEBT of GRATITUDE** to all those who **FOUGHT** but especially to those who died through the years while fighting so that we can live in and enjoy our **FREEDOM!**

Formerly, **MEMORIAL DAY** was known as **DECORATION DAY!** It is a day that is set aside to **COMMEMORATE U.S. SOLDIERS** who

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have **DIED** while **FIGHTING** for our country!

DECORATION DAY/MEMORIAL DAY was first enacted to **HONOR BOTH UNION and CONFEDERATE SOLDIERS** following the **AMERICAN CIVIL WAR**. It was extended after **WORLD WAR I** to **HONOR all AMERICANS** who have died in all **WARS**.

I don’t know what your **MEMORIAL DAY** will hold tomorrow, but I hope that you will take some time to **REFLECT ON** and **HONOR THE MEMORY** of those who **GAVE THEIR LIVES FOR OUR FREEDOM!**

To FAIL TO DO THAT is the very HEIGHT of INGRATITUDE!

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But I’m not preaching about MEMORIAL DAY today! But about I do want us to see a different MEMORIAL ESTABLISHED by GOD!

Did you know that the **LORD GOD ESTABLISHED** some **MEMORIALS** so that **HIS CHOSEN PEOPLE ISRAEL** and us who are **BELIEVERS** in **CHRIST** would **REMEMBER** some things!
(e.g. PASSOVER is a MEMORIAL established by GOD for ISRAEL!)
(e.g. The LORD’S TABLE or LORD’S SUPPER is a MEMORIAL!)

But today let’s read of another MEMORIAL in the Scripture!
(Exodus 3:1-15)

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Here we see that the **LORD GOD** appeared to **MOSES** in a **FLAME OF FIRE** out of the midst of a **BUSH THAT BURNED** but **WAS NOT CONSUMED BY THE FIRE!** *(Talk about your attention getters!)*

GOD called out to **MOSES** in *verse 4 and 5*, then revealed to **MOSES WHO HE** was in *verse 6*. In order for **MOSES** to **KNOW WHO GOD WAS**, it was of necessity that he be told of **GOD** at some point in his life! Notice how **GOD** first identified **HIMSELF**:

I. GOD IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS “THE GOD OF THY

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FATHER!” (i.e. AMRAM) (EXODUS 3:6, 15)

Parents, if **GOD** came to your children and identified **HIMSELF** as, **“the God of thy Father” or “the God of thy Mother”**, what image of **GOD** would be in your children’s mind? *(i.e. What I’m asking is this: How much do your children know of GOD from you?)*

I’m not just talking about **BIBLE** stories you told them and the stories of **FAITH** in the **BIBLE** you taught them. *(And don’t get me wrong, those are important!)* I’m talking about **your stories of FAITH in GOD!** The **TIMES** when you **LEANED UPON** or **TRUSTED GOD** in your life!

What is there in **YOUR LIFE** that stands out as a **MEMORIAL TO GOD?** Are there any **SPIRITUAL MEMORIALS** in your life that stand out to **REMINDE YOU** and **FOR YOU TO REMIND YOUR CHILDREN** and **GRANDCHILDREN** of **WHAT GOD HAS DONE IN YOUR LIFE?** *(e.g. In my own personal life... 4/11 each year, 2/17/1971, 6/14/2024, the first Saturday in June each year since 2002, 3/14/2013, November 1999)*

No doubt **MOSES** learned of **GOD** from his **FATHER AMRAM** and **MOTHER JOCHEBED**. They were people of faith! *Hebrews 11:23—“By faith Moses, when he was born, was hid three months of his parents, because they saw he was a proper child; and they were not afraid of the king’s commandment.”*

I personally believe that at least one of the reason’s that **MOSES DEVELOPED FAITH IN HIS LIFE** was because **HIS PARENT’S FAITH WAS REAL AND WAS COMMUNICATED TO HIM BY THEM!**

Our **FAITH** does little good to anyone, especially our families, if it is not **COMMUNICATED** both with our **LIPS** and with our **LIVES!**

Hebrews 11:24-26—“By faith Moses, when he was come to years,

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refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter. 25 Choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God, than to enjoy the pleasures of sin for a season; Esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt: for he had respect unto the recompence of the reward. 26 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king: for he endured, as seeing him who is invisible”

Listen, if **GOD** is not real enough in your own life for there to be **MEMORIALS** for you to **SHARE** about **HIM** and **WHAT HE HAS DONE FOR YOU** with your **children** and your **children’s children** and so on, then they will suffer for that!

MOSES didn’t have the **BOOK OF GENESIS** yet (**GOD** had not given it to him at this point!)

The **best way** that he could know of **WHO GOD** was, was from his parents! And the **best way** that his parents could know of **WHO GOD** was, was to be told by their parents and so on and so forth! *(Oh how we need such **GODLY LEGACIES!** If you didn’t have a **GODLY LEGACY**, be the beginning of a **GODLY LEGACY!**)*

We need to **TEACH** and **REMINDE** our children and our grandchildren of **WHO GOD IS!** **GOD** should be **REAL** enough in our lives that we have something to **TEACH** them! Again, I’m talking about more than just **BIBLE** stories of what **GOD** has done for others. I’m talking about **EXPERIENCES OF FAITH** in our own life!

MOSES had that! His mom and dad were able to share with him how they **TRUSTED GOD** enough to ignore the king’s command and to do everything in their power **BY FAITH** to save him alive! *(i.e. **THEY SHOWED THEIR FAITH BY THEIR WORKS!**)*

If **GOD** is not **REAL** and **ACTIVE** in your life, how can you expect

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him to become **REAL** to your children and grandchildren?

Oh, and by the way there came a time in the life of **ISRAEL** where the **MEMORIAL** of **WHO GOD IS** ceased to be passed down!

Judges 2:7-13

**II. GOD IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS THE GOD OF ABRAHAM!
(EXODUS 3:6, 15; GENESIS 12:1-3)**

Now that would have meant nothing had **MOSES** not heard the stories of how **GOD** worked in **ABRAHAM'S** life!

MOSES, no doubt, was taught of **GOD'S COVENANT** with **ABRAHAM** and how **GOD WAS MADE REAL TO ABRAHAM** time and time again! (Again, **GENESIS** had not been given yet!)

GOD eventually used **MOSES** to record the life of **ABRAHAM** as a **MEMORIAL TO ALL GENERATIONS! MEMORIALS ARE DESIGNED FOR US TO NOT FORGET, BUT REMEMBER!**

- A. The Stories Of GOD'S PROMISES Should Be Shared!**
- 1. The PROMISE Of A LAND! (12:1; 13:14-17)**
 - 2. The PROMISE Of A LINEAGE! (12:2; 15-18)**
 - 3. The PROMISE Of A LEGACY! (12:2-3; 17:1-8)**
- B. The Stories Of GOD'S PROVISION Should Be Shared!**
- 1. GOD PROVIDED A SON! (21:1)**
 - 2. GOD PROVIDED A SUBSTITUTE! (22)**
 - 3. GOD PROVIDED A SALVATION! (15:6)**
 - 4. GOD PROVIDED A SUCCESS! (24:1)**

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PROMISES, PROVISION...

- C. The Stories Of GOD'S POWER Should Be Shared!**
Everything **GOD PROMISED ABRAHAM HE** either has already fulfilled or has a plan whereby it will be fulfilled!
- D. The Stories Of GOD'S PRESENCE Should Be Shared!**
- 1. GOD Was With ABRAHAM When He Stayed!**
 - 2. GOD Was With ABRAHAM When He Strayed!**

**III. GOD IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS THE GOD OF ISAAC!
(EXODUS 3:6, 15; GENESIS 26:2-5)**

The **BLESSINGS** of **ISAAC** were tied to the **BLESSINGS** of **ABRAHAM!**

Genesis 25:5—“And Abraham gave all that he had unto Isaac.”

Genesis 25:11—“And it came to pass after the death of Abraham, that God blessed his son Isaac...”

ISAAC was the child of **PROMISE!** *Genesis 26:24*

**IV. GOD IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS THE GOD OF JACOB!
(EXODUS 3:6, 15; GENESIS 28:13-16; 35:9-12)**

The **BLESSINGS** of **JACOB** were tied to the **BLESSINGS** of **ISAAC**, which were tied to the **BLESSINGS** of **ABRAHAM!**

Notice especially the **PROMISE** given to **JACOB** in *Gen. 46:2-4!* **GOD** had already told **ABRAHAM** this was going to take place!
(See *Genesis 15:13-14*)

Do you see why it was so important for **GOD** to identify **HIMSELF** this way? The **ISRAELITES HOPE** to be **REDEEMED** out of bondage was tied to the **PROMISES** of the **GOD** of **ABRAHAM**, the **GOD** of **ISAAC** and the **GOD** of **JACOB!**

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**V. GOD IDENTIFIED HIMSELF AS “I AM THAT I AM!”
(EXODUS 3:13-14)**

When **GOD** gave **MOSES** the task of delivering **HIS PEOPLE** from the **EGYPTIAN BONDAGE**, he had some deep misgivings about what would happen if he went to his own people again and tried to deliver them from the **EGYPTIANS**. That’s because he had tried it once in his own way and had failed. (*Exodus 3:11*)

GOD assured **MOSES** that **HE** would be with him! (*Exodus 3:12*) Previously **MOSES** had not had **GOD’S DIRECTION**, **GOD’S MANIFEST PRESENCE IN HIS LIFE**, or **GOD’S POWER IN HIS LIFE!**

In his reluctance, **MOSES** made an inquiry of **GOD**. (*Exodus 3:13*)

The **CHILDREN OF ISRAEL** had been raised for 400 years in a polytheistic environment! There were all kinds of gods that the **EGYPTIANS** worshiped!

The name **GOD** used in referring to **HIMSELF** contained a message in itself! In **Old Testament** times names were especially significant.

As **GOD** revealed **HIMSELF** to **MOSES** as “**I AM THAT I AM**”, (*Vs 14*) **HE** was really giving a new revelation of **HIMSELF**. The voice simply declared **HIS** essential being but gave no explanation!

The words “**I AM**” are related to **GOD’S** name, “**JEHOVAH**.” The name, as do the words “**I AM**,” reveal that **GOD IS THE SELF-EXISTENT ONE! HE ALWAYS EXISTS—PAST, PRESENT, AND FUTURE!**

In their bondage they may have wondered what happened to the **GOD OF ABRAHAM**, the **GOD OF ISAAC**, and the **GOD OF JACOB**.

They had not known **HIS MANIFEST PRESENCE** in quite some

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time!

However, **GOD** was not dead, **HE** was not on some journey, **HE** was with them every step of the way during their time in **EGYPT** **PREPARING THEM FOR THE REDEMPTION HE HAD FOR THEM!**

GOD’S revelation of **HIMSELF** as “**I AM THAT I AM**” affirmed **HIS POWER** to **LEAD HIS PEOPLE** out of **EGYPT** and to bring them to the land **HE PROMISED** to **ABRAHAM!**

HE was revealing **HIMSELF** to them not only as the **GOD OF PROMISE**, but also as the **GOD WHO FULFILLS HIS PROMISES!** **HE** was the **GOD WHO** could and would meet **ALL OF THEIR NEEDS**, especially their **NEED FOR REDEMPTION!**

They needed to learn that the “**I AM**” was **IN CHARGE OF ALL** and **HE** was the **POWER FOR ALL!**

HE is the **SELF-SUFFICIENT GOD WHO** has no equal!

Conclusion

Notice the latter part of **Exodus 3:15**, “...and this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.”

MEMORIALS ARE FOR REMEMBERING!

When you are in a difficult time it’s hard to remember who **GOD** is sometime!

HE IS THE GOD OF ABRAHAM!

HE IS THE GOD OF ISAAC!

HE IS THE GOD OF JACOB!

HE IS THE “I AM THAT I AM” (The **SELF-EXISTENT ONE WHO IS SUFFICIENT** for whatever your **NEED** is today!)