

Cheltenham
Ps Rob Buckingham
17 & 18 Jan 2015

MOSES: MORE THAN A MOVIE (3)

DON'T MAKE EXCUSES, MAKE GOOD

Message Notes

Text: Exodus 3:1 - 4:17

Moses' Excuses

1. Who am I? (3:11)
2. Who are you? (3:13). Who shall I say has sent me?
3. What if they won't believe me? (4:1)
4. I can't speak eloquently enough (4:10): "But Moses pleaded with the Lord, "O Lord, I'm not very good with words. I never have been, and I'm not now, even though you have spoken to me. I get tongue-tied, and my words get tangled." This was an out and out lie because "Moses was educated in all the wisdom of the Egyptians and was powerful in speech and action" (Acts 7:22)

5. Please send someone else (4:13)

God's Responses

Notice how patient God is with Moses and how He provides an answer for each excuse:

1. The promise of presence: (3:12) "God answered, "I will be with you. And this is your sign that I am the one who has sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God at this very mountain."

2. The promise of authority: (3:14-15) "God replied to Moses, "I am who I am. Say this to the people of Israel: I am has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: Yahweh, the God of your ancestors—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you."

Phil 2:10 "...at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth..."

3. The promise of power: (4:1-9)

4. The promise of enablement: (4:12) "I will be with you as you speak, and I will instruct you in what to say." Luke 12:11-12, "When they bring you before the synagogues and the rulers and the authorities, do not worry about how or what you are to speak in your defence, or what you are to say; for the Holy Spirit will teach you in that very hour what you ought to say."

5. The promise of partnership: (4:14-17)

When you think you're ready you're probably not. When you think you're not ready you probably are!

What excuses have you been making that are holding you back? What decisions have you been putting off? If you don't decide now when will you decide? If it doesn't change now when will it change?