

God's Answer to the Excuses of Moses

Exodus 4:1-17

Introduction:

- A. The burning bush at Mt. Horeb (Sinai).
- B. God's difficult mission for Moses – deliver Israel from Egypt.
 - 1. Moses' age - 80 years old.
 - 2. Israel must be persuaded.
 - 3. Pharaoh must be persuaded.
- C. Moses' two excuses and God's answers:

Discussion:

I. “They Will Not Believe me...” (v. 1)

- A. God gave Moses power to confirm his claim that God had appeared to him (vv. 2-9)
- B. God gave men power to confirm revelations in every age.
 - 1. Jesus claimed deity – confirmed by signs (John 20:30, 31).
 - 2. Apostles and prophets claimed revelation from God – confirmed by miracles (Mark 16:19, 20; Heb. 2:3,4)
- C. God's revelation is now complete (Jude 3).
 - 1. Written by men who confirmed their claims to revelation by signs.
 - 2. After revelation was complete miracles ceased (1 Cor. 13:8-13).
- D. God will give us what we need to fulfill his mission for us.
 - 1. May not want to teach neighbor because they will not believe.
 - 2. We have more than our word, we have the Bible.
 - 3. If they will not believe the Bible they would not believe a miracle. (Luke 16:29-31)

II. “I Am Not Eloquent ... Slow of Speech” (v. 10)

- A. God rebukes Moses (vv. 11, 12)
 - 1. God knew his weakness before he called him.
 - 2. God can use lesser talented people – if they do their best.
 - 3. God can make great people of lesser talented – if they will just obey him.
- B. God gives Moses a spokesman (prophet - 7:1).
 - 1. God would not be denied His purpose by Moses' excuses.
 - 2. God will accomplish his purpose in spite of us – but we are the losers.
 - a. May excuse ourselves from worship and work – God's work will still go on.
 - b. May excuse ourselves from daily responsibilities – God's purpose will prevail – we lose.
- C. We may have problems with speaking to others about the gospel.
 - 1. Can invite them to come to services.
 - 2. Can invite to listen to the radio.
 - 3. Can give them a tract, booklet or paper.

Conclusion:

- A. Let us obey God without excuse.
- B. Obstacles can be overcome with God's help.