

Exo 3:11-4:13 – Moshe Responds (ultimately) to YHVH as a Debtor

NOT FINISHED

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Introduction

This article is about reviewing how Moshe’s responds to God at the burning bush. I’m taking it from the critical perspective of how not to behave like a creditor. A creditor asks questions and does not make statements and further the questions need to be reasonable with the intent of solving problems.

Moshe starts out fine but then he is judged by YHVH at the end causing him to be angry with Moshe.^A

Response 1: question #1 - Who am I?

[13:11](#) And Moses said unto God,

“Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

Response 2: question #2 – What *is* God’s name?

[13:13](#) And Moses said unto God,

“Behold, when I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What is his name? what shall I say unto them?”

^A The content of for much of this article was copied from “Exo-03-to-4-13-Moses-and-the-Burning-Bush” article #999 and “Exo-04-14-to-6-1-VaYeled-Moshe-Then-Moses-Departed” article #1001.

Response 3 statement #1 – They won’t believe me, nor listen to me

14:1 And Moses answered and said,

“But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, YHVH hath not appeared unto thee.”

Response 4: statement #2 – They won’t believe me, nor listen to me

14:10 And Moses said unto YHVH,

“O my LORD (יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי), I am not eloquent (אִישׁ ^{ish H582 man} דְּבָרִים ^{de· va· Rim}), neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.”

Response 5: statement #3 – Send someone else

14:13 And he said,

“O my LORD (יְיָ אֱלֹהֵי), send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.”

YHVH’s Responses

2 And YHVH said unto him,

“What is that in thine hand?”

And he said,

“A rod (מִטָּה ^{mat· the}).”

3 And he said,

“Cast it on the ground (אֶרְצָה ^{Ar· tzah}).”

And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent (לִנְחָשׁ ^{le· na· Chash}); and Moses fled from before it. **4** And YHVH said unto Moses,

“Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail.”

And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand: **5** That they may believe that YHVH God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

His hand is leprous.

6 And YHVH said furthermore unto him,

“Put now thine hand into thy bosom. “

And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow. ⁷ And he said,

“Put thine hand into thy bosom again.”

And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.

⁸ “And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign. ⁹ And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land.”

¹¹ And YHVH said unto him,

“Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I YHVH? ¹² Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.”

¹⁴ And the anger of YHVH was kindled against Moses, and he said,

“Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart. ¹⁵ And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach (**וְהוֹרִיתִי** ^{ve·ho·rei·Ti}) **אֵת** ^B you what ye shall do. ¹⁶ And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God. ¹⁷ And thou shalt take this rod ^C (**הַמִּטָּה** ^{ham·mat·Teh}) in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs (**הָאֵתֹת** ^{ha·'o·Tot·signs}).” ^D

^B ...“I will teach *etchem et taasun*”... there is actually two Strong’s #H853 that aren’t translated. See e-Sword notes below.

^C YHVH is telling Moses to “take this rod” Which rod? The one Moses (presumably) came with, or a special one given to him by YHVH “wherewith thou shalt do signs”?

^D Because of the complaint by Moshe, YHVH puts a religious man in between himself and YHVH. The point is that the priest of Aharon was not YHVH's initial plan, but came to be as a result Moshe's persistent arguing and complaining. Isn't this the subject matter of Hebrew that everybody misses. If it is true that the book of Hebrew is about removing this layer (the Aharonic Priesthood) away from us, then, I would argue, we can draw closer to YHVH.

You get the government you deserve. It's interesting that when YHVH wanted to draw close to the nation of Israel, they freaked out and made Moshe the intervener ^{Exo 19:18}. In defense of Moshe, he is simply reflecting the attitude and disbelief of Israel.

Moshe's Questions to God at the Burning Bush

1. Who am I? Exo 3:11
2. What *is* his (The God of your Fathers) name? What shay I say unto them Exo3:13
3. [What will I say to them when they say YHVH has not appeared to him that?] They won't believe me nor listen to my voice Exo 4:1
4. [How can I overcome my speech inadequacies?] Exo 4:10
5. [Send someone else] [Exo 4:13]

Exo 3:11 KJV And Moses said unto God, Who *am* I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

Exo 3:13 KJV And Moses said unto God, Behold, *when* I come unto the children of Israel, and shall say unto them, The God of your fathers hath sent me unto you; and they shall say to me, What *is* his name? what shall I say unto them?

Exo 4:1 KJV And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.

Exo 4:10 KJV And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I *am* not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I *am* slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

Exo 4:13 KJV And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand *of him whom* thou wilt send.