

I am who I am

Exodus 3:14

God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’”

God has just come to Moses in open country in a bush that was on fire but never fully burned. It is through that bush that speaks to Moses. God tells Moses that He wants Moses to go and lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Moses makes all kind excuses why he is not equipped to do this job. One of the attempts at wiggling out of the assignment is what to say about who sent him when Moses encounters the King of Egypt as well as the leaders of Israel.

This is when God tells Moses that “I Am Who I Am” has sent him (Moses). This name expressed God’s character as the dependable and faithful God who desires the full trust of His people. It means “He is” or “He will be.” The name comes from a verb form in the Hebrew language that means “cause to happen.” In the context of God’s kindness and his promises to his OT people, the name can be translated “The one who makes the good things happen.”

To Moses and to the Israelites these qualities which God revealed here were to reassure God’s people that the promises of grace and mercy given to their fathers were still in effect. God had not forgotten them. Now, He is about to demonstrate to the Israelites that every one of these gracious promises would be fulfilled.

Jesus applied the phrase to himself; in so doing he claimed to be God. Hebrews 13:8 assures us the dependability of Christ and His works when it states: “Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever.”

That means that Jesus was there at beginning of the world and not some recent invention. It also means that the salvation for our sins with His suffering, death and resurrection is always ours. There will be no change of mind on His part.

As He spoke to Moses, God speaks to us through His Word. In that Word, we find comfort and strength for each day.

Just as God did not forget the Israelites in their misery of being mistreated slaves in Egypt, He never forgets us in the things that may afflict us in our daily lives. He is always right there beside us as we go through our lives.

Dear Lord, thank you for not letting us live in the misery of our sins but coming to earth to life, die and rise again. Thank you for the assurance that you never forget us and the needs we have every day of our lives. Help us to find you in our daily devotions and receive your comfort. Amen