

**THE PERSON GOD  
USES AND CHOOSES...  
DESPITE THE  
EXCUSES!!**



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**WHAT WERE THE EXCUSES  
MOSES TOLD GOD?**

**THERE WERE 5 IN TOTAL**

**First 2 were:**

**Exodus 3:11-12 → Moses felt incapable and unqualified**

**Exodus 3:13-22 → Moses felt the people were ignorant of God and would be skeptical of his power to help them**

# Exodus 4:1 King James Version

(3rd excuse)

**1** 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.

# **What Moses feared was personal rejection**

**→ he feared they would deny his  
call and mission**

**→ he didn't think they would believe  
God appeared to him**

**→ he thought the people wouldn't believe  
God's message of freedom and deliverance  
from slavery was actually from God**

## **Romans 10:17 King James Version**

**17** So then faith cometh by hearing,  
and hearing by the word of God.

**God, of course, has an answer  
to Moses' excuse**

## **Exodus 4:2-5 King James Version**

**2** And the Lord said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod.

**3** And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it.

**4** And the Lord 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 the Lord God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

**These are the start of the  
miraculous signs that God  
performs to prove his power**

**BUT WHY A SERPENT AND A ROD?**

**TO SHOW GOD'S POWER  
OVER PHARAOH AND  
HIS GOVERNMENT!**

**Pharaoh actually wore  
the emblem of a snake on his  
crown as a symbol of  
power and rule**

**EGYPT AND ITS AUTHORITY  
ONLY EXISTED BECAUSE  
GOD ALLOWED IT!!**

## **1 Chronicles 29:12 King James Version**

**12** Both riches and honour come of thee, and thou reignest over all; and in thine hand is power and might; and in thine hand it is to make great, and to give strength unto all.

## **2 Chronicles 20:6 King James Version**

**6** And said, O Lord God of our fathers, art not thou God in heaven? and rulest not thou over all the kingdoms of the heathen? and in thine hand is there not power and might, so that none is able to withstand thee?



## **Proverbs 21:1 King James Version**

**1** The king's heart is in the hand of the Lord, as the rivers of water: he turneth it whithersoever he will.

**First sign completed**

## **Exodus 4:6-8 King James Version**

**6** And the Lord 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.**

**Leprosy was one of the most feared  
diseases of the ancient world**

**(This may not be the leprosy,  
or Hansen's disease,  
that we know of today)**

**IT HAD NO HUMAN CURE**

**WHY DID GOD STRIKE  
MOSES'S HAND WITH  
LEPROSY?**

**TO SHOW HIS POWER  
OVER HEALTH & DISEASE,  
LIFE & DEATH!**



**This was intended to  
stir belief among the  
people not to reject  
the Lord or his prophets**

## **Exodus 15:26 King James Version**

**26** And said, If thou wilt diligently hearken to the voice of the Lord thy God, and wilt do that which is right in his sight, and wilt give ear to his commandments, and keep all his statutes, I will put none of these diseases upon thee, which I have brought upon the Egyptians: for I am the Lord that healeth thee.

## **Deuteronomy 7:15 (KJV)**

**15** And the Lord will take away from thee all sickness, and will put none of the evil diseases of Egypt, which thou knowest, upon thee; but will lay them upon all them that hate thee.

**2nd sign completed**

## **Exodus 4:9 (KJV)**

**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.

**WHY DID GOD USE THE  
NILE RIVER TO TURN  
WATER INTO BLOOD?**

# **TO SHOW HIS POWER OVER:**

**→ the basic necessities of life**

**→ GOD was the source of these necessities**

**→ GOD, not the king or pharaoh, controlled the food and water supply of the land**

## **Matthew 6:31-33 (KJV)**

**31** Therefore take no thought, saying, What shall we eat? or, What shall we drink? or, Wherewithal shall we be clothed?

**32** For after all these things do the Gentiles seek: for your heavenly Father knoweth that ye have need of all these things.

**33** But seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you.



## **Exodus 23:25 (KJV)**

**25** And ye shall serve the Lord your God, and he shall bless thy bread, and thy water; and I will take sickness away from the midst of thee.

**3rd sign completed**

# God uses signs to:

→ demonstrate his power

→ give assurance/confidence to his believers

→ stir repentance and belief

→ point to the fulfillment of his word

→ Issue a warning

**We've just seen 3 signs that God performed**

**→ Pay close attention to how the first two signs dealt with Moses hands**

**GOD CAN USE WHAT'S IN YOUR  
HANDS BETTER THAN YOU CAN!!!**

## **Exodus 4:10-12 (KJV)**

### **(4th excuse)**

**10** 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.

**11** And the Lord 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 the Lord? **12** Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

**Moses tells GOD he's not a gifted  
public speaker**

**→ He takes it a step further by  
saying he's never been good  
at public speaking**

**God, of course, has an answer  
to Moses' excuse**



**GOD IS THE ONE WHO GIVES US THE  
ABILITY TO SPEAK, SEE AND HEAR!!**

**Luke 12:12 (KJV)**

**12** For the Holy Ghost shall teach you in the same hour what ye ought to say.

## **John 16:13 (KJV)**

**13** Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth: for he shall not speak of himself; but whatsoever he shall hear, that shall he speak: and he will shew you things to come.

## **Isaiah 50:4 (KJV)**

**4 The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary: he wakeneth morning by morning, he wakeneth mine ear to hear as the learned.**

## **Exodus 4:13-17 (KJV)**

**(5th and final excuse)**

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

**14** And the anger of the Lord 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 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 in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.

**Point blank Moses tells God he  
doesn't want to go and to send  
someone else**

**THIS SOUNDS JUST LIKE US!!!**



**By saying this, Moses:**

**→ refused to do what God wanted**

**→ refused to be God's messenger**

**→ refused to declare the message of salvation and deliverance to Israel**

**What is God's response to this  
final excuse from Moses?**

**RIGHTEOUS ANGER!!!**

- No more excuses from Moses, as God speaks**
- 5 commands that will happen:**
- Aaron will be the spokesman**
  - Aaron was coming to meet his brother and would rejoice for the reunion**
  - The Word of God was to be shared among them**
  - God speaks to Moses, Moses to Aaron, Aaron to the people (chain of command)**
  - Moses was to take the rod and perform signs with it (not Aaron)**

**WHEN GOD CALLED MOSES,  
HE WAS BUSY  
WORKING/TENDING A  
GREAT FLOCK OF SHEEP**

**MOSES CAME UP WITH 5  
EXCUSES TO TRY AND NOT  
ANSWER GOD'S CALL**

**WHEN ALL THAT FAILS,  
WHAT HAPPENS?**

**WHAT IS THE END RESULT??**

**OBEDIENCE**

## **Exodus 4:18-20 (KJV)**

**18** And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him, Let me go, I pray thee, and return unto my brethren which are in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive. And Jethro said to Moses, Go in peace.

**19** And the Lord said unto Moses in Midian, Go, return into Egypt: for all the men are dead which sought thy life. **20** And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand.



**Moses asks permission from his  
father-in-law to return to Egypt**

**HE DIDN'T ABANDON  
HIS FAMILY!!!**

**Moses didn't boast about his  
calling, or act super-spiritual**

## **Romans 12:3 (KJV)**

**3** For I say, through the grace given unto me, to every man that is among you, not to think of himself more highly than he ought to think; but to think soberly, according as God hath dealt to every man the measure of faith.

## **1 Peter 5:5 (KJV)**

**5 Likewise, ye younger, submit yourselves unto the elder. Yea, all of you be subject one to another, and be clothed with humility: for God resisteth the proud, and giveth grace to the humble.**

**God gave Moses assurance that all  
his enemies in Egypt were dead  
(remember what happened  
40 years earlier)**

**THE PERSON GOD USES AND  
CHOOSES...IS PROTECTED WHEN  
THEY ARE OBEDIENT TO HIM!!!!**

## **Exodus 19:5 (KJV)**

**5** Now therefore, if ye will obey my voice indeed, and keep my covenant, then ye shall be a peculiar treasure unto me above all people: for all the earth is mine:

## **Deut 4:30-31 (KJV)**

**30** When thou art in tribulation, and all these things are come upon thee, even in the latter days, if thou turn to the Lord thy God, and shalt be obedient unto his voice;

**31** (For the Lord thy God is a merciful God;) he will not forsake thee, neither destroy thee, nor forget the covenant of thy fathers which he sware unto them.



## **Exodus 4:21-23 (KJV)**

**21** And the Lord said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.

**22** And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the Lord, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:

**23** And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.

## **Exodus 4:27-31 (KJV)**

**27** And the Lord said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him.

**28** And Moses told Aaron all the words of the Lord who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.

**29** And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:

**30** And Aaron spake all the words which the Lord had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.

**31** And the people believed: and when they heard that the Lord had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

**DESPITE OUR EXCUSES, GOD HAS  
CHOSEN US AND WILL USE TO  
SPREAD HIS GOSPEL!!!!**

**LET US END UP LIKE MOSES,  
BEING OBEDIENT AND  
PROTECTED WHEN WE  
ANSWER GOD'S CALL!!!**

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USES AND CHOOSES...  
DESPITE THE  
EXCUSES!!**

