

Mini Bible Reading

Featuring

the story of

Moses and the Burning Bush

prepared by

Christina A. Huffman

For family worships, evening entertainment,
and private performances in the home.

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Introduction and Notes

For four readers (Narrator, Moses, The LORD, and Jethro). The reading is intended to be “acted out” in voice only.

Each reader may wish to highlight his or her part. The narrator and “the LORD” have the most reading. These are appropriate for good readers. Jethro only has three words so you might give his part to a new reader.

A dramatized Bible reading is intended to make the stories of the Bible come alive and help the readers put themselves in the place of the characters in the story. Both readers and listeners may find that the characters and events seem more real when they or their family members are cast in the story.

While such readings are intended to be interesting and somewhat recreational they should be handled with reverence.

The text for this dramatized Bible reading comes from Exodus 3:1-22 and Exodus 4: 1-18, AV/KJV. In preparing the reading I have made several changes to the text:

1. I have removed verse numbers and eliminated versification.
2. Verses begin with uppercase letters even when in the middle of the sentence. Since there are no longer any verses I have changed the uppercase letters to lowercase.
3. I have removed cumbersome references to who is saying what (“and he said”) when it is obvious without this reference who is speaking.
4. I have occasionally modernized punctuation when there is no danger of it interfering with the meaning of the text (punctuation in the Bible is supplied based on the perceived meaning of the text, not directly translated). I do not guarantee that the new punctuation is grammatically correct but I think it will prove less confusing than the translators' punctuation would be in this particular format.

I have not made any other changes to the wording because I want the reading to be an aid in memorization of the Bible and I do not want to get into paraphrasing.

Master Copy

Narrator: Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb. And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed. And Moses said,

Moses: I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

Narrator: And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said,

The LORD: Moses, Moses.

Moses: Here am I.

The LORD: Draw not nigh hither. Put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.

Narrator: And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look upon God. And the LORD said,

The LORD: I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

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

The LORD: Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: when thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

Moses: 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?

The LORD: I AM THAT I AM. Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you. Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath sent me unto you. This is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt: And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

And they shall hearken to thy voice, and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us, and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand. And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof, and after that he will let you go. And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty, but every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment, and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

Moses: But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice, for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.

The LORD: What is that in thine hand?

Moses: A rod.

The LORD: Cast it on the ground.

Narrator: And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it.

The LORD: Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail.

Narrator: And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand.

The LORD: 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.

Put now thine hand into thy bosom.

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

The LORD: Put thine hand into thy bosom again.

Narrator: 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.

The LORD: 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.

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.

Moses: 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.

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

Moses: O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.

Narrator: And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said,

The LORD: 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. 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.

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. And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.

Narrator: And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him,

Moses: Let me go, I pray thee, and return unto my brethren which are in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive.

Narrator: And Jethro said to Moses,

Jethro: Go in peace.

~ The End~

Narrator's Copy

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The LORD: I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows; and I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey; unto the place of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites.

Now therefore, behold, the cry of the children of Israel is come unto me and I have also seen the oppression wherewith the Egyptians oppress them. Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

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Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt: And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

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And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand. And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof, and after that he will let you go. And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty, but every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment, and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

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Narrator: And Jethro said to Moses,

Jethro: Go in peace.

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Jethro: Go in peace.

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Copy for the Reader Who Is Reading the LORD's Part

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