

Exodus 4 Powerful Signs

Exodus 4: 1-17 God prepares Moses for his interactions with Pharaoh and equips him with powerful signs of God's glory and power. These signs focus on and are framed by references to his staff. These signs – staff to snake, hand becoming leprous, and water to blood represent the realms of the plagues to come.

Moses ran from the snake but showed faithfulness when told to grasp its tail. These signs show God's favor with Moses as well as the power of God. God also gives Moses assurance in allowing Aaron to speak on his behalf. God can heal his hand as well as his speech and thought. God is angered by Moses asking for his brother to speak, but God accommodates his request.

God instructs Moses as to what to say, and Moses will instruct Aaron. This was a common practice Moses would have been familiar with as Pharaoh used a spokesperson to speak on his behalf. Moses is to be the mediator between God and all involved.

Exodus 4: 18-31 Moses Returns from Midian to Egypt

The Lord informs Moses it is not only time to return to Egypt but also it is safe as his accusers are dead. Moses is warned that regardless of what Pharaoh hears or sees, he will remain hard of heart. Pharaoh believes he is god and will have to learn the hard way he is not. Israel, the Hebrew people, have been in Egypt for 400 years. Moses is to tell Pharaoh that Israel is His firstborn, His beloved. He is remembering the covenant He made with Abraham. He will bring His people to the land promised to their ancestors. Pharaoh will ignore all of this.

Moses had not circumcised his son, and this angered the Lord. The ACT OF NOT RENEWING THE COVENANT WOULD LEAD TO THE DEATH OF ISRAEL. Zipporah saves Moses through the act of circumcising her son. Moses then told Aaron all that God had said to him, and they met at the mountain of God – Mt. Sinai. They then gathered the elders together, explained to them the actions of God, and they believed and worshipped.