

# For Discussion 3:6-12

Theme	First Cycle, 1:1-4:18	Second Cycle, 4:19-40:38
Entering Egypt	1:1-7, Eleven tribes go to Egypt & multiply	4:19-31, Moses returns to Egypt with his family
Oppression	1:8-22, Pharaoh oppresses Israel	5:1-23, Oppression increases
Leaders raised up	2:1-4, Moses born	6:1-27, Moses & Aaron appointed
Moses & Pharaoh	2:5-10, Moses as a son	6:28-13:16, Moses as a deliverer
Travel to Horeb	2:11-15, Moses flees to Midian	13:17-17:7, Israel from Egypt to Sinai
Conflict	2:16-17, Moses overcomes shepherds	17:8-16, Moses overcomes Amalek
Moses and Jethro	2:18-22, Moses' Midianite family	18:1-27, Moses' Midianite family
Encounter with God at Horeb	2:23-4:18, Moses to "serve God upon this mountain," 3:12	19:1-40:38, At Horeb, Israel enters covenant with God

- What is unusual about how God identifies himself in 3:6?
- How does Moses respond to this identification, and why?
- How does 3:7-9 develop 2:23-25?
- What does God promise to do in 3:8a?
- Which part of the summary does 3:8b recall, and what is the significance of this linkage?
- What apparent contradiction is there between 3:8a and 3:10?
- How is this tension resolved?
- Are people in the Bible usually comfortable with the work that God gives them to do?
- How does God encourage them?
- In what circumstances does God promise to be with his people?

# The Literary Form of a Theophany (Appearance of God to Man)

1	Introductory description in the third person	3:1–4a
2	Deity's utterance of the name of the (mortal) addressee	3:4b
3	Response of the addressee	3:4c
4	Deity's self declaration	3:5-6
5	Deity quells human fear	3:7-9
6	Assertion of his gracious presence	
7	The divine word addressed to the particular situation	3:10
8	Inquiry or protest by the addressee	3:11
9	Continuation of the divine word with perhaps some repetition of elements 4, 5, 6, 7, and/or 8	3:12- 4:17
10	Concluding description in the third person	4:18

## **Theophany #4, self-declaration: 3:6, God of thy Father (!)**

Exo 3:15 ... 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:

Kuntz, *The Self-Revelation of God*, 1965, modified by Niehaus, *God at Sinai*, 1995 and Stuart, *Exodus*, 2006

# Theophany #5, #6: Exod 3:7-9 Expounds 2:23-25

## Exodus 3

7 And the LORD said, I have surely **seen *ra-ah*** the affliction of my people which are in Egypt,

and have **heard** their cry by reason of their taskmasters;

for I **know *yada*** their sorrows;

8 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**. [Gen 15:18-21]

9 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.

## Exodus 2

23 ... the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and **their cry came up unto God** by reason of the bondage.

24 And God **heard** their groaning,

and God remembered his **covenant** with **Abraham**, with **Isaac**, and with **Jacob**.

25 And God **looked *ra-ah*** upon the children of Israel, and God **had respect *yada*** unto them.

Gen 15:18 In the same day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, Unto thy seed have I given this land, from the river of Egypt unto the great river, the river Euphrates: 19 The Kenites, and the Kenizzites, and the Kadmonites, 20 And the **Hittites**, and the **Perizzites**, and the Rephaims, 21 And the Amorites, and the **Canaanites**, and the Girgashites, and the **Jebusites**.

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### Theophany #7: Divine Word 3:10 **Come Go now therefore ...**

Exo 3:16 **Go**, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, ...

Exo 4:12 Now therefore **go**, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

### 3:10 **my people the children of Israel**

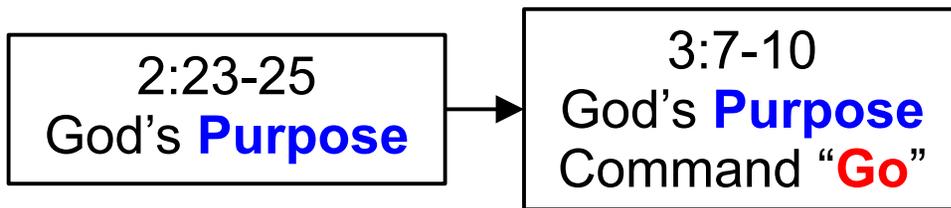
Ex. 1:9 And he said unto his people, Behold, **the people of the children of Israel** are more and mightier than we:

### Theophany #8: Protest by Human

Jdg 6:14 And the LORD looked upon him, and said, **Go in this thy might**, and thou shalt save Israel from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee? 15 And he said unto him, **Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel?** behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house.

Jer 1:4 Then the word of the LORD came unto me, saying, 5 ... **I ordained thee a prophet** unto the nations. 6 Then said I, **Ah, Lord GOD! behold, I cannot speak: for I am a child.**

# The Flow of 2:23-4:17

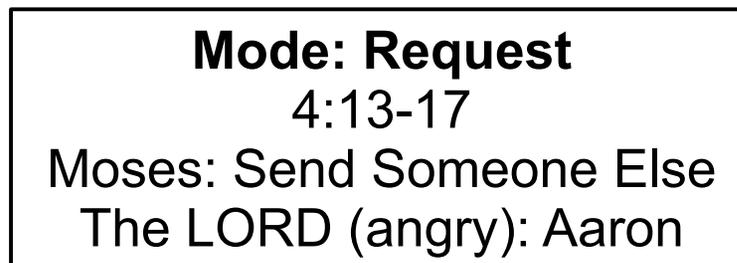


## 3:11 Who am I?

1Sa 18:18 And David said unto Saul, **Who am I?** and what is my life, or my father's family in Israel, that I should be son in law to the king?

2Sa 7:18 Then went king David in, and sat before the LORD, and he said, **Who am I,** O Lord GOD? and what is my house, that thou hast brought me hitherto?

Mode	Question		Statement
Focus	God Said ...		The LORD Said ...
Moses	3:11-12 Moses: Who am I? God: <b>I will be with</b> you.		4:10-12 Moses: I cannot speak The LORD: <b>Go, I will be with</b> your mouth
The People	3:13-15 Moses: ( <b>They</b> will ask) What is his name? God: The LORD God of your fathers		4:1-9 Moses: <b>They</b> will not believe The LORD: Three signs
3:16-22 <b>Go</b> + God's <b>Purpose</b>			



**3:12 I will be with thee ... :**

### **1) Danger**

Gen 21:20 And **God was with the lad**; and he grew, and dwelt in the wilderness, and became an archer.

Gen 21:22 And it came to pass at that time, that Abimelech and Phichol the chief captain of his host spake unto Abraham, saying, **God is with thee** in all that thou doest:

Gen 26:3 Sojourn in this land, and **I will be with thee**, and will bless thee; for unto thee, and unto thy seed, I will give all these countries, and I will perform the oath which I swear unto Abraham thy father;

### **Danger, with “Fear Not”**

Gen. 26:24 And the LORD appeared unto him the same night, and said, I am the God of Abraham thy father: **fear not, for I am with thee**, and will bless thee, and multiply thy seed for my servant Abraham’s sake.

Act 18:9 Then spake the Lord to Paul in the night by a vision, **Be not afraid**, but speak, and hold not thy peace: 10 For **I am with thee**, and no man shall set on thee to hurt thee: for I have much people in this city.

### **I will be with thee ... : 2) A Journey**

Gen 28:15 And, behold, **I am with thee**, and will keep thee in all places whither thou goest, and will bring thee again into this land;

Gen 31:3 And the LORD said unto Jacob, Return unto the land of thy fathers, and to thy kindred; and **I will be with thee**.

Gen 46:4 **I will go down with thee** into Egypt; and I will also surely bring thee up again: ...

### 3:12 I will be with thee ... : 3) A Task

Deu 31:7 And Moses called unto Joshua, and said unto him in the sight of all Israel, Be strong and of a good courage: for thou must go with this people unto the land which the LORD hath sworn unto their fathers to give them; and **thou shalt cause them to inherit it.** 8 And the LORD, he it is that doth go before thee; **he will be with thee**, he will not fail thee, neither forsake thee: **fear not**, neither be dismayed.

Jdg 6:14 And the LORD looked upon [Gideon], and said, Go in this thy might, and **thou shalt save Israel** from the hand of the Midianites: have not I sent thee? 15 And he said unto him, Oh my Lord, wherewith shall I save Israel? behold, my family is poor in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house. 16 And the LORD said unto him, Surely **I will be with thee**, and thou shalt smite the Midianites as one man.

### 3:12 I will be with thee ... NT

Jhn 8:29 And **he that sent me is with me**: the Father hath not left me alone; for I do always those things that please him.

Jhn 16:32 Behold, the hour cometh, yea, is now come, that ye shall be scattered, every man to his own, and shall leave me alone: and yet I am not alone, because **the Father is with me.**

Mat 28:18 And Jesus came and spake unto them, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. 19 **Go** ye therefore, and **teach** all nations, **baptizing** them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost: 20 **Teaching** them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you: and, lo, **I am with you** alway, even unto the end of the world.