

# The Promises Of God: He Rescues His People

Exodus 3:14

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More than 3000 years ago there was a named Jacob. His grandfather Abraham was called the father of their faith. Jacob had twelve sons, the next to the youngest son was Joseph. He was sold into slavery in Egypt. This country was the center of the world. There was an army that had not been defeated. The ruler was called Pharaoh. He was considered a god. The people worshipped other false gods for everything from the sun to fertility. Joseph, even as a slave, rose to the second most important position in Egypt after Pharaoh. When Jacob and Joseph's brothers were threatened by a famine, they came to Egypt and were reunited with Joseph. They lived in the most lush part of Egypt and their families grew over many generations.

They were called Hebrews and they became more populous than the Egyptians. That was when a new Pharaoh made the Hebrew people slaves. They were in Egypt for 400 years until the fear grew so great that another Pharaoh ordered that all the male babies under two years old be killed. Now Pharaoh had a daughter. While she was by the Nile River she spotted a basket which had a baby boy. She raised this baby boy and named him Moses. For forty years Moses lived as a prince of Egypt. He enjoyed all the pleasures of Egypt and its power. Then one day he discovered an Egyptian abusing a Hebrew. Moses killed the Egyptian, buried his body, and then because Pharaoh wanted to kill him, Moses escaped to a place called Midian. He met a woman there, married her, had children, and became a shepherd.

He lived there for about another forty years until one day he saw an amazing thing. There was a bush that was on fire but it wasn't burning up. That was when the Lord, who they called Yahweh, the name that means the God who created us for relationship, spoke to Moses. The Lord said, "Take off your sandals, this is a holy place." Moses not only took off his sandals, but bowed down in fear and awe. The Lord or Yahweh told Moses that He had heard the cries of the people. They were seeking God's rescue from slavery and its brutality. Yahweh let Moses know that he would lead the Hebrew people out of slavery and to the promised land. Moses, not being so sure what to do, asked what's your name?

***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.' " Exodus 3:14 (NIV)***

**The Lord God, Yahweh Elohim, creator and covenant maker will rescue His people.** When Elohim speaks the words I AM He is telling us that He is the God who is greater than Pharaoh and all the false gods of Egypt. He is the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He is the God of the people of Israel. He is the God who can cause the rain to fall for forty days, destroy all those who are unfaithful, and repopulate the earth.

He is the God who creates languages. He is the God who spoke the words so that birds appeared in the skies, animals appeared on land, creatures appeared in the seas. He is the God who made the land, the sky, the sea. He is the God who spoke light into existence. He is the God, Elohim, who formed a man out of the ground, breathed life into the man, took out a rib and created a woman to be a helpmate for the man. He is the God who entered a covenant with His creation.

He is the God who can turn the Nile to blood; bring locusts, frogs, boils as plagues; kill the cattle in the fields; and bring about the death of every first born male Egyptian. He is the God who can separate the sea, make dry land, and then close the sea and drown Pharaoh's army. He is the God who can bring water out of a rock, cause manna to fall on the ground each morning, quail to appear each day, clothes to never wear out, and lead the people to the promised land.

The Lord God, Yahweh Elohim, is the only God, the living God, the creator God, the sustainer God, and the God who makes and keeps His promises, the God who rescues His people, and the God who is so completely different than anything on the earth or above that earth that He is holy.

He is to be held in the greatest awe; feared for His majestic glory, and obeyed due to His complete capacity to provide. He is the only one worthy to judge and to rescue. He is the one who can see the past, the present, and future at the same time. He was before there was anything. He is here now. He will be forever. He is the first. He is the last. There is no one like Him. He reintroduces Himself in new ways with every appearance. He is making Himself own as He is. He exists, He is alive. He alone can hold these titles. This is the name by which He wants to be known. He is I AM.

***This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.' Exodus 3:14 (NIV)***

**We are our own worst enemy and we are always in need of rescue.** Sometimes we need to be rescued from our circumstances. We've been there. We've found ourselves in financial trouble and need to be rescued. We've sat in the doctor's office or the Emergency Room needing to be rescued. We've been surround by noise, chaos, children and adults needing to be rescued. The car your driving is in a crash and you need to be rescued. The dog is chasing you down the street, you need to be rescued. The bully is taking your lunch and your money, you need to be rescued. The Mormons are at the door and you need to be rescued. You're on the top rung of the ladder, the wind is blowing, you need to be rescued.

But then there are the moments we need to be rescued from ourselves. This is when our bad thinking, our poor decision making has gotten us in trouble. You've lied to your parents. You've taken something from your brother. You've cheated on the test. Your brain has you chasing your tail. You need to be rescued.

You've slurped down so much coffee that you're anxious and irritable all the time. You've been angry for so long that you don't know how to be happy. You've told so many lies, so many stories that no one believes you. You've been so mad that when the car won't start you slam the door and break the window. You believe that bad things are going to happen and all you see is the bad stuff. Your heart is set on being liked so you've become a leaf in the breeze. You think your worth nothing as a result you do nothing. You believe your only value comes from proving everyone else is wrong. You need to be rescued.

The great I AM is the only God who can always rescue. Regardless of your circumstances or your thinking God can rescue you. You are not doomed. There is hope for you. But you are not your hope.

The God who calls Himself I AM is your hope. He will meet you in any situation. He will by His authority over all things and His power to do all things will bring about what is good. He will rescue you. His power will be released into your life. He will provide a way out and a way through. He will give you knowledge and wisdom. He will open your eyes to see. He will speak to your heart and give you peace. Nothing is impossible for Him. Through Him all things are possible. He is the I AM.

***This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.' Exodus 3:14 (NIV)***

**Since God is God and we aren't we are free to trust Him.** This past week I've been wrestling with some issues trying to be God. When I say this I mean that I'm trying to be in control. I'm trying to make people do what I want. This has caused great stress, anxiety, and suffering. Three days in a row I was hit with a migraine. If you've had a migraine hit is the right word. The pain, at least for me, is debilitating. I become useless, powerless, and in bed.

I wasn't trusting God with my situation. My thinking or my plan wasn't inline with God's thinking and plans. I needed to be rescued. Once I decided to trust God, calling upon Jesus I was set free. Being in control didn't matter. I let God take charge of the situation and my thinking.

As I look back it's amazing how that simple choice delivered me, rescued me from myself and my situation. I was free to do God's will, carrying out His plans and purposes. Then there was hope. Then there was peace. That's when I was empowered. That was when I knew I was no longer a slave.

Being free to trust the God, who calls Himself I AM, empowers me to do His will. I don't have to be the one who brings about plagues. I don't have to open the sea and make dry ground. I don't have to give up my son. God does all that stuff.

I get to speak His truth. I get to point people toward His way. I get to talk about the life He offers. Can you see the difference? One way everything depends upon me. I'm inadequate, weak, a little dense, and even frail. The great I AM is adequate, strong, wise, and powerful.

All of this world, the things we see and the things we don't see, respond to His voice. All the things that happen are according to His plans and purposes. There is nothing that happens that He doesn't know about and permit. He is true to His word, He makes promises, and He keeps His promises. He gives me power. He gives me wisdom. He gives me peace. He gives me hope.

He is worthy of my trust. He is always ready when I call upon Him. He is the I AM.

***This is what you are to say to the Israelites: 'I AM has sent me to you.' Exodus 3:14 (NIV)***

**Trust in the promises of God and call upon the name of Jesus.** God will keep His promises. History is filled with moments when God's promises were fulfilled.

Every day God's promises are claimed and kept. You are breathing, God's promise fulfilled. The sun came up this morning, God's promise fulfilled. You have been saved, and you are being saved, promise fulfilled. You are being transformed from sinner to saint, promise fulfilled. You are speaking your burdens and requests, promise fulfilled. You see God's hand at work in your life and the lives of others, promise fulfilled.

There is an enemy working against all of us. Sometimes the enemy brings about situations and circumstances that are overwhelming. Our backs are against the wall. We don't have many choices. The troubles seem insurmountable. The problems look impossible. This is where the enemy wants you.

Sometimes the enemy plays tricks between your ears. Negativity creeps in like a weed and soon your brain is like a field of dandelions. You're on a slippery slope. You're spiraling downward. Peace is gone. Hope has disappeared. This is where the enemy wants you.

But the one who calls Himself I AM is with you. He hears your voice. He knows your heart. He comes to you. Just as He promised.

Jesus came to save you. You didn't trust Him, but He came into this world. You didn't call His name, but He lived the life you live. Jesus looked at the situations of your life, His life and He trusted God. Jesus called out to the great I AM. He believed the promises. He fulfilled the promises.

Jesus took every mistake you and I have made placing them on Himself. He became those mistakes. In all of His perfection He became all of our sins. He died as our mistakes and our sins. While He was dead He cast those sins into hell as far as the east is from the west. Promise fulfilled.

Then He came back to life. Jesus defeated death. He emptied the penalty for sins of its power. Promise fulfilled.

Jesus gave us a new life where the power of sin has no power over us because we believe in Him. We call upon His name, Jesus. We trust in Jesus. Promise fulfilled.

Today, if you call upon the name of Jesus you will be saved. Today, when you put your faith in Jesus you will receive all of God's promises.

Today and everyday you live you will walk in the promises of God. Believe in the One who calls Himself I AM.