

Christian MONTHLY

DEDICATED TO THE PROCLAMATION
OF THE WORD OF GOD



for Children

Psalm 119:105
Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
and a light unto my path.

Summer 2016

The Great I AM! Exodus 3-4

Moses was taking care of his father-in-law's sheep in the wilderness near Mount Horeb. He saw a bush that was burning, but it wasn't burning up, and Moses went to investigate. The LORD called to him out of the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

Moses replied, "Here I am!"

The LORD told him, "Do not come near! Take off your shoes; the place where you are standing is holy ground. I AM the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." Moses was afraid to look and hid his face.

The LORD had seen the sufferings of the children of Israel who were slaves in Egypt, and He was coming to rescue them. He would bring them to a good land, a land flowing with milk and honey. He said, "I will send you to Pharaoh the king, so you can bring My people out of Egypt."

Moses asked, "Who am I, that you should send me to the Pharaoh to bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?"

God answered, "I will be with you. This will be the sign that I have sent you to the Pharaoh: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will serve God on this mountain."



Thus shalt thou say unto
the children of Israel,
I AM hath sent me unto you.
Exodus 3:14

Moses inquired, "When I go to the children of Israel and say, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' they will ask what Your name is. What should I tell them?"

God said, **"I AM THAT I AM!"**

"Say, 'I AM has sent me to you. The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob has sent me.' This is My name forever, and this is My memorial to all generations. Gather the elders of Israel and tell them that God has appeared to you; they will listen to you. Go to Pharaoh and ask permission to journey to sacrifice to your God. He won't let you go until I stretch out My hand and strike Egypt with all My wonders; then he will let you go. You will not leave empty-handed, but the Egyptians will give you riches, silver and gold jewelry and clothing."

Moses said, "But they won't believe me or listen to me!"

Then the LORD did even more miracles to prove His power. He told Moses that if the people wouldn't believe his words, they would believe the first two miracles. If they still wouldn't believe, then a third miracle would convince them.

Moses argued, "Oh, my LORD, I am not a great speaker."

The LORD answered, "Who made man's mouth? Who makes people mute, or deaf, or seeing, or blind? Go! I will tell you what to say."

Moses still resisted, saying, "Please! Send someone else!"

The LORD was angry at Moses. He said, "Isn't Aaron the Levite your brother? He can speak well. He is coming to meet you. You will tell him what to say, and he will speak to the people. I will be with you."

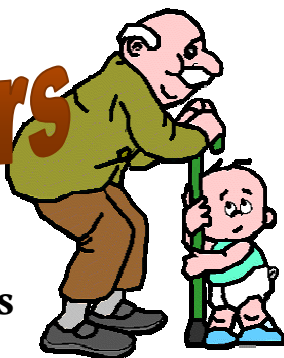
So Moses went to Egypt. Aaron met him on the way, and Moses told his brother all that the LORD had said and done. They gathered the elders of Israel, and Aaron spoke all the words that the LORD spoke to Moses. He did the miracles where the people could see them and the people believed.

When the children of Israel heard that the LORD had visited them and seen their sufferings, they bowed their heads and worshipped the great I AM.

See "Miracles and More Miracles" on page 4.

Toddlers

Through Three Years



Old Man Moses

Moses was a VERY OLD man when he went to talk to Pharaoh, probably older than your grandpa, or maybe even as old as your great-grandpa.

You are very young. You may have sat in a walker while you were learning to walk, and you held on to your parents' hands.

Can you imagine being an old, old man or an old, old woman? Sometimes old people can't walk very well, and they need to use a cane or walker to help them stand.

God gives you the years of your life. As you get older, you will grow and learn more about Jesus. You will learn to "walk by faith" and trust in Jesus to save you. He loves you!

Some day, if you live for many years, you will be an old man like Moses, or an old woman like Anna the prophetess, who saw Jesus when He was a tiny baby. Imagine that!

Remember when Moses was a little baby? He floated in a basket boat in the river and the princess of Egypt found him. His sister ran to get their mother to take care of Moses for the princess. When Moses was old enough, he went to live in the Pharaoh's palace. The princess adopted Moses, and he grew up with the Pharaoh as his grandfather. When Moses was grown, he went to a land far away, and he lived there many years.

Tots

Four-Six Years

Pharaoh, the King of Egypt

"Pharaoh" is not a name, it is a title like "king." The Pharaoh ruled over the whole country of Egypt, and he was a very powerful man. He had the power to put Moses to death if he was angry.



While Moses was gone from Egypt for forty years, several rulers had come and gone. The Pharaoh who was in power when Moses came back to Egypt was not the same Pharaoh who had ruled when Moses was a boy. Moses wasn't going to talk to his adopted grandfather, but a different man entirely. This powerful ruler was not happy to have all of his slaves leaving Egypt!

Moses may have been afraid to speak to the king of Egypt, but he obeyed God's command. God told him to go, and Moses went! Moses stood before the powerful Pharaoh and said:

Thus saith the LORD God of Israel, Let my people go!

Exodus 5:1

Tykes

Ages Seven-Ten

The Slavery of Sin

Slavery is a very sad business. It means that one person owns other people, like property. Slaves are not free. They must obey their

master or be punished. Slaves can't make decisions or go where they want to go. They are bought and sold, and families can be broken up.

The children of Israel worked very hard as slaves in Egypt. They were beaten if they didn't work hard enough or fast enough. They were treated very poorly, and they were miserable. They cried out to God to help them, and God heard their cries. He saw their suffering, and He chose Moses to deliver them out of slavery in Egypt.

People who don't believe in Jesus are slaves. Slaves to sin. The devil is their master, and he doesn't want to let them go. He "beats" them with temptations and punishments. Families can be broken up by the devil and sin. Unbelievers may not know that they are slaves. They may not realize that they are miserable. But they are not free.

Only God can rescue people from the slavery of sin and death. God sent Jesus to deliver people from slavery. He sent Jesus to die on the cross in our place. Jesus said, "Whoever sins is a slave to sin. But if the Son will make you free, you will be free indeed." Jesus makes people truly free. He takes away sin and gives His perfection to those who trust in Him.

Pray for people who don't believe in Jesus. Pray that God will deliver them from the slavery of sin. Pray that they will cry out to God to save them. God will hear their cries. He sees their suffering, and He sent Jesus to deliver them!

Slavery was made illegal in the United States many years ago, but there are places where slavery still exists. Pray that the Light of Jesus will shine brightly in the hearts of sinners, and that God will bring true freedom to people in all the dark places in the world.



Tweens

Eleven-Twelve Years

The Holy Name of the Lord

Have you ever noticed that the word “Lord” is written differently in certain places in the Bible? Sometimes it is written as LORD (Psalm 23), and sometimes it is written as Lord (Exodus 4:13). And there is a difference!

LORD (ALL CAPITALS!) is the holy NAME of God. The English name “Jehovah” comes from this word. It is written YHVH in English and like this in Hebrew:

יהוה

Hebrew is read from right to left, opposite of the direction we read. Hebrew starts **HERE** and goes backward! The letters are yod-heh-vav-heh—YHVH.

The Hebrews—the children of Israel—did not speak God’s holy Name or write it down. EVER. Remember the second commandment? The Hebrew people would not use God’s Name so they would never take it in vain. When the scribe read the Scriptures, he would say “Adonai” which means Lord, instead of speaking the sacred Name. Or he would say the words “the Name” instead of speaking the Name.

Lord (first letter capitalized) in the Old Testament refers to God’s TITLE, not His actual Name. In the New Testament, Lord (*kurios* in Greek) is used as “master.”

To further complicate things, *Adonai* is sometimes used WITH the name JHVH, translated literally “Lord LORD”! But that sounds awkward in English, so mostly they use Lord GOD for *Adonai* JHVH (Genesis 15:2).

LORD = YHVH = The Unspeakable Name of God
Lord = Adonai (Hebrew) = title
Lord LORD = Adonai YHVH = Lord GOD
Lord = Kurios (Greek) = lord or master

This is complicated, but always remember that God’s Name is holy. When you use God’s Name or title in Hebrew or English, in any form — or if you refer to Him as God, as we most often do today — always reverence (show great respect for) the Name of the Lord. His Name is your strong tower. Run to Him and be safe!

***The name of the LORD is a strong tower:
the righteous runneth into it,
and is safe.***

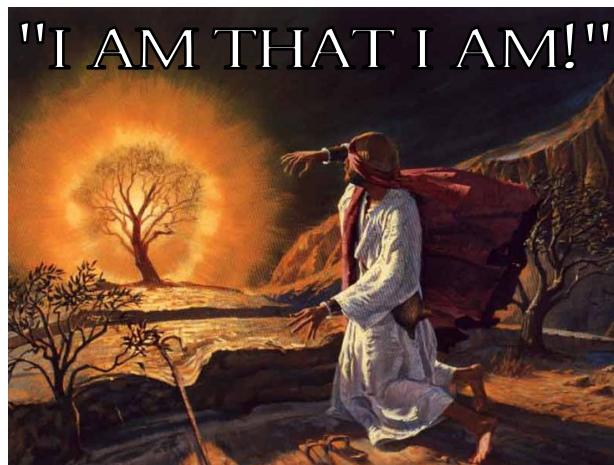
Proverbs 18:10

When Moses asked God, “What is Your name?” the LORD answered, “I AM THAT I AM.” This is a thought-provoking answer, to say the least!

Teens

“I AM THAT I AM” could be translated “I AM WHAT I AM.”

This could mean that God is the Being or Person that He is, and no other Being or Person. God could have been saying, “I AM the One that I AM, and no one else.” The LORD God, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob will never be anyone else. He will always be one God in three Persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.



Another way to translate “I AM THAT I AM” is “I WILL BE WHAT I WILL BE.” It could be taken as: “I WILL BE the God that I WILL BE.” God has existed forever, and He will always exist. God was the same in the past as He will be in the future. He will never change. His judgments are right. He keeps His promises. He is righteous, holy, and true.

Maybe “I AM THAT I AM” means “I AM WHO I AM” when stated in more modern English. God is who HE says He is, not who PEOPLE say He is. It could be understood as: “I AM who ***I*** say I AM.” People make judgments and assumptions about God that aren’t always true. The Bible says that in this life we can never truly know God, but some day we’ll know Him fully, even as we are fully known. Now we see through a glass darkly, but some day we’ll see Him face to face.

Maybe God was answering the question like you would answer. If someone asked your name, you would say, “I am Michael” or “I am Hannah.” God could have been saying, “I am I AM!” With this thought in mind, read the following verses:

Moses said unto God, 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? And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM: and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel, I AM hath sent me unto you.

Exodus 3:13-14

Do you know the Great I AM, the LORD God, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob? Do you trust Him to deliver you from the slavery of sin and death? Believe in Him! He is trustworthy!

Miracles and More Miracles

When the LORD commanded Moses to tell the elders of Israel that God had appeared to him, Moses argued with God. Moses said, “But, look! They won’t believe me! They won’t listen to me, and they will say, ‘The LORD has not appeared to you!’”

The LORD said to him, “What is in your hand?”

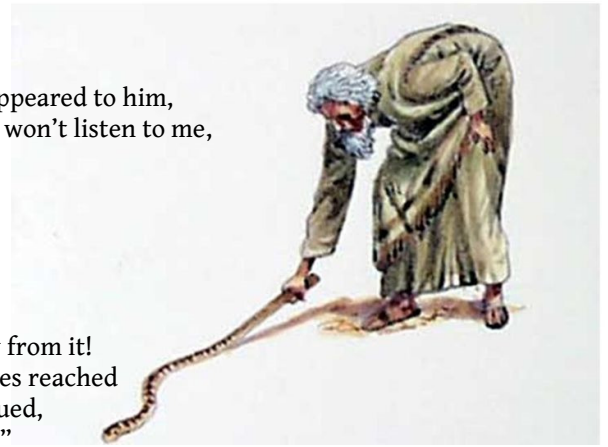
Moses answered, “A walking staff.”

The LORD said, “Throw it on the ground.”

Moses threw the staff on the ground. It became a snake, and Moses ran away from it! The LORD told Moses, “Reach out your hand and catch it by the tail.” So Moses reached out and caught the snake and it became a staff in his hand. The LORD continued, “So they will believe that the LORD God of their fathers has appeared to you.”

Then the LORD told Moses to put his hand inside his coat. Moses did, and when he took his hand out again, it was pure white with leprosy, a contagious skin disease. God said, “Put your hand back inside your coat.” Moses obeyed, and when he took his hand out again, it was just like the rest of his skin! “If they won’t believe you or listen to the first sign,” God continued, “they will believe the second sign. And if they still won’t believe these two signs, you will take water from the river and pour it out on the dry land and it will turn into blood on the ground.”

The LORD told Moses to take the staff that had turned into a snake when he went in to speak with the Pharaoh. Moses did these miracles — and many others — before the Pharaoh and the children of Israel. The LORD God of Israel had sent him to deliver the people of Israel from the slavery of Egypt, and God stretched out His mighty hand, performing wonders and miracles by the hand of His servant Moses.



Major Moments in Exodus

- Moses is saved from death as an infant: Exodus 1-2
- Moses meets with God at the burning bush: Exodus 3
- Moses’ staff turns into a snake, hand turns leprous: Exodus 4
- Moses’ staff turns into a snake before Pharaoh: Exodus 7
- Ten plagues: Exodus 8-12
- Crossing of the Red Sea: Exodus 14
- Bitter water made sweet: Exodus 15
- Quail and manna: Exodus 16
- Water from the rock: Exodus 17
- Battle with Amalek: Exodus 17
- Moses meets with God on Mount Sinai: Exodus 19
- Moses receives Ten Commandments and other laws: Exodus 20-23
- Moses, Aaron, Nadab, Abihu and seventy elders of Israel see the God of Israel and do not die: Exodus 24
- Moses receives first tablets of stone written with God’s finger: Exodus 24
- Moses on Mount Sinai forty days and forty nights: Exodus 24
- Children of Israel see the glory of the LORD like a devouring fire on Mount Sinai: Exodus 24
- Moses on Mount Sinai with the LORD for forty days with no food or water: Exodus 34
- Moses receives second tablets of stone: Exodus 34
- Moses sees the glory of the LORD from the cleft of the rock: Exodus 34
- Moses’ face shines from being in the LORD’s presence: Exodus 34
- Glory of the LORD fills the tabernacle: Exodus 40



"I AM"

Who made these statements?

"I am an alien in their sight."
Job 19:15

"I am old and stricken in age."
Joshua 23:2

"I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness."
John 1:23

"I am the son of thy servant Jesse the Bethlehemite."
1 Samuel 17:58

"I am a man which am a Jew of Tarsus, a city in Cilicia."
Acts 21:39

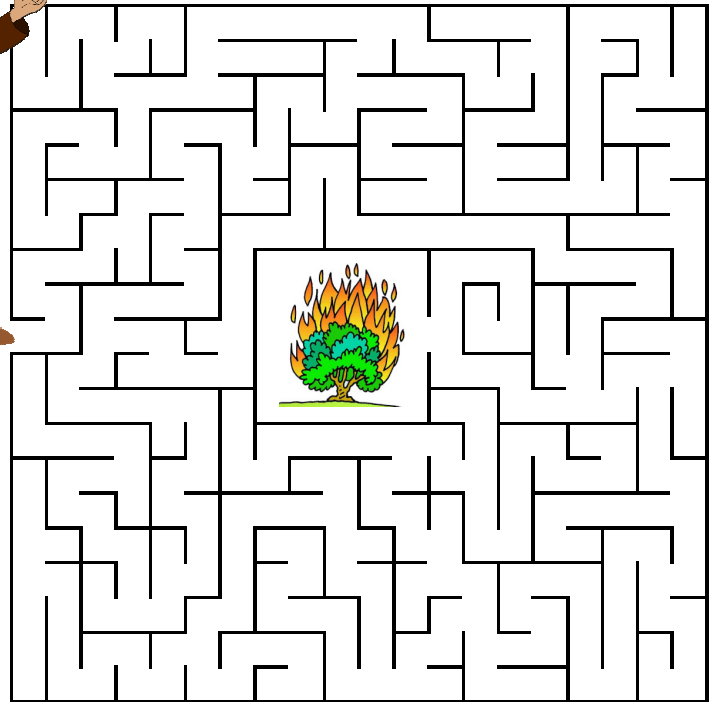
"I am a man under authority, having soldiers under me."
Matthew 8:9

"I am an old man, and my wife well stricken in years."
Luke 1:18

"I am Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end."
Revelation 21:6



Travel the maze to get Moses to the burning bush.



What did God tell Moses when he came to the burning bush?

Fill in the letters that correspond to the numbers below the blanks to solve the phrase.

A	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	K	L	N	O	P	R	S	T	U	Y
15	23	13	20	17	16	2	22	6	5	8	7	12	9	19	10	26	18

10 15 6 20

7 17 17

18 7 26 9

19 2 7 20 19

10 2 20

12 5 15 23 20

18 7 26

15 9 20

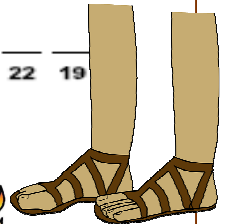
19 10 15 8

13 22 8 16

22 19

2 7 5 18

16 9 7 26 8 13



Word Search

AARON
BURNING
BUSH
EGYPT
HOREB
ISRAEL
LORD
MEMORIAL
MIRACLE
MOSES
NAME
PHARAOH
SLAVERY
SUFFERINGS

G N I N R U B K Y O A E Y S P
B E R O H C D R L A M M E U D
O H W V O E E N R A E R L F R
A Y S D H V M O N M O J C F O
B N M U A O N O O I S R A E L
R D M L B F A R S R U E R R S
F B S U M T I R B E F G I I C
H H B G F A V X A Q S Y M N O
N Z C G L P N P O H K P D G X
P Q P D H P Y U N R P T R S W

THE GREAT I AM
Puzzle Fun

Answer Key: page 7

How many times is the phrase

"I am the LORD"

written in the Bible?

A. 29

B. 87

C. 163



*And God said unto Moses, I AM THAT I AM:
and he said, Thus shalt thou say unto the children of Israel,
I AM hath sent me unto you.
Exodus 3:14*

Who Taught the Bird?

Who taught the bird to build her nest,
Of wool and hay and moss?
Who taught her how to weave it best,
And lay the twigs across?



Who taught the busy bee to fly,
Among the sweetest flow'rs?
And lay her store of honey by,
To last in winter's hours?



Who taught the little ant the way,
Its narrow nest to weave,
And through the pleasant summer day,
To gather up its leaves?



'Twas God who taught them all the way,
And gave them little skill.
He teaches children when they pray
To do His holy will.

Jane Taylor

Jesus said: "Therefore I say unto you, Take no thought for your life, what ye shall eat, or what ye shall drink; nor yet for your body, what ye shall put on. Is not the life more than meat, and the body than raiment? Behold the fowls of the air: for they sow not, neither do they reap, nor gather into barns; yet your heavenly Father feedeth them. Are ye not much better than they? Which of you by taking thought can add one cubit unto his stature? And why take ye thought for raiment? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they toil not, neither do they spin: And yet I say unto you, That even Solomon in all his glory was not arrayed like one of these."

Matthew 6:25-29

Dear Father in heaven,

You are the Great I AM, the LORD God of Israel, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob. You will never change. You have always been and You always will be. You are my God and my Creator.

Thank You for your servant Moses, and for sending Aaron to help him. Thank You for saving the people of Israel from slavery in Egypt, and for the mighty miracles you worked to deliver them. You are all-powerful and mighty to save.

Thank You for saving me from slavery to sin and death. You have worked a great salvation through Your Son Jesus, and I praise You.

LORD, be with those who are slaves today, the slaves in body and the slaves to sin. Call people out of the darkness of bondage and bring them into the glorious Light of Your presence. Let the Gospel of Jesus go out to the dark corners of the globe, and let people hear the preached Word of truth. Send workers into the fields to plant the Seed of the Word that will bear fruit to Your glory.

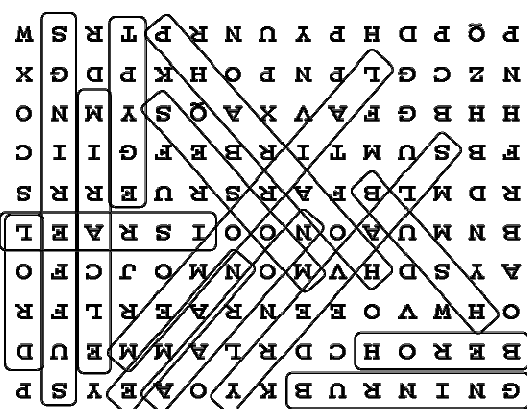
Thank You for Your holy Word that You have kept to this generation. Let me learn more of You as I grow. Help me to trust You. Give me true faith in Your only Son all the days of my life.

For Jesus' name's sake, Amen.

Puzzle Answer Key



What did God tell Moses?
"Take off your shoes! The place you are standing is holy ground."



Who said these I AM Statements?

Job
Joshua
John (the Baptist)
David
Paul
Centurion
Zacharias
(God) He who sat on the throne
How many? The words "I am the LORD" appear 163 times in the Bible.

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For Parents:

See the Salvation of the LORD

After the children of Israel had left Egypt, the Pharaoh regretted his decision to let his whole workforce walk out into the desert, away from his rule. Their God had destroyed the country and killed his firstborn, but he needed slaves. Who would build the great cities of brick and mortar? Who would promote his legacy? So the Pharaoh readied his chariots and his army. They pursued the people of Israel, and overtook them camped near the Red Sea.

Seeing the great army marching after them, the delivered captives were very afraid, and they cried out to the LORD. They said to Moses, "Why did you take us out of Egypt? It would have been better to be slaves in Egypt than to die here in the desert!" The children of Israel were between a rock and a hard place. The Red Sea stood before them, deep and wide. The Egyptian army was approaching from the rear, angry and vengeful.

Moses replied, "Do not fear! Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD. He will fight for you!"

And once again, the LORD saved them. A strong east wind blew all night, and the waters of the Red Sea stood in walls on either side as God's people walked across on dry land. Then, when the Egyptian army had followed them into the middle of the sea, the water returned to its normal course and all of the Pharaoh's army was destroyed.

When Israel saw the great work the LORD did to save them, they feared Him and believed in Him. They sang praises to the LORD for His mighty victory over the Egyptians.



Then sang Moses and the children of Israel this song unto the LORD, and spake, saying, I will sing unto the LORD, for he hath triumphed gloriously: the horse and his rider hath he thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and song, and he is become my salvation: he is my God, and I will prepare him an habitation; my father's God, and I will exalt him. Exodus 15:1-2

You would think that after seeing God's mighty power, the children of Israel would have known for certain that the LORD would save them. You would think that they would have no fear. You would think that they wouldn't complain.

But that's not human nature. No matter how many times we see the salvation of our God, we wonder and worry over the future. Will God really save us this time? We complain. We murmur. We doubt. We fear.

Pray that you will be able to parent well, trusting the LORD to fight for you. Stand still. Wait on the LORD. Pray for a heart of faith, and pray that God will instill true faith in your children. Praise Him for His deliverance from the slavery of sin. By the blood of Christ, the LORD has triumphed gloriously over sin, death and the devil. The LORD God of Israel is your salvation. Sing to Him. He is your strength and your song!