

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Sermon Road Map
Pastor Roger W. Huffman

Exodus 6:2-8
September 6, 2020

That you may profoundly know that *I am Yahweh your God.*

- What do you know about your ancestors 400 years ago?
 - ◆ If you had ancestors on the *Mayflower* you may know more than most.
 - ◆ At most you might know a name, name of parents, children, year of birth, or place they live. But what do you know about them? Their deeds or reputation?
 - ◆ Few, if any of us, would say we *know* our ancestors from 400 years ago.
 - ◆ How well do we know anyone that far back?
 - We might know the deeds of Martin Luther or Christopher Columbus.
 - We know about them, but do we really know them?
- It's remarkable what, after 400+ years, Moses and Israel knew.
 - ◆ They knew about Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph.
 - ◆ They knew about Yahweh's call of Abram, miracle birth of Isaac, etc.
 - ◆ They knew about Yahweh, **but now** they were going to experience him like no one had ever before! Even Abraham, Yahweh's friend. Even Jacob who wrestled with Yahweh.
 - ◆ Since it felt like Yahweh and Moses made their situation worse, it was clear their God would have to do something extraordinary to free them. **Just watch!**
- Did you notice God's first and last words were also stated twice in between? *I am the LORD. - I am Yahweh.* i.e. Take note of who you are dealing with.
 - ◆ ³***I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name, the LORD (YAHWEH), I was not known to them.***
 - We need to *let Scripture interpret Scripture*. The patriarchs knew the Name Yahweh and used it. So what is Yahweh saying here?
 - *Yahweh*: The God who is real. He really **exists**, He always has & always will.
 - While he spoke to the patriarchs, came to them, and kept his promises, none of them ever saw him in action like Moses and this generation would!
 - ◆ *Know - Yadah - know first hand, by experience.* Take your seats and watch!

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- ❖ What Yahweh was about to do was epic! Truly legendary.
 - People are still impressed with the events in the movie *The 10 Commandments*
 - ◆ An impressive, if not totally accurate, retelling of what Yahweh did
 - ◆ 8th top grossing movie. Shown on prime time TV every year since 1973!
 - ◆ It's not just an impressive story. The 40 years where Yahweh revealed himself the most fully until he reveals himself in the life of the Lord Jesus, the Christ.
 - If all you see is *God Almighty*, you've missed the opportunity to *know Yahweh*.
 - ◆ That's what Yahweh announced. The stage was set for the Friend of Sinners to show his character and power - the lengths he'd go to reclaim his people.
 - ◆ So his people of all time may **profoundly know that *I am Yahweh your God.***

- ❖ Encounter Yahweh and come to know him, **his name, his established reputation.**
 - Meet **the real and living God.**
 - ◆ As noted: *Yahweh* communicates that he is the ***I AM***.
 - ◆ He is not a god of human invention - fables or myths
 - ◆ Pharaoh's first response: ***Who is the LORD that I should listen to his voice ...I do not know the LORD...*** He was about to get an introduction to reality!
 - Meet **the Lord of Creation, God Almighty.**
 - ◆ 10 plagues, sent and removed by God's command - the Red Sea rescue/defeat
 - ◆ All of creation is at the command of Yahweh. He is truly God alone!
 - ◆ Total control: The last 7 plagues didn't impact the Israelites
 - Meet Yahweh, who **established the relationship: my people, your God**
 - ◆ ***I will take you as my own people, and I will be your God. You will know that I am the LORD your God.*** A relationship of God's making.
 - ◆ They did not choose him. Abram didn't choose Yahweh. Yahweh chose Abram and called him to be his friend, the father of God's people.
 - ◆ Yahweh took on the calling of being their God - Provider, Protector, Savior
 - ◆ As Jesus later reminds us: ***You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will endure...*** John 15:16
 - ◆ Nobody can call Yahweh *my God*, until he has called you *my own!* Pure grace.
 - Meet Yahweh who **binds himself to his people with promises.**
 - ◆ When Yahweh established this relationship, not temporary, but forever.
 - ◆ He makes a covenant with his own - an eternal promise from the eternal God
 - ◆ No other god does this! Man-made gods never do. They're arbitrary. It's beyond human imagination: *a God who binds himself to a covenant.*
 - ◆ The God who rescues his people from anyone who takes them captive, usurping his role as their Lord and God. He zealously preserves this relationship.
 - Meet Yahweh who **is faithful. Totally reliable. He always keeps his promise.**
 - ◆ This was the time he promised to rescue and reclaim his own
 - ◆ This was the time to give his people the land he promised be their home.

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- Many sadly focus on Israel's freedom from slavery. See what they miss!
- Everything is here so you may **profoundly know *Yahweh as your God.***
- Who can care for you like Yahweh? He made his lasting covenant with you in Baptism and renews it in the Lord's Supper. He will never leave you or forsake you. He has redeemed you from slavery to your sinful desires, sin's guilt, and lord Satan, to be your God. His **faithfulness** produces **faith** - rock solid trust.
- We know how Yahweh fulfilled his promises. Don't let familiarity lead you to forget the implications. Here and in Jesus you personally know the Living God - experiencing him in the pages of the Bible.
- Those who keep on seeing how stunning this all is will live worshiping him - affirming with joy what they now profoundly know, "You are Yahweh - the LORD **my** God. Amen."