

Exodus 3:11

by Chuck Smith

The key to overcoming identity crisis is to shift focus from self-centeredness to a God-centered personality and life, relying on God's sufficiency and power.

Scripture: Exodus 3:11-12, Exodus 4:1, Exodus 4:10, Exodus 4:13, Acts 7:25

Topics: "Identity in Christ", "God's Sufficiency"

Description

Chuck Smith addresses the theme of identity in his sermon 'Exodus 3:11', emphasizing that true identity is found not in our roles or self-perception but in our relationship with God. He illustrates how Moses faced an identity crisis after fleeing Egypt, transitioning from a self-sufficient prince to a humble shepherd, which prepared him for God's calling. Smith highlights that Moses' feelings of inadequacy were met with God's assurance of sufficiency, reminding us that it is not our abilities that matter, but who God is and His presence in our lives. The sermon encourages believers to rely on God's strength rather than their own, as true fulfillment comes from being God-centered rather than self-centered.

Transcript

"WHO AM I?"

Intro: We hear much talk today of "identity crisis." There is a great attempt to bring people to a consciousness of themselves as persons rather than a role player. You are not a wife or mother first, you are a person first. Any self-centered concept will lead you to emptiness and frustration. We need a God-centered personality and life.

I. "WHO AM I?"

A. God had brought Moses to this identity crisis.

1. Forty years earlier, he would never have asked the question.

a. He was extremely good looking.

- b. He was well educated.
 - c. He felt a divine commission.
2. He had gone out one day among his brethren he saw an Egyptian smiting a Hebrew.
- a. He looked this way and that way and saw no man.
- 1. He did not look up. He was man conscious not God conscious.
 - b. Moses smote the Egyptian and killed him, he then attempted to bury him in the sand.
- 1. He was attempting in the energy of the flesh to do the work of God.
 - 2. He could not successfully bury one Egyptian. God desired to bury their whole army.
- c. He had committed himself to a task not to God.
- 1. I am leary of these calls to commitment to church, programs.
 - 2. We need to be committed to Christ.
 - 3. The next day when he went to break up a fight between two Hebrews, the identity crisis began.
- a. "Who made you to be ruler over us?"
 - b. He saw the plan of God so clearly, he thought they all knew.
- Acts 7:25.
- 4. Shocked and afraid Moses fled.
 - 5. His next forty years spent as a nothing shepherd.
- a. From being in line to the throne of Egypt to herding sheep. What a come down.
 - b. It was really excellent training in the wilderness shepherding

sheep.

c. For he was to lead God's sheep forty years in this wilderness.

d. He went from a self-centered. Self-sufficient person to a "Who Am I?"

B. His self-image pretty shattered.

1. No ability vs. 11.

2. No message vs. 13.

3. No Authority vs. 4:1.

4. No eloquence vs. 4:10.

5. No desire vs. 4:13.

C. God promised His sufficiency for Moses inability.

1. "I will be with you." vs. 12.

2. God gave him the message to speak.

3. God sent him in the authority of His name - "I AM" hath sent me to you.

4. "I will be with thy mouth."

5. God's anger kindled against Moses.

II. WHO I AM DOESN'T REALLY MATTER, IT IS WHO GOD IS THAT COUNTS.

A. Moses was conscious of his failure, this helped to now qualify him.

1. Not self-reliance, God reliance.

2. Not my strength, ability, wisdom.

B. God said, "I will be with you."

1. He is capable to do any work He has called you to perform.

C. Many times God in His love strips us of what we are in order to make us what He is.

Source: <https://sermonindex.net/speakers/chuck-smith/exodus-311/>

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