

Historic **B**aptist **C**hurch

220 West Main Street
North Kingstown, RI 02852

(401) 294-9065

The Word of God
On
The Human Condition

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By Dave Ruzzo

The Human Condition

“I don’t need it”, “I’m all set”, “I’m fine the way I am”. Those are the answers you get from people when trying to tell them about the need of salvation. Salvation from what? In order to have a need to be saved one needs to know what they are being saved from and why they need to be saved in the first place. There is no debate, the word of God makes it perfectly clear. Romans 3:23; “*For all have sinned and come short of the glory of God*”. But for the sake of a clear and precise understanding we are going to look at this subject of eternal salvation. Why we all need to be saved, what we are saved from and how one goes about getting saved.

To the unsaved, the subject of eternal salvation is reprehensible to say the least. It has mostly remained a subject of discussion that should only be approached in church. Something that should only be questioned by a Priest, Elder or Pastor. Well, that’s just one of the biggest misunderstandings and misconceptions about our eternal soul that continues to blind the eyes and minds of humanity. So we will attempt to shed some much needed light on the subject. We’re going to start at the very beginning. And by considering what the Bible (Word of God) has to say on the subject, through looking at some scriptural references, we will be able to draw a clearer conclusion to the matter.

Subject 1: “*Mankind’s creation, rebellion, fall from grace and subsequent death*”.

When God created man, Adam and eventually Eve, they were created in His (God’s) image. A *trinity* of being. Body, soul and spirit. And this entire trinity of man’s being was to submit, admonish and worship God in His trinity of being, namely Father, Son and Holy Spirit. One of the major aspects and requirements of submitted worship was and is OBEDIENCE. Obedience to God’s direct ordinances and

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commands. God is a Holy and Just lawgiver and father. He only gave the best of everything to his man and woman and He only expected the best in return. Understand, that in their first estate (before their fall from grace) which was one of perfection, they could do nothing but give God their best in return. But over the course of time and because man was created with independent desires and emotional characteristics, man was tempted to transgress (break or act against) a command of God. God told them that they were free to eat of the fruit of any tree that was in the garden, but the tree of the knowledge of good and evil that was in the midst of the garden they were not to eat of or they would die. Genesis 2:15-17; *And the LORD God took the man, and put him into the garden of Eden to dress it and to keep it. And the LORD God commanded the man, saying, Of every tree of the garden thou mayest freely eat: But of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil, thou shalt not eat of it: for in the day that thou eatest thereof thou shalt surely die.* Adam was tempted or drawn away of his own lust (desire). He did eat the fruit of the tree he was commanded not to eat of. And within one thousand years, at the age of nine hundred and thirty years or within a days time he died.

(II Peter 3:8; But, beloved, be not ignorant of this one thing, that one day is with the Lord as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day).

Subject 2: “*The inherited sin nature of man*”.

God, in His word, calls this and all rebellion SIN. Every man, woman and child that has ever been born since the sin of Adam has inherited this sin nature. We, all mankind, has an independent nature that wants to do what he or she wants to do, regardless of the boundaries, laws and limits set by authority. Example: When you believe there are no police officers around don't you go just a little over the speed limit?, we

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Hebrews 2:3; *How shall we escape, if we neglect so great salvation; which at the first began to be spoken by the Lord, and was confirmed unto us by them that heard him;*

Revelation 3:20; *Behold, I stand at the door, and knock: if any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me.*

If you have not given your life to Jesus Christ, do it now. Just ask him, with a sincere heart, to come into your life and cleanse you from your past sins. Read the word of God daily and pray for Jesus to help give you more understanding of his will for your life.

Thank you for taking the time to read this short message on what God has to say about the human condition.

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Romans 6:23; *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord.*

John 3:36; *He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him.*

John 5:24: *Verily, verily, I say unto you, He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life, and shall not come into condemnation; but is passed from death unto life.*

John 11:25,26; *Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection, and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live:*

John 3:16; *For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life.*

John 3:17; *For God sent not his Son into the world to condemn the world; but that the world through him might be saved.*

Romans 10:9; *That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be saved.*

Romans 10:10; *For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness; and with the mouth confession is made unto salvation.*

Romans 14:12; *So then every one of us shall give account of himself to God.*

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all do, but there are laws against it. Do you come to a full stop at a stop sign on a deserted country road?, but the law says you must.

You may not feel that it is very fair that all mankind is suffering under the bondage of one man's rebellion. The only way that the rest of the future of mankind would not have inherited Adam's sin nature would have been if God would have created a new man that was blameless from transgressing any point of God's law. But because everyone since Adam has been physically born from flesh we have all inherited his same nature, just as we have all inherited his ability to speak and reason. Since the very moment that Adam committed that act of rebellion against God's law all humanity has been separated from God the father, as by a huge gulf. So all fellowship, blessings and communications between God and man gradually ceased and could not be brought back to their original state of righteousness unless God came up with a plan of SALVATION to bring mankind back to his first estate.

So, now we are at the point where we can better understand what Adam did by breaking God's law and why there is a need for a plan of salvation or a plan of redemption. And we also know that a plan had to be created to bring man back into accord with God the father. God's plan for redeeming or reclaiming humanity was set apart in five distinct phases.

Phase 1: "Noah, Father to a new generation".

As time progressed down through the ancient ages the earth grew increasingly wicked. People grew farther and farther away from God until the day came when there remained only one man, his wife, three sons and their wives that found favor in God's sight (Genesis 6:7,8; *And the LORD said, I will destroy man whom I have created from the face of the*

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earth; both man, and beast, and the creeping thing, and the fowls of the air; for it repenteth me that I have made them. But Noah found grace in the eyes of the LORD). God told Noah that He was going to destroy all flesh from off the earth and He would save only Noah and his family. God instructed Noah to build an ark (boat) and take seven of every clean beast and two of every unclean beast, according to Hebrew law, into the ark.

God shut the door to the ark and poured down rain upon the earth. The Bible tells us that the waters covered the tops of the mountains and the waters remained upon the earth for one hundred and fifty days after it had rained for forty days and forty nights. Genesis 8:1-5; *And God remembered Noah, and every living thing, and all the cattle that was with him in the ark: and God made a wind to pass over the earth, and the waters asswaged; The fountains also of the deep and the windows of heaven were stopped, and the rain from heaven was restrained; And the waters returned from off the earth continually: and after the end of the hundred and fifty days the waters were abated. And the ark rested in the seventh month, on the seventeenth day of the month, upon the mountains of Ararat. And the waters decreased continually until the tenth month: in the tenth month, on the first day of the month, were the tops of the mountains seen.*

Before the earth was ravished by the flood the earth was watered from the mist that rose up from the ground. It must have been an awe inspiring and frightening thing to see water pouring down from the sky as well as rising up from the ground. When the waters subsided Noah and his family began to repopulate (replenish) the earth. All peoples on earth today descended from the family of Noah. Like Noah, we all have the independent will and ability to follow after right (right)

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one to come that would set them free and build an everlasting kingdom that they would dwell in with him for eternity. But they, being blind, did not understand that this kingdom was to be built first in their hearts. Because the Jews were looking for a deliverer to come riding on a white horse wearing gleaming armor wielding a sword to cut asunder the Jewish oppressors, because they had this conception they rejected Jesus, accused him of making himself equal with God and they accused him of being demon possessed. They condemned Jesus to die and they led him away MAKING HIM carry his own cross to a hill where he was crucified. Upon him was born all the sin and unrighteousness of the world. Jesus Christ made a path for all mankind to find their way back to righteousness and acceptance in God's sight. Jesus said in John 14:6; *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

And this is the reason we tell others. Read the books of John and Romans for a better understanding of Christ's life and ministry to this world. If you do not have a Bible please contact our church at the below address and we will be happy to send you one. Also, you can visit us on the web at the below listed site. There you can download Christian Education lessons on the books of John and Romans. Following are some important scripture references:

Romans 3:23; *For all have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;*

Romans 5:8; *But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us.*

John 14:6; *Jesus saith unto him, I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me.*

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the Lord thy God.

Again, the devil taketh him up into an exceeding high mountain, and sheweth him all the kingdoms of the world, and the glory of them;

And saith unto him, All these things will I give thee, if thou wilt fall down and worship me.

Then saith Jesus unto him, Get thee hence, Satan: for it is written, Thou shalt worship the Lord thy God, and him only shalt thou serve.

Then the devil leaveth him, and, behold, angels came and ministered unto him).

The best record of Christ's ministry is recorded in the book of John. Jesus performed many miracles to show the Jews the power of God. He healed sickness cast out demons and raised the dead. But though Jesus did all these miracles and talked of love he also condemned the Pharisees (A sect of religious men) for being hypocritical in their teachings to others. Jesus taught that there was a penalty to pay for sin and the separation from God that we face because of our unrighteousness. This penalty is eternal death (Romans 6:23; *For the wages of sin is death; but the gift of God is eternal life through Jesus Christ our Lord*). Another teaching of Christ was eternal punishment for rejecting God. Because the spirit placed in man is eternal and will never be destroyed, when our bodies no longer contain life our spirit lives on. Either in eternal bliss with Jesus in paradise or in eternal damnation in the flames of hell (Luke 16:23; *And in hell he lift up his eyes, being in torments, and seeth Abraham afar off, and Lazarus in his bosom*).

The teachings of Jesus were not very popular for the most part. The Jews rejected him for exposing their hypocrisy and unbelief. He told them that he was the one that the ancient Hebrew scripture talked about. He was the promised

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teousness) or wrong (unrighteousness).

Phase 2: *“Father Abraham, The first in a long line of redemption”.*

God chose a man named Abram, which was eventually changed to Abraham, to make a promise or covenant with. God made a promise with Abraham regarding the future blessings and prosperity of the Hebrew nation based on the enormous faith he displayed for God.

Abraham was one hundred years old when God promised Abraham that He would give him a son. Isaac was born and was greatly loved by both his mother and father. Abraham and his wife waited with tremendous patience for the promise of God. When Isaac was a mere child, to test Abraham's faith toward his God, God told him to take Isaac and kill him and offer him as a burnt offering. Of course God did not want Abraham to kill his son but He wanted to show Abraham how much faith he really had in trusting God, even if it meant giving God back a son that was so long awaited. Abraham obeyed God, though extremely difficult I'm sure, and just as Abraham was about to lift the knife the Angel of the Lord stopped Abraham's hand.

Genesis 22:1-14; *And it came to pass after these things, that God did tempt Abraham, and said unto him, Abraham: and he said, Behold, here I am.*

And he said, Take now thy son, thine only son Isaac, whom thou lovest, and get thee into the land of Moriah; and offer him there for a burnt offering upon one of the mountains which I will tell thee of.

And Abraham rose up early in the morning, and saddled his ass, and took two of his young men with him, and Isaac his son, and clave the wood for the burnt offering, and rose up,

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*and went unto the place of which God had told him.
Then on the third day Abraham lifted up his eyes, and saw the place afar off.
And Abraham said unto his young men, Abide ye here with the ass; and I and the lad will go yonder and worship, and come again to you.
And Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering, and laid it upon Isaac his son; and he took the fire in his hand, and a knife; and they went both of them together.
And Isaac spake unto Abraham his father, and said, My father: and he said, Here am I, my son. And he said, Behold the fire and the wood: but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?
And Abraham said, My son, God will provide himself a lamb for a burnt offering: so they went both of them together.
And they came to the place which God had told him of; and Abraham built an altar there, and laid the wood in order, and bound Isaac his son, and laid him on the altar upon the wood.
And Abraham stretched forth his hand, and took the knife to slay his son.
And the angel of the LORD called unto him out of heaven, and said, Abraham, Abraham: and he said, Here am I.
And he said, Lay not thine hand upon the lad, neither do thou any thing unto him: for now I know that thou fearest God, seeing thou hast not withheld thy son, thine only son from me.
And Abraham lifted up his eyes, and looked, and behold behind him a ram caught in a thicket by his horns: and Abraham went and took the ram, and offered him up for a burnt offering in the stead of his son.
And Abraham called the name of that place Jehovah-jireh: as it is said to this day, In the mount of the LORD it shall be seen.*

Phase 3: “Moses, Deliverer of a Holy Nation”.

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herds to follow a star that would lead them to the birth place of the promised savior. At that time Rome occupied Israel and most of the then known world. The Hebrew people longed for the deliverer and a savior that was prophesied to come in the Hebrew scriptures.

When Jesus was roughly 30 years old he started his ministry for God the father. The first thing that we see that Jesus did was that he was baptized by John the Baptist in the Jordan river (Matthew 3:13-15 *Then cometh Jesus from Galilee to Jordan unto John, to be baptized of him. But John forbad him, saying, I have need to be baptized of thee, and comest thou to me? And Jesus answering said unto him, Suffer it to be so now: for thus it becometh us to fulfil all righteousness. Then he suffered him*). After his baptism he was led by the Spirit of God into the wilderness where he fasted and sought the ultimate power and will of his father for him to accomplish the mission he had set before him (Matthew 4:1-11; *Then was Jesus led up of the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted of the devil. And when he had fasted forty days and forty nights, he was afterward an hungred. And when the tempter came to him, he said, If thou be the Son of God, command that these stones be made bread. But he answered and said, It is written, Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceedeth out of the mouth of God. Then the devil taketh him up into the holy city, and setteth him on a pinnacle of the temple, And saith unto him, If thou be the Son of God, cast thyself down: for it is written, He shall give his angels charge concerning thee: and in their hands they shall bear thee up, lest at any time thou dash thy foot against a stone. Jesus said unto him, It is written again, Thou shalt not tempt*

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bondage. God heard their groaning and complaining and punished them for their lack of faith in Him to lead them to their promised land. God allowed the people to wonder in the desert for forty years.

On the mountain of Sinai God gave Moses two tablets on which were written the ten commandments of God's law for His holy people. God knew that the laws that He set for the people to follow would never be kept because they were far above man's ability to uphold. But this too was part of God's continuing plan for man's salvation.

Phase 4: *"The Prophets, Messengers of God".*

Years past and the children of Israel were given a homeland. All through the ages God sent men to the children of Israel because they, once again, were turning away from the true God that delivered them from Egypt to worshipping idols. God was very angry with the children of Israel but He loved them very much. So much so that He sent Prophets that told of God's coming punishments upon the people because they had forsaken the true God.

Though God loved them and sent His Prophets to warn them, they despised and killed them all. Over hundreds of years God never gave up trying to warn the children of Israel to repent (turn from their wickedness) and return to the God who delivered and saved them. Still more time past until God put His last phase into action.

Phase 5: *"Jesus the Christ, Salvation through God incarnate".*

God the father sent Angels to several shepherds keeping sheep in the fields of Israel. The Angels told the shep-

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After many years past the Hebrews, that were scattered about the plains in tribes, were taken captive to be used as slaves by the land of Egypt. God raised up a man by the name of Moses that would act as a foreshadow of what we can see today as a picture of Jesus delivering "whosoever will" from the bondage of sin.

Exodus 2:1-4:31; *And there went a man of the house of Levi, and took to wife a daughter of Levi. And the woman conceived, and bare a son: and when she saw him that he was a goodly child, she hid him three months. And when she could not longer hide him, she took for him an ark of bulrushes, and daubed it with slime and with pitch, and put the child therein; and she laid it in the flags by the river's brink.*

And his sister stood afar off, to wit what would be done to him.

And the daughter of Pharaoh came down to wash herself at the river; and her maidens walked along by the river's side; and when she saw the ark among the flags, she sent her maid to fetch it.

And when she had opened it, she saw the child: and, behold, the babe wept. And she had compassion on him, and said, This is one of the Hebrews' children.

Then said his sister to Pharaoh's daughter, Shall I go and call to thee a nurse of the Hebrew women, that she may nurse the child for thee?

And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, Go. And the maid went and called the child's mother.

And Pharaoh's daughter said unto her, Take this child away, and nurse it for me, and I will give thee thy wages. And the woman took the child, and nursed it.

And the child grew, and she brought him unto Pharaoh's daughter, and he became her son. And she called his name Moses: and she said, Because I drew him out of the water.

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And it came to pass in those days, when Moses was grown, that he went out unto his brethren, and looked on their burdens: and he spied an Egyptian smiting an Hebrew, one of his brethren.

And he looked this way and that way, and when he saw that there was no man, he slew the Egyptian, and hid him in the sand.

And when he went out the second day, behold, two men of the Hebrews strove together: and he said to him that did the wrong, Wherefore smitest thou thy fellow?

And he said, Who made thee a prince and a judge over us? intendest thou to kill me, as thou killedst the Egyptian? And Moses feared, and said, Surely this thing is known.

Now when Pharaoh heard this thing, he sought to slay Moses. But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh, and dwelt in the land of Midian: and he sat down by a well.

Now the priest of Midian had seven daughters: and they came and drew water, and filled the troughs to water their father's flock.

And the shepherds came and drove them away: but Moses stood up and helped them, and watered their flock.

And when they came to Reuel their father, he said, How is it that ye are come so soon today?

And they said, An Egyptian delivered us out of the hand of the shepherds, and also drew water enough for us, and watered the flock.

And he said unto his daughters, And where is he? why is it that ye have left the man? call him, that he may eat bread.

And Moses was content to dwell with the man: and he gave Moses Zipporah his daughter.

And she bare him a son, and he called his name Gershom: for he said, I have been a stranger in a strange land.

And it came to pass in process of time, that the king of Egypt died: and the children of Israel sighed by reason of the bondage, and they cried, and their cry came up unto God by rea-

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And the LORD said unto Moses, When thou goest to return into Egypt, see that thou do all those wonders before Pharaoh, which I have put in thine hand: but I will harden his heart, that he shall not let the people go.

And thou shalt say unto Pharaoh, Thus saith the LORD, Israel is my son, even my firstborn:

And I say unto thee, Let my son go, that he may serve me: and if thou refuse to let him go, behold, I will slay thy son, even thy firstborn.

And it came to pass by the way in the inn, that the LORD met him, and sought to kill him.

Then Zipporah took a sharp stone, and cut off the foreskin of her son, and cast it at his feet, and said, Surely a bloody husband art thou to me.

So he let him go: then she said, A bloody husband thou art, because of the circumcision.

And the LORD said to Aaron, Go into the wilderness to meet Moses. And he went, and met him in the mount of God, and kissed him.

And Moses told Aaron all the words of the LORD who had sent him, and all the signs which he had commanded him.

And Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the children of Israel:

And Aaron spake all the words which the LORD had spoken unto Moses, and did the signs in the sight of the people.

And the people believed: and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel, and that he had looked upon their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshipped.

Moses, under God's direction and power, led the Hebrew people out of Egypt and bondage. But the people grew weary of living in the desert and they dreamed about the luxuries back in Egypt. So they desired to return and they cursed Moses for taking them away from their comfortable lives in

two signs, neither hearken unto thy voice, that thou shalt take of the water of the river, and pour it upon the dry land: and the water which thou takest out of the river shall become blood upon the dry land.

And Moses said unto the LORD, O my Lord, I am not eloquent, neither heretofore, nor since thou hast spoken unto thy servant: but I am slow of speech, and of a slow tongue.

And the LORD said unto him, Who hath made man's mouth? or who maketh the dumb, or deaf, or the seeing, or the blind? have not I the LORD?

Now therefore go, and I will be with thy mouth, and teach thee what thou shalt say.

And he said, O my Lord, send, I pray thee, by the hand of him whom thou wilt send.

And the anger of the LORD was kindled against Moses, and he said, Is not Aaron the Levite thy brother? I know that he can speak well. And also, behold, he cometh forth to meet thee: and when he seeth thee, he will be glad in his heart.

And thou shalt speak unto him, and put words in his mouth: and I will be with thy mouth, and with his mouth, and will teach you what ye shall do.

And he shall be thy spokesman unto the people: and he shall be, even he shall be to thee instead of a mouth, and thou shalt be to him instead of God.

And thou shalt take this rod in thine hand, wherewith thou shalt do signs.

And Moses went and returned to Jethro his father in law, and said unto him, Let me go, I pray thee, and return unto my brethren which are in Egypt, and see whether they be yet alive.

And Jethro said to Moses, Go in peace.

And the LORD said unto Moses in Midian, Go, return into Egypt: for all the men are dead which sought thy life.

And Moses took his wife and his sons, and set them upon an ass, and he returned to the land of Egypt: and Moses took the rod of God in his hand.

son of the bondage.

And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

And God looked upon the children of Israel, and God had respect unto them.

Now Moses kept the flock of Jethro his father in law, the priest of Midian: and he led the flock to the backside of the desert, and came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb.

And the angel of the LORD appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush: and he looked, and, behold, the bush burned with fire, and the bush was not consumed.

And Moses said, I will now turn aside, and see this great sight, why the bush is not burnt.

And when the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called unto him out of the midst of the bush, and said, Moses, Moses. And he said, Here am I.

And he said, Draw not nigh hither: put off thy shoes from off thy feet, for the place whereon thou standest is holy ground. Moreover he said, I am the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob. And Moses hid his face; for he was afraid to look upon God.

And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows;

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.

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.

Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt.

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And Moses said unto God, Who am I, that I should go unto Pharaoh, and that I should bring forth the children of Israel out of Egypt?

And he said, Certainly I will be with thee; and this shall be a token unto thee, that I have sent thee: When thou hast brought forth the people out of Egypt, ye shall serve God upon this mountain.

And 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.

And God said moreover unto Moses, 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: this is my name for ever, and this is my memorial unto all generations.

Go, and gather the elders of Israel together, and say unto them, The LORD God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, appeared unto me, saying, I have surely visited you, and seen that which is done to you in Egypt: And I have said, I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt unto the land of the Canaanites, and the Hittites, and the Amorites, and the Perizzites, and the Hivites, and the Jebusites, unto a land flowing with milk and honey.

And they shall hearken to thy voice: and thou shalt come, thou and the elders of Israel, unto the king of Egypt, and ye shall say unto him, The LORD God of the Hebrews hath met with us: and now let us go, we beseech thee, three days' journey into the wilderness, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God.

And I am sure that the king of Egypt will not let you go, no, not by a mighty hand.

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And I will stretch out my hand, and smite Egypt with all my wonders which I will do in the midst thereof: and after that he will let you go.

And I will give this people favour in the sight of the Egyptians: and it shall come to pass, that, when ye go, ye shall not go empty:

But every woman shall borrow of her neighbour, and of her that sojourneth in her house, jewels of silver, and jewels of gold, and raiment: and ye shall put them upon your sons, and upon your daughters; and ye shall spoil the Egyptians.

And Moses answered and said, But, behold, they will not believe me, nor hearken unto my voice: for they will say, The LORD hath not appeared unto thee.

And the LORD said unto him, What is that in thine hand? And he said, A rod.

And he said, Cast it on the ground. And he cast it on the ground, and it became a serpent; and Moses fled from before it.

And the LORD said unto Moses, Put forth thine hand, and take it by the tail. And he put forth his hand, and caught it, and it became a rod in his hand:

That they may believe that the LORD God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, hath appeared unto thee.

And the LORD said furthermore unto him, Put now thine hand into thy bosom. And he put his hand into his bosom: and when he took it out, behold, his hand was leprous as snow.

And he said, Put thine hand into thy bosom again. And he put his hand into his bosom again; and plucked it out of his bosom, and, behold, it was turned again as his other flesh.

And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe thee, neither hearken to the voice of the first sign, that they will believe the voice of the latter sign.

And it shall come to pass, if they will not believe also these