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THE LIFE OF MOSES – LESSON 6

GOD'S NAME REVEALED – PART 2

Yesterday we spoke of the two names for the trinity godhead. Elohiym is the general name used for all mankind ('adam) and Yahweh is the personal name for His people.

In Exodus 3:6 God identified Himself at the burning bush to Moses as ***"I Am the (Elohiym) of thy father, the God (Elohiym) of Abraham, the (Elohiym) of Isaac, and the (Elohiym) of Jacob. And Moses hid his face for he was afraid to look upon God. (Elohiym)."***

As God gave Moses his commission to lead the Hebrews out of Egypt, he had a concern. With "Elohiym" being a general usage name and not necessarily specific to the Hebrews only, why would they believe Moses that Elohiym would send them out of Egyptian bondage as a free people? Moses asked God how he should reply relating to the god of their forefathers when they asked him (v. 13), ***"What is His name?"***

In verse 14 God identified Himself to Moses as the eternally existent One, ***"I AM THAT I AM."*** This was the Hebrew "hayah" meaning "to exist." He then gave Moses instruction to tell the Hebrews that ***"I AM hath sent me to you."*** Now God's name of ***"I AM"*** got more personally specific to their situation. Here it is the Hebrew "Shalach" which means "to send away." This form of God's name was telling the people that He was going to "send them away" from Egypt. Then he further instructed Moses in verse 15 to tell them ***"Yahweh Elohiym" (LORD God) of your fathers...hath sent me unto you. This is my name forever (to you) ... this is my memorial unto all (your) generations."***

This is the first instance where God revealed His personal name to Moses so he could share it with His people. Later Moses would speak to Pharaoh of the Yahweh Elohiym (LORD God) of Israel to distinguish Him from all the many Egyptian Gods. The two names for God of "Hayah" and "Shalach" (v. 14) were used uniquely for this occasion. I know of no other places they are used.

Moses is now equipped to tell them who really is their god, and it was not the pagan gods they grew up around, although they had certainly heard of the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. He just had not been made personal to them as Yahweh until now.

Our God is a personal, loving God. The God of Islam is an uncaring, impersonal god who controls their life like a dictator. They have no concept of a God of love until they learn of Jesus, but they are threatened with death if they turn to Jesus or even read a bible. They are controlled through fear and intimidation through indoctrination.

We have a love that we can share, the love of God. That is what will win them.