

# Message Notes

## A Reluctant Leader

# Scripture Passages

(taken from the New International Version)

### Introduction - God's Amazing Provision!!

Review from last's week's message:

Objection #1 - Who am I?

Objection #2 - Who are you?

Today's Message:  
**A Reluctant Leader**  
Exodus 4:17

### Objection #3 - Exodus 4:1

What is behind this objection?

### Pushback to Objection #3 - Exodus 4:2-9

"What's that in your hand?"

Speaking of your hand, put in in your cloak

God is God over all!

### Objection #4 - Exodus 4:10

What's behind this objection?

### Pushback to Objection #4 - Exodus 4:11-12

Four Sarcastic Questions and One Command

### Objection #5 - Exodus 4:13

What's behind this objection?

### Pushback to Objection #5 - Exodus 4:14-17

A Concession and A Command

### Gospel Implications

#### The Disobedience of God's People, especially leaders

Jonah

Book of Jonah (briefly!)

Paul

Philippians 3:1-11

Romans 6:1-14

Titus 2:11-14

### Why Obey Jesus

LAW says "You SHOULD obey!"

GOSPEL says "You SHOULD obey! AND, Your legal requirement has been paid by the finished work of Jesus Christ. You GET TO obey!"

**Gospel Application** - What's God asking you to do for His Glory and your joy?

### Exodus 4:1-17

<sup>1</sup>Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The LORD did not appear to you'?"

<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?"

"A staff," he replied.

<sup>3</sup>The LORD said, "Throw it on the ground."

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to him, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail." So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. <sup>5</sup>"This," said the LORD, "is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you."

<sup>6</sup>Then the LORD said, "Put your hand inside your cloak." So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, the skin was leprous—it had become as white as snow.

<sup>7</sup>"Now put it back into your cloak," he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh.

<sup>8</sup>Then the LORD said, "If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second. <sup>9</sup>But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground."

<sup>10</sup>Moses said to the LORD, "Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue."

<sup>11</sup>The LORD said to him, "Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? <sup>12</sup>Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say."

<sup>13</sup>But Moses said, "Pardon your servant, Lord. Please send someone else."

<sup>14</sup>Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. <sup>15</sup>You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. <sup>16</sup>He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. <sup>17</sup>But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it."



# Financial Report

Revenue  
(\$ millions)



Net Income  
(\$ millions)



# How we ended 2017

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# How we ended 2017

- Needed about \$400,000 - 475,000
  - \$491,000 came in December.
- Only ~\$1,000 short of giving to budget
  - ~\$140,000 under in expenses.
    - PRAISE GOD!

# 2018 Budget - \$2,261,501 (2.7% increase)

Avg. Weekly Need: \$42,800

We could meet this year's budget if people committed to filling one of these needs (here's just one way we could break it down, and we'd leave off the last two columns/bottom line):

<u># People</u>	<u>Monthly Giving</u>	<u>Total Months</u>	<u>Total Donation</u>
10	1500	12	180000
25	1000	12	300000
55	750	12	495000
100	500	12	600000
175	250	12	525000
95	100	12	114000
70	50	12	42000
50	10	12	6000
50	5	12	3000
TOTAL -			\$2,265,000.00

# JANUARY GIVING UPDATE

Praise God for the partnership of so many people at Hope  
in reaching our goals for 2018!

## DONORS

In January alone,  
approximately 422 donors gave to Hope.  
A donor was recognized as faithful, a  
business/organization, or a special  
family.



## WEEKLY GIVING

Our average weekly giving this month  
was \$42,776.70. This is  
\$19.40 short of our weekly need  
(\$42,796.10).



## BUDGET

Our total giving YTD is \$1,700,000.00.  
Comparing this amount to our YTD budgeted  
need leaves us short of budget by \$77.00.  
Our total giving so far covers the Outreach,  
Development, and Office portions of our 2018  
budget, which allows us to provide things like  
coffee in Sunday mornings, a safe space for  
women to learn about Jesus, and paper for your  
kids' Bible!



## MINISTRY IMPACT

This January brought our Drive the City  
Super Bowl outreach. We partnered with  
Source Ministry to provide resources,  
temporary housing, and care  
for numerous women.  
Additionally, many Hopesters donated food,  
bedding, gift cards, time, and much more to  
help make this possible.



## OUR MISSION

To honor God by helping as many people  
as possible become fully devoted  
followers of Jesus Christ.





US Midwest

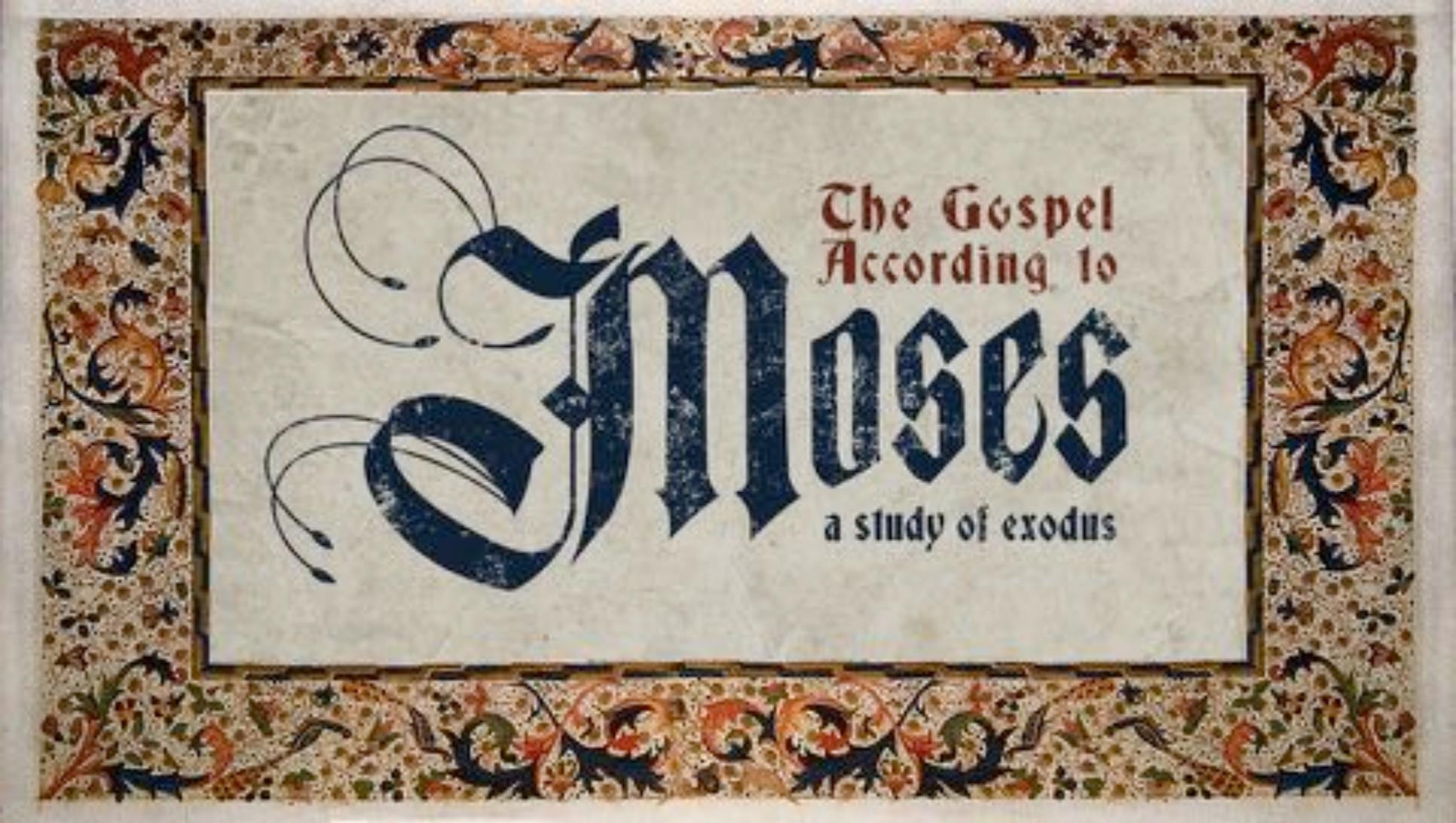
“We hosted our second annual conference this year ... platforming the wide diversity of our mission field”

## NETWORK UPDATE

The US Midwest is comprised of massive urban centers that are featured in the media worldwide, and small places that are unknown except by those who call them “home.” This year, we saw a concentrated effort at reaching both with the message of the Gospel of Jesus. In St. Louis and Detroit, Acts 29 churches are strategically partnering with other inner city churches to develop training, support, and infrastructure for urban church-planting.

In Iowa and North Dakota, indigenous planters are gearing up to start churches in beloved hometowns. Showing our commitment to the far-flung parts of our network, we hosted our second annual conference this year in Fargo, platforming the wide diversity of our mission field.

**Noel Holkkonen**  
Network Director

The page is framed by a wide, ornate border of floral and foliate motifs in gold, blue, and red. The central text is set within a simple gold rectangular frame.

The Gospel  
According to  
**G**Moses  
a study of exodus



# The questions/objections begin (#1)

*“Who am I?”*

## Exodus 3

<sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

# The questions/objections begin (#1)

*I will be with you*

## Exodus 3

<sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

<sup>12</sup>And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

# The questions/objections begin (#1)

*You're going to get a sign*

## Exodus 3

<sup>11</sup>But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”

<sup>12</sup>And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

# The questions/objections continue (#2)

## *Who are you?*

### Exodus 3

<sup>13</sup>Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?”

# The questions/objections continue (#2)

## *“I AM” – a Generational Name*

### Exodus 3

<sup>14</sup>God said to Moses, “I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I AM has sent me to you.’ ”

<sup>15</sup>God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob – has sent me to you.’

“This is my name forever,  
the name you shall call me  
from generation to generation.”

# Moses' Job Description

*Go and be my prophet and their leader*

## Exodus 3

<sup>16</sup>“Go, assemble the elders of Israel and say to them, ‘The LORD, the God of your fathers – the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob – appeared to me and said: I have watched over you and have seen what has been done to you in Egypt. <sup>17</sup>And I have promised to bring you up out of your misery in Egypt into the land of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites – a land flowing with milk and honey.’

# Moses' Job Description

## *Go and confront Pharaoh!*

### Exodus 3

<sup>18</sup>“The elders of Israel will listen to you. Then you and the elders are to go to the king of Egypt and say to him, ‘The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, has met with us. Let us take a three-day journey into the wilderness to offer sacrifices to the LORD our God.’ “

# Moses' Job Description

*God will be glory through wonders and plunder*

## Exodus 3

<sup>19</sup>“But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless a mighty hand compels him. <sup>20</sup>So I will stretch out my hand and strike the Egyptians with all the wonders that I will perform among them. After that, he will let you go. <sup>21</sup>And I will make the Egyptians favorably disposed toward this people, so that when you leave you will not go empty-handed. <sup>22</sup>Every woman is to ask her neighbor and any woman living in her house for articles of silver and gold and for clothing, which you will put on your sons and daughters. And so you will plunder the Egyptians.”

Today's Message:  
**A Reluctant Leader**  
Exodus 4:1-17

## Objection #3

*“What if they don’t believe me?”*

**Exodus 4:1**

<sup>1</sup>Moses answered, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, ‘The LORD did not appear to you’?”



## Objection #3

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<sup>1</sup>Moses answered, “What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, ‘The LORD did not appear to you’?”

A close-up photograph of a computer keyboard. The central focus is a bright red key with the word "Forbidden" printed in white, sans-serif font. The key is slightly raised and has rounded corners. Surrounding it are several dark grey keys with white symbols: curly braces, square brackets, a double quote, a question mark, and a key with an upward-pointing arrow and the word "SHIFT". The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the keys and the vibrant color of the red key.

Forbidden

# Pushback to Objection #3

## *Three Signs given to Moses*

**Exodus 4:2-3**

<sup>2</sup>Then the LORD said to him, “What is that in your hand?”

“A staff,” he replied.

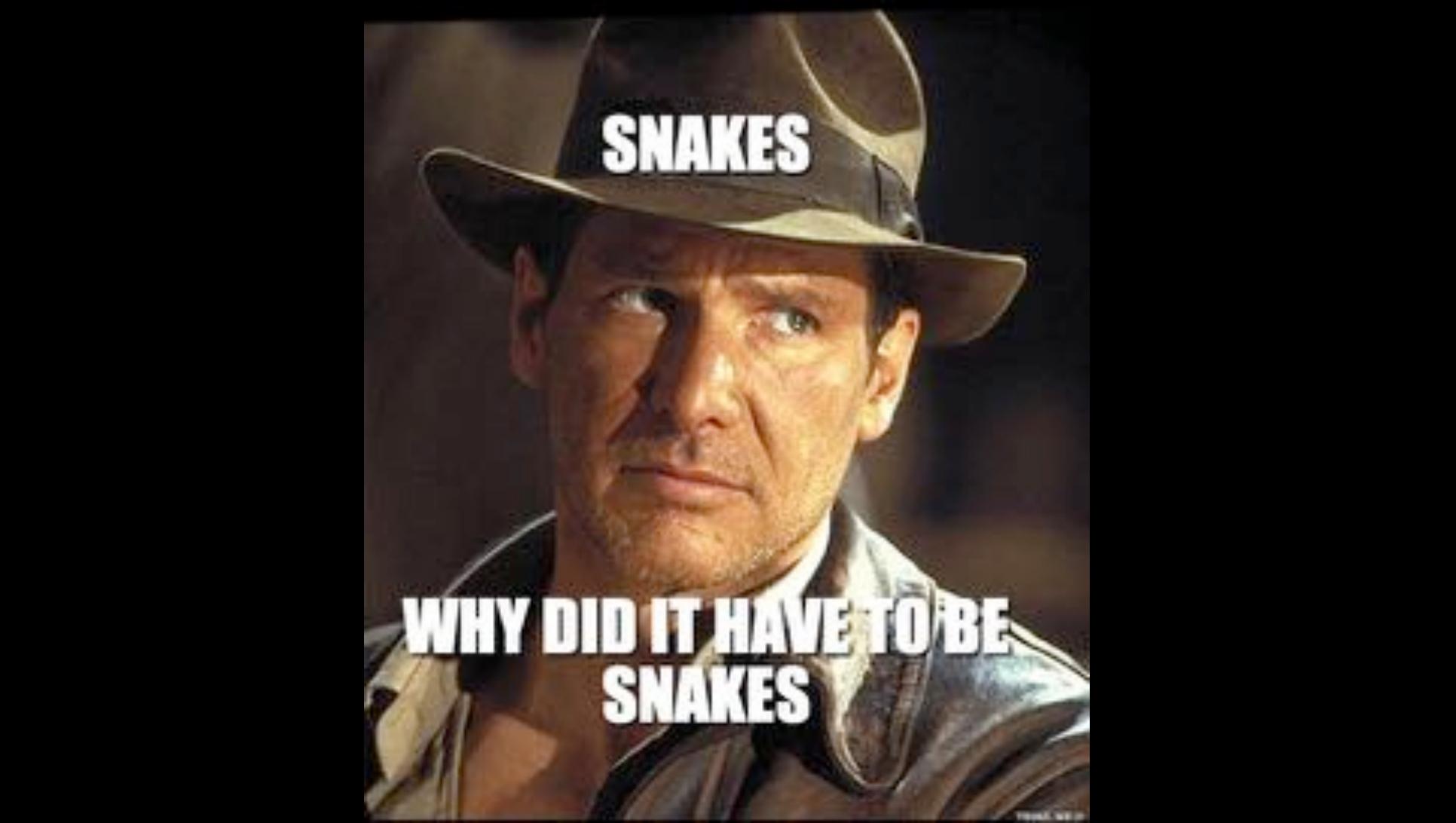
<sup>3</sup>The LORD said, “Throw it on the ground.”

# Pushback to Objection #3

## *Three Signs given to Moses*

### Exodus 4:3-5

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to him, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.” So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. <sup>5</sup>“This,” said the LORD, “is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob — has appeared to you.”



**SNAKES**

**WHY DID IT HAVE TO BE  
SNAKES**

# Pushback to Objection #3

## *Three Signs given to Moses*

### Exodus 4:3-5

Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. <sup>4</sup>Then the LORD said to him, “Reach out your hand and take it by the tail.” So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. <sup>5</sup>“This,” said the LORD, “is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers — the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob — has appeared to you.”

# Pushback to Objection #3

## *Three Signs given to Moses*

### Exodus 4:6-7

<sup>6</sup>Then the LORD said, “Put your hand inside your cloak.” So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, the skin was leprous – it had become as white as snow.

<sup>7</sup>“Now put it back into your cloak,” he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh.

# Pushback to Objection #3

## *Three Signs given to Moses*

### Exodus 4:8-9

<sup>8</sup>Then the LORD said, “If they do not believe you or pay attention to the first sign, they may believe the second. <sup>9</sup>But if they do not believe these two signs or listen to you, take some water from the Nile and pour it on the dry ground. The water you take from the river will become blood on the ground.”

# Hymn to Aton

Thou makest a Nile in the underworld,  
Thou bringest it forth as thou desirest  
To maintain the people (of Egypt) ...

All distant foreign countries, thou makest their life (also),  
For thou hast set a Nile in heaven,  
That it may descend for them and make waves upon the mountains,  
Like the great green sea,  
To water the fields in their towns.

How effective they are, thy plans, O Lord of eternity!  
The Nile in heaven, it is for the foreign peoples  
And for the beasts of every desert, that go upon (their) feet;  
(While the true) Nile comes from the underworld for Egypt.

## Objection #4

*“I’m ain’t not a good talker...”*

**Exodus 4:10**

<sup>10</sup>Moses said to the LORD, “Pardon your servant, Lord. I have never been eloquent, neither in the past nor since you have spoken to your servant. I am slow of speech and tongue.”



# Pushback to Objection #4

## *Four Sarcastic Questions and One Command*

### Exodus 4:11-12

<sup>11</sup>The LORD said to him, “Who gave human beings their mouths? Who makes them deaf or mute? Who gives them sight or makes them blind? Is it not I, the LORD? <sup>12</sup>Now go; I will help you speak and will teach you what to say.”

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*“What if they don’t believe me?”*

**Exodus 4:13**

<sup>13</sup>But Moses said, “Pardon your servant, Lord.  
Please send someone else.”



# Pushback to Objection #4

## *A Concession and (once again) a Command*

### Exodus 4:14-17

<sup>14</sup>Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. <sup>15</sup>You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. <sup>16</sup>He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. <sup>17</sup>But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it."



FOR SALE  
RUNS WELL

A red car is shown from a rear three-quarter view, elevated on wooden blocks. The front end is severely damaged, with the hood and bumper missing, revealing the engine and internal components. The windshield has a white sign that reads "FOR SALE" on the top line and "RUNS WELL" on the bottom line. The car is parked on a paved surface in front of a light-colored building.

# Pushback to Objection #4

## *A Concession and (once again) a Command*

### Exodus 4:14-17

<sup>14</sup>Then the LORD's anger burned against Moses and he said, "What about your brother, Aaron the Levite? I know he can speak well. He is already on his way to meet you, and he will be glad to see you. <sup>15</sup>You shall speak to him and put words in his mouth; I will help both of you speak and will teach you what to do. <sup>16</sup>He will speak to the people for you, and it will be as if he were your mouth and as if you were God to him. <sup>17</sup>But take this staff in your hand so you can perform the signs with it."

# *Gospel Implications*

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**The Disobedience of God's People,  
especially leaders**



# DISOBEDIENCE

THE DARK SIDE OF FREE WILL



**Pieter Lastman,**  
*Jonah and the Whale,*  
1621, Oil on oak,  
360 mm by 521 mm,  
Museum Kunstpalast

## Jonah 1:1-3, 17, 2:10

<sup>1</sup>The word of the LORD came to Jonah son of Amittai: <sup>2</sup>“Go to the great city of Nineveh and preach against it, because its wickedness has come up before me.”

<sup>3</sup>But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish...

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<sup>17</sup>Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

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<sup>3</sup>But Jonah ran away from the LORD and headed for Tarshish...

<sup>17</sup>Now the LORD provided a huge fish to swallow Jonah, and Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights.

<sup>10</sup>And the LORD commanded the fish and it vomited Jonah onto dry land.

## Jonah 3:1-6, 10

<sup>1</sup>Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: <sup>2</sup>“Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

<sup>3</sup>Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it.

<sup>4</sup>Jonah began by going a day's journey into the city, proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.”

## Jonah 3:1-6, 10

<sup>5</sup>The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth. <sup>6</sup>When Jonah's warning reached the king of Nineveh, he rose from his throne, took off his royal robes, covered himself with sackcloth and sat down in the dust...

<sup>10</sup>When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

## Jonah 4:1-3, 10

<sup>1</sup>But to Jonah this seemed very wrong, and he became angry. <sup>2</sup>He prayed to the LORD, “Isn’t this what I said, LORD, when I was still at home? That is what I tried to forestall by fleeing to Tarshish. I knew that you are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love, a God who relents from sending calamity. <sup>3</sup>Now, LORD, take away my life, for it is better for me to die than to live.”

## Jonah 4:1-3, 10

<sup>10</sup>But the LORD said, “You have been concerned about this plant, though you did not tend it or make it grow. It sprang up overnight and died overnight. <sup>11</sup>And should I not have concern for the great city of Nineveh, in which there are more than a hundred and twenty thousand people who cannot tell their right hand from their left—and also many animals?”

Jean Fouquet, *Saint Paul*, circa 1452-1460  
illumination on parchment, 16.5 × 12 cm  
Condé Museum



## Philippians 3:4b-11

If someone else thinks they have reasons to put confidence in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew of Hebrews; in regard to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as for zeal, persecuting the church; as for righteousness based on the law, faultless.

## Philippians 3:4b-11

<sup>7</sup>But whatever were gains to me I now consider loss for the sake of Christ. <sup>8</sup>What is more, I consider everything a loss because of the surpassing worth of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord, for whose sake I have lost all things. I consider them garbage, that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but that which is through faith in Christ – the righteousness that comes from God on the basis of faith. <sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ – yes, to know the power of his resurrection and participation in his sufferings, becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup>and so, somehow, attaining to the resurrection from the dead.

## Romans 6:1-14

<sup>1</sup>What shall we say, then? Shall we go on sinning so that grace may increase? <sup>2</sup>By no means! We are those who have died to sin; how can we live in it any longer? <sup>3</sup>Or don't you know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? <sup>4</sup>We were therefore buried with him through baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.

## Romans 6:1-14

<sup>5</sup>For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly also be united with him in a resurrection like his. <sup>6</sup>For we know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body ruled by sin might be done away with, that we should no longer be slaves to sin — <sup>7</sup>because anyone who has died has been set free from sin.

## Romans 6:1-14

<sup>8</sup>Now if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. <sup>9</sup>For we know that since Christ was raised from the dead, he cannot die again; death no longer has mastery over him. <sup>10</sup>The death he died, he died to sin once for all; but the life he lives, he lives to God.

## **Romans 6:1-14**

<sup>11</sup>In the same way, count yourselves dead to sin but alive to God in Christ Jesus. <sup>12</sup>Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal body so that you obey its evil desires. <sup>13</sup>Do not offer any part of yourself to sin as an instrument of wickedness, but rather offer yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life; and offer every part of yourself to him as an instrument of righteousness. <sup>14</sup>For sin shall no longer be your master, because you are not under the law, but under grace.

# Why Obey Jesus?

# Why Obey Jesus?

LAW says “You SHOULD obey!”

# Why Obey Jesus?

LAW says “You SHOULD obey!”

GOSPEL says “You SHOULD obey!

AND, Your legal requirement has been paid by the finished work of Jesus Christ. You GET TO obey!”

## Titus 2:11-14

<sup>11</sup>For the grace of God has appeared that offers salvation to all people. <sup>12</sup>It teaches us to say “No” to ungodliness and worldly passions, and to live self-controlled, upright and godly lives in this present age, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope—the appearing of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ, <sup>14</sup>who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness and to purify for himself a people that are his very own, eager to do what is good.



# Gospel Application:

# Gospel Application:

*What is God asking you to do for  
His Glory and your joy?*

*Will you obey?*