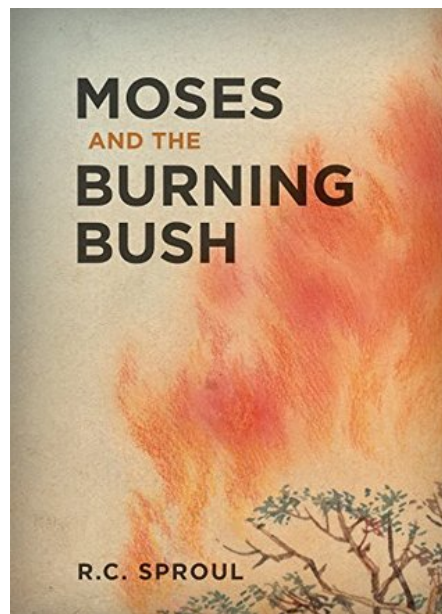




Moses and the Burning Bush

R.C. Sproul

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“The bush was burning, yet it was not consumed”

How can an unholy people stand before a holy God? Who is God, and what is His relationship to His creation? And how can we know Him? In Exodus 3, Moses saw a bush that was burning yet was not consumed by the flames. When he turned to look at it, God gave him one of the most profound theology lessons recorded in the Bible. There, God revealed Himself in a remarkable way, and as Dr. R.C. Sproul writes, His revelation in the burning bush continues to have relevance for Christians today.

Moses and the Burning Bush Details

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Sherry H. says

All I can say is WOW. What an amazing book! Because we have an amazing and awesome God!

Dr. Sproul really knows the beauty and power of God and spells it out clearly in this book. Although it's mainly about Moses and his encounter with God in the burning bush, Dr. Sproul also covers other theophanies of God's Shekinah glory. He writes about God's immanence (nearness to us) and transcendence (that He's above and beyond our scope) and that He alone is holy.

Rather than go through the book for you, as others have done already, I'm just going to say get it and read it and be ready and open to adding a totally new dimension of your perception of God and consequently your walk with Him.

gail thompson says

Moses and the Burning Bush, by R. C. Sproul, is a rich and eloquent account of Moses' encounter with God in the burning bush. In Dr. Sproul's usual inimitable style, he lays open the rich meaning of this mysterious event by disclosing the personality, character and transcendence of God Himself. As Sproul writes, "...the theophany in which God appeared to Moses—the transcendent majesty of God was partially unveiled." In His interaction with Moses, God reveals not only His majesty but His mercy. The great I AM establishes a covenant with Moses that will lead to the redemption of sinful man.

Sproul's joy in his subject matter is evident throughout this simple, easy to read book. A reworking of an older Bible study series by Dr. Sproul, Moses and the Burning Bush is a must have for anyone who wishes to be reminded of who God is and why we worship him.

Denisa Ostas says

This is a book that will captivate you. I must admit it took me awhile to get through the first chapters. But afterwards, it amazed me and I felt like I didn't want this book to end.

Moses has such an extraordinary encounter with God. There is so much mystery in the burning bush. R. C. Sproul takes you within this book (10 chapters) from the burning bush and the holy ground to the name of God "I AM". He gives precious insights for this case (symbols, God's character traits, names of God and so on).

One beautiful interpretation you will find in the book is the resemblance between Moses and Christ (last chapter particularly).

This is a book I would choose to re-read everytime I get in the story of Moses.

Becky says

First sentence: THE BURNING BUSH HAS BEEN a significant symbol throughout the history of the church, and for good reason. In the account of Moses and the burning bush, we see God's self-revelation.

God appeared to Moses and provided an all-important disclosure: His everlasting, covenant name, Yahweh. The burning bush, as a symbol, signifies an encounter with the transcendent God and His divine revelation.

Originally a teaching series with ten lectures, Moses and the Burning Bush has now been adapted into a book. The chapters/messages are: "The Invisible Hand of God," "The Burning Bush," "A Consuming Fire," "The Angel of the Lord," "Holy Ground," "I AM: The Name of God," "I AM: The Being of God," "I AM: The Aseity of God," "A Divine Mission," and "A Shadow of Christ."

The premise of this one is simple. Sproul writes in the introduction, "One of the church's biggest problems is that we don't understand who God is." Later he writes, "In the very early days of Ligonier Ministries, somebody asked me, 'What are you trying to do? What's your mission? What's the purpose of this ministry that you've put together?' I told him, 'It's a teaching ministry to help ground Christians in the Word of God,' and he responded, 'What is it that you want to teach, that the people don't already know?' That was easy. 'Who God is,' I said." He follows that up with this sad but true statement, "I think the greatest weakness in our day is the virtual eclipse of the character of God, even within our churches."

In one way, every book Sproul writes shares a common theme, a common premise--to explore, to explain, to examine WHO GOD IS. God is a God who has revealed himself in the written word. He is a God who wants to be known.

In this short book, readers get an in-depth expository message on Moses and the Burning Bush found in Exodus 3. In particular, he focuses on the verse Exodus 3:14.

Sproul writes, "That moment in biblical history when Moses encountered the presence of God in the burning bush is a watershed episode, not only for the life of Moses, or even for the history of Israel, but for the history of the entire world. This book will consider the significance of that event, looking at Moses' life leading up to that encounter and focusing on the knowledge of God that is revealed in that particular incident."

I enjoyed reading this one. I do think it shows that it was originally a sermon series. Sometimes it got a bit repetitive which makes complete sense in an audio sermon given to an audience with wandering attention spans. Plus, time goes by from week to week--so it's good in a sermon series to remind your congregation of where you are and where you've been. I read it in one sitting. If I'd read it over a couple of days, I probably would not have noticed the repetitiveness.

Favorite quote:

Why does someone worship God? Why give to Him reverence and adoration that is different from any esteem that might be given to anything in the created world? It's easy to love God, be grateful to Him, and worship Him because of the wonderful things He's done in history, and in our own personal histories—but a Christian's reverence for God doesn't rise to true worship until that Christian worships God not for what He has done but for who He is in His transcendent majesty.

Jeanie says

The point of the exodus was not simply to redeem people from oppression, but to redeem them to something: from slavery to worship. That's true in an even higher manner in the redemptive work of

Christ in the New Testament: we are not saved simply because we need to be saved, but so that we might worship Him. That's the point of your salvation-to worship the Lord your God.

The Burning Bush is more than a miracle but a revelation of worship. In worship and just as Moses experienced, we begin to know God and in knowing God we know ourselves and our need for salvation; our need for worship. We are created to worship however, we worship creation instead of the creator.

Sproul always digs to the root of the bible text. The question is not about God's existence but a moral condition. Pharaoh and each of us must face that question. We can deny truth, we can deny authority however, in that denial, we deny worship. God is not like us in that worship is some egotistical trip but worshipping God is for the Glory of God and for our good. Bringing the people out of Egypt was bringing them out of sin to a place of worship.

How do you feel about your place of worship? Is a place of entertainment? A place to catch up with friends? Or is a place that your heart is stilled and your focus is on the Creator. In knowing Him and being in a place of reverence.

Before we can be in that place of reverence, we must understand the difference between ourselves and God. The authority of God and the salvation of God. Moses thru his experience with the burning bush and the promises of God did and we can as well. I highly recommend.

A Special Thank You to Reformation Trust Publishing and Netgalley for the ARC and the opportunity to post an honest review.

Bill Pence says

This short book by the late Dr. R.C. Sproul is based on one of his last teaching series of the same title. He writes that the burning bush has been a significant symbol throughout the history of the church, and for good reason. The account of the burning bush is a story about the holiness of God. He tells us that God Himself appeared, through the manifestation of His presence in the bush and that what Moses experienced at the burning bush is what God's people experience today: a holy, transcendent, all-consuming God who comes down to dwell with His people. He knows us.

This book considers the significance of the burning bush event, looking at Moses' life leading up to that encounter and focusing on the knowledge of God that is revealed in that particular incident. In this book Dr. Sproul looks to answer the question of why the bush was burning and yet not being consumed.

Moses was the mediator of the old covenant. That office made Moses one of the most important people in the entire Old Testament. As a mediator, he stood between God and the people of Israel. Moses foreshadowed the greater Mediator who would come later—the Mediator of the new covenant, Christ Himself.

The author tells us that there are occasions in redemptive history where the invisible God makes Himself visible by some kind of manifestation. That is called a theophany, and it's what we see with the burning bush. What Moses saw in this fire was a supernatural, visible manifestation of the glory of God. He had a momentary encounter with the Holy, and the closer he got, the more afraid he became.

The author tells us that he believes that the greatest weakness in our day is the virtual eclipse of the character of God, even within our churches.

The first thing that God reveals about Himself in that name is that He is personal.

The author addresses such topics as God's self-existence, His transcendence and His aseity. Self-existence means that He depends on nothing and no one for His existence. Only God has the concept of self-existence. The author tells us that if God is self-existent, eternal, and pure, then He is, by definition, transcendent.

When we consider the transcendence and aseity of our God, we will respond in worship and awe—just as Moses did at the burning bush.

The author tells us that the second most important act of redemption ever accomplished in history, and the second most difficult mission ever given by God to a human being, was the mission God gave to Moses. The author tells us that in the burning bush we see the revelation of the person of God, of the power of God, and of the eternality of God. We see the revelation of the compassion of God, the redemption of God, and now, finally, the truth of God.

The author was known for his teaching on the holiness of God. This book is another wonderful look at that attribute of God.

Josh says

This is the first new volume I have read of Dr. Sproul's since his passing, and it was a perfect reminder of why his work has had such a great effect on my thought and life. Sproul is clear and concise, and his exposition of Scripture is thoroughly engaging. The pastoral aspect of these collected lessons is clear throughout.

This is a great volume for people who are new to Sproul. I am thankful that Dr. Sproul's work will live on well beyond him.

ARC provided

Kate Ellis says

I recently read The Prayer of the Lord by the late R.C. Sproul (13.02.39-14.12.17) and was keen to read more of his books.

Moses and the Burning Bush is an informative and challenging exposition in which Sproul explains that "the account of the burning bush is a story about the holiness of God". A book that teaches more of who God is, and encourages assurance in His power.

Benjamin says

Moses at the burning bush. Revealing the self-existent, transcendent and immanent God, who delivers his people in an Exodus greater than that of Moses. This, obviously Sproul's last book, is simple, clear, and yet profound. A nice read for a Sunday afternoon.

Kate Ellis says

I recently read The Prayer of the Lord by the late R.C. Sproul (13.02.39-14.12.17) and was keen to read more of his books. Moses and the Burning Bush is an informative and challenging exposition in which Sproul explains that "the account of the burning bush is a story about the holiness of God". A book that teaches more of who God is, and encourages assurance in His power.

