Weekly Devotional July 20, 2009

Moses, Moses

"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" (Exodus 3:4).

I'm not much of a farm person, but I have been around animals most of my life. My dear grandmother had chickens when I was a boy. Of course, unless chickens are put in a pen with a top over it, when one person has chickens, everybody in the neighborhood has chickens. So, I guess we had chickens, too. Even though they roam and peck and peck and roam all day, they do find their way to their roosting place when the evening shadows fall.

As a boy, I became interested in the mother hen. She was bossy and protective but was always looking out for her little ones. She had several different calls she would sound out at different times. When she called the chicks to eat, she gave out one sound. When she was taking them back to the house, she had yet another call. When she was warning of the tomcat or other dangers, she had another sound that alarmed them.

We have begun looking at the ten double-calls in the Bible. The first two we observed were "Abraham, Abraham" (Genesis 22:11), and "Jacob, Jacob" (Genesis 46:2). Now, we come to the third of these calls, "Moses, Moses." Although none of these calls are exactly alike, they represent the intense desire of God in the lives of His people. He calls us because He, like the mother hen, is looking out for His little ones.

The double-call to Moses reminds us that God is familiar with our circumstances! This divine revelation was not due to happenstance. Knowing that Moses was on "the backside of the desert," and that he "came to the mountain of God, even to Horeb" (3:1), the Lord purposefully spoke to him there. Dear friend, the Lord knows where you are. He knows where I am. He is conscious of our situations and of our place in His purposes.

The double-call to Moses reminds us that God is forthright in His communications! Although "the angel of the Lord appeared unto him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush" (3:2), the communication was divine. When Moses turned aside to see why "the bush was not consumed" (3:3), the Lord called him by name, "Moses, Moses," and revealed His holiness (see 3:4). The Lord not only knows where we are, dear friends, but He comes and gives His guidance in due season.

The double-call to Moses reminds us that God is faithful in His character! Explaining to Moses His great plan of redemption and deliverance for His people, the Lord further revealed Himself as "the God of thy father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob" (3:6). The promises He made to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob were still in His heart. Even "If we believe not, yet He abideth faithful: He cannot deny Himself" (2 Timothy 2:13).