There is a New Judge in Town
Exodus 4:1-9

I. **The kings in the Bible have judicial authority.**
- A. Adam had authority to rule and to judge.
  1. His authority was under the ultimate authority of God.
     - (a) So, his kingdom was the Kingdom of God.
  2. The kingdom was attacked.
     - (a) Satan attacked with lies.
     - (b) He lied about the character of God (slander).
     - (c) He lied about what would be best for Adam.
  3. The attack was not a surprise to God.
     - (a) God was using it as a test.
     - (b) It was a test of Adam's character.
     - (c) Would Adam be faithful to God?
     - (d) Who would Adam trust (a test of faith)?
  4. Adam had judicial authority.
     - (a) His duty was to recognize the rebellion against God.
     - (b) As one who was in covenant with God, he was to be loyal.
     - (c) His duty was to defend God's Name.
     - (d) He had authority to pronounce judgment on Satan.
     - (e) It was his duty to tell Satan to go to hell.
  5. But Adam failed the test.
     - (a) He failed to be faithful. He failed to trust God.
- B. The consequences of unfaithfulness.
  1. Adam lost his authority.
     - (a) Adam and his descendants fell into sin and its corruption.
  2. Satan stole the rightful authority of humanity.
  3. Although Satan was in rebellion there was no one to judge him.
     - (a) There was no image bearer to pronounce judgement.
  4. Satan would hold the image bearers in darkness.
     - (a) No one had the authority to oppose him.

II. What if they say, "the Lord did not appear to you?"
- A. We are called to bear witness to the truth.
  1. We are to testify about what God has done.
  2. We are to share the Good News of the Gospel.
- B. But we ask the same question Moses asked.
  1. What if instead of believing me they call me a liar?
     - (a) Or maybe they'll call me a fool.
     - (b) They'll stand in judgment of me instead of believing.
- C. But isn't this the same way they treated Jesus.
  1. He came to testify to the truth.
     - (a) But instead they judged him, called him a blasphemer.
     - (b) Jesus was unjustly condemned to die.
     - (c) That was inspired by Satan.
     - (d) Pronounce judgment on holiness and goodness.
     - (e) Put hope of rescue and freedom to death.

III. Moses' third sign prophesies a reversal of injustice.
- A. Blood in the Bible signifies life.
  1. It can also signify judgment.
- B. The Nile River was seen as a sacred life source in Egypt.
  1. It provided fertility to the land.
  2. It was the source of Egypt's prosperity and its power.
  3. When food is plentiful, people aren't just fighting to survive; free to pursue learning and discovery.
     - (a) Advances in Egyptian culture led to pride/arrogance.
- C. When Nile water becomes blood on the ground, God is speaking.
  1. The ultimate Judge is pronouncing judgment on Pharaoh.
     - (a) This is also prophetic of Messiah's work.
     - (b) On the cross, Jesus will be judged for our sin.
     - (c) His faithfulness will enable him to rise up as the Judge.
     - (d) The image bearer who can judge Satan (JN 12:31-32).
- D. The Holy Spirit's third conviction (John 16:7-11).
  1. Jesus was faithful, even unto death.
     - (a) He did what Adam failed to do.
     - (b) He is now the rightful Judge!
     - (c) He has pronounced judgment on the evil one.
- E. We ask, what if they say, "God has not sent you?"
  1. It is the Spirit's job to convince people who they will answer to.
     - (a) We need to be faithful to speak.
  2. There is a new Judge in town.
     - (a) He is righteous and just! He offers grace to sinners.
     - (b) Holy Spirit convinces people of who we must answer to.
     - (c) Those who refuse to trust Jesus, will be judged.
     - (d) We just need to bear witness and trust!
  3. The Gospel is our motivation to speak
     - (a) God was prophesying judgment on Satan's kingdom.

(b) But we were part of that kingdom.
(c) Jesus took the judgment for all who trust in him.
(d) Worthy is the Lamb who was slain!
(e) We declare his worth by proclaiming the good news!