

The background is a solid red color with several white, wavy, concentric lines that curve from the top left towards the bottom right, creating a sense of movement and depth.

Don Preiser

How To Create
Your True Identity

**Who
Do You
Think
You
Are?**

CONTENTS

Preface	Pg. 3
Introduction	Pg. 11
1 I Am	Pg. 17
2 Jesus Said I Am	Pg. 21
3 Uniqueness + Diversity = Beauty	Pg. 31
4 Your Anchor Point	Pg. 35
5 What Are You, Really?	Pg. 43
6 Who Are You, Really?	Pg. 53
7 Why Are You, Really?	Pg. 73
8 Horizontal vs. Vertical Relationships	Pg. 81
9 What's That Voice Playing in Your Head	Pg. 85
10 The Role of Rejection and Forgiveness	Pg. 91
11 Implementing a Strategy For Growth	Pg. 101
12 Your Inner Kingdom	Pg. 121
13 Learning to Live by Your Spirit	Pg. 129
14 Conclusion	Pg. 143
15 Epilogue	Pg. 147

INTRODUCTION

It was a pretty ordinary day out in the desert. Nothing but sand, a few scrub bushes scattered around, and the ever present dry desert wind. The sheep were constantly on the move, looking for food and Moses was doing his best to steer them toward their next grazing spot. It was just another day like the hundreds of other lonely days in the barren wastelands next to Mt. Horeb.

He wasn't wild about the job but when you're a murderer on the run and your father-in-law offers to let you hide out for a while, you take what you can get. At least out there he wasn't having to look over his shoulder constantly to be sure his accusers hadn't found him. But one thing about the boring sameness of desert life, anything different catches your eye pretty quickly. And so it was when he suddenly caught sight of a bush on fire.

Not a great cause for alarm since the barrenness insured that it wouldn't spread very far, but there was something unusual about this brushfire. It kept burning but it didn't burn up. His curiosity aroused, Moses cautiously approached to get a better look at the phenomenon. But as he got closer, he suddenly froze in his sandals as the stillness broke and a voice called out to him from the flaming bush, "Moses, Moses."

I don't know about you but for me that would have called for a change of underwear. The bush's constant burning was enough cause for attention but when you hear your name called out in the empty desert and there's nobody around and you're on the run, that should cure your constipation!

With some degree of resignation to his fate, Moses simply replied, "Here I am." Probably expecting to see a battalion of Egyptians soldiers appear from behind the dunes, Moses was shocked to hear the command, "Stop where you are and take off your sandals because the place where you are standing is sacred ground."

Now he really must have been confused. Sacred ground? Out here in the middle of nowhere? And still nobody in sight? What kind of ridiculous game is Pharaoh playing at? Just show yourself and I'll surrender quietly. But if he thought his fate had already been sealed and he was about to go back to spend the rest of his life in an Egyptian prison, the next words he heard must have made his blood run cold. And it wasn't Pharaoh's voice at all. "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Issac, the God of Jacob."

Predictably scared out of his mind, Moses dropped to the ground and hid his face. Facing Pharaoh would have been bad enough but if he thought things couldn't get any worse, they just did. He must have been thinking, "I mean, I only killed one guy and he deserved it. Hardly enough to justify calling in God!" I can only imagine what he was anticipating hearing next.

growth books or listen to a podcast from almost any personal development coach and you'll quickly see the role a strong identity plays in your success. Moses obviously had never been to a Jon Gordon seminar!

Ever since the publication of Norman Vincent Peale's book on The Power Of Positive Thinking, the self help market has been flooded with tactics and strategies for maintaining a positive outlook in just about every conceivable area of life. It's pretty clear that nobody succeeds at anything with a negative approach. In fact, people with that kind of mindset rarely attempt anything new. Negativity creates paralysis, not activity.

So given the necessity of a positive framework, that still doesn't address the role of identity. You can force yourself into a positive mentality but unless it originates from a strong self identity, the likelihood of success is limited. All the positive thinking you can muster will only be effective when coming from a solid, unshakable identity. And Moses clearly didn't have that but was about to get a lesson on identity from the source of all identity.

God was declaring that His very existence was sufficient for anything Moses could ever want or need. Reminds me of Rush Limbaugh's famous tongue-in-cheek remark that "As long as I am here, it doesn't matter where here is!" God was saying to Moses, "As long as **I am**, nothing else matters. As long as **I am**, that's all you need to know."

Many thought Rush's comment was arrogant and boastful but like Reggie Jackson used to say, "It ain't

Have you noticed that getting your sins forgiven doesn't stop you from sinning? Why is that? Apparently forgiveness is not the solution we thought it was!

Have you tried unsuccessfully to reform, turn over a new leaf, make resolutions, set new goals, and surrender more of yourself to God?

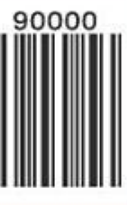
Have you wondered why some Christians seem to be more successful than you at improving their lives? Have you tried all the "spiritual" solutions and not made any progress?

"Unfortunately people of faith tend to overlook solutions that are not directly commanded in the Bible but I think there is more than enough evidence to conclude that there is a viable alternative to the traditional methods of changing our behavior."

With more than enough Scriptural backing, Don Preiser offers a non-traditional, not-so-spiritual option that could be the ticket you're looking for. Your journey to a better identity starts here.

Don Preiser has previously written "The Insignificance of Sin," which lays a more detailed spiritual foundation for your identity, providing solid solutions to the self esteem issues of guilt, shame, and condemnation.

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