Following is the outline from a sermon by Pastor Dave Tietjen at Evangel Baptist Church, Wheaton IL. (www.evbapt.org) from a series on the Old Testament book of Exodus, "Let My People Go." Also available are the pdf file of the PowerPoint® version of the notes, as well as an audio podcast.

Message Notes "Let My People Go – I Am . . . With You" Exodus 3:7-15 May 4, 2014

God Is . . .

♦ "God Is Not Dead" (Movie Trailer)

"There are moments of implausibility that emerge as the list of non-Christians behaving badly lengthens. But *God's Not Dead* can always be seen focusing on the simple power of testifying to the Truth, no matter the cost. (The lead character) makes a decision to let the chips fall where they may, delivering the gospel message bravely and boldly in a hostile environment. He carefully prepares to give his answers. And he always puts God first." ("Plugged In" Review, March 1, 2014)

God Is There . . . Reasons, Not Proofs

- **♦** As Seen in Reality "Nothing Comes from Nothing. Nothing Ever Could."
- **♦** As Seen in Creativity
 - **♦** The Determination for Life "Our Necessary Constants"
 - **♦** The Design of Life

"It is the sheer universality of perfection, the fact that everywhere we look, to whatever depth we look, we find an elegance and ingenuity of an absolutely transcending quality, which so mitigates against the idea of chance. . . . In practically every field of fundamental biological research, ever-increasing levels of design and complexity are being revealed at an ever-accelerating rate."

(Dr. Michael Denton)

"Biology is the study of complicated things that give the appearance of having been designed for a purpose. . . . All appearance to the contrary, the only watchmaker in nature is the blind forces of physics, albeit deployed in a very special way. . . . Natural selection, the blind, unconscious, automatic process which Darwin discovered, and which we now know is the explanation for the existence and apparently purposeful form of all life, has no purpose in mind."

(Richard Dawkins)

For his invisible attributes, namely, his eternal power and divine nature, have been clearly perceived, ever since the creation of the world, in the things that have been made. So they are without excuse. (Romans 1:20 ESV)

As Seen in Morality

"Some cultures love their neighbors, while other cultures eat them . . . which do you prefer?" (Ravi Zacharias)

The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, they do abominable deeds, there is none who does good. (Psalm 14:1 ESV)

God Is There for You

♦ Through His Sufficient Power

And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed.... When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

(Exodus 3:2, 4-6 ESV)

- **♦** Prompted By Moses' Requesting
- ♦ Proved By the Lord's Revealing "Yahweh"

 God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you." God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel, '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, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations." (Exodus 3:14-15 ESV)
 - **♦** He Is Mysterious (Inscrutable)
 - **♦** He Is Constant (Eternally Unchangeable)
 - **♦** He Is Independent (Self-Existent)

"The greatest and best man in the world must say, 'By the grace of God *I am* what *I am*; but God says absolutely – and it is more than any creature, man or angel, can say – *I am that I am*." (Matthew Henry)

"This 'name' is not a description of God, but simply a declaration of His selfexistence and His eternal changelessness; a reminder to mankind that He has life in Himself and that what He is now, He is eternally." (J. I. Packer)

The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation." And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. (Exodus 34:5-8 ESV)

♦ Through His Saving Purpose

"The God who is there is there for you. He has seen your misery. He knows your suffering, and He cares for you. He has heard your prayers. He will rescue you and bring you to a good and perfect place. God is who He is for your salvation."

(Philip Ryken)

As Moses undoubtedly was,

we, too, should be amazed at His love and be adoring in His presence.

(Pastor Dave)