

Questions God Asks: What Is In Your Hand?

Moses answered, "What if they do not believe me or listen to me and say, 'The LORD did not appear to you'?" Then the LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" "A staff," he replied. The LORD said, "Throw it on the ground." Moses threw it on the ground and it became a snake, and he ran from it. Then the LORD said to him, "Reach out your hand and take it by the tail." So Moses reached out and took hold of the snake and it turned back into a staff in his hand. "This," said the LORD, "is so that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has appeared to you." Then the LORD said, "Put your hand inside your cloak." So Moses put his hand into his cloak, and when he took it out, the skin was leprous^[a]—it had become as white as snow. "Now put it back into your cloak," he said. So Moses put his hand back into his cloak, and when he took it out, it was restored, like the rest of his flesh. **Exodus 4:1-7**

Excuse #1: "Who am I?" (3:11)

Excuse #2: "What shall I say to them?" or "Who are You" (3:13)

Excuse #3: "Suppose they will not believe me?" (4:1)

Excuse #4: "But I am slow of speech."

Excuse #5: "Lord, please send someone else." (4:13)

"What is that in your hand?" (Exod. 4:2–4)

So what does this mean?

His staff: -

1. Represented his **Identity**
2. Represented his **Income**
3. Represented his **Influence**

The rod represents God's provision and deliverance.

Lessons from the rod:

1. The rod is dead and lifeless until God empowers it.
2. The rod must be voluntarily given to God for His purposes.
3. The rod is something ordinary that we have in our possession.

4. The rod is something that we know how to use.
5. The rod is not costly or hard to obtain.
6. The rod is unnoticed until God brings it to our attention.
7. The rod is almost always used for the deliverance and provision of *others*.

"If your vision doesn't scare you, your vision is too small, and so is your God!" **Brother Andrew**

Moses and Aaron went from the assembly to the entrance to the tent of meeting and fell facedown, and the glory of the LORD appeared to them. The LORD said to Moses, "Take the staff, and you and your brother Aaron gather the assembly together. Speak to that rock before their eyes and it will pour out its water. You will bring water out of the rock for the community so they and their livestock can drink." So Moses took the staff from the LORD's presence, just as he commanded him. ¹⁰ He and Aaron gathered the assembly together in front of the rock and Moses said to them, "Listen, you rebels, must we bring you water out of this rock?" Then Moses raised his arm and struck the rock twice with his staff.

Water gushed out, and the community and their livestock drank. But the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Because you did not trust in me enough to honour me as holy in the sight of the Israelites, you will not bring this community into the land I give them."

Numbers 20:6-12

"Whatever your hand finds to do, do it with all your might." **Eccles. 9:10**

"The Lord's work, done in the Lord's way will never fail to have the Lord's provision."

Hudson Taylor