

LET MY PEOPLE GO

A Poem for Choral Speaking

by
James Weldon Johnson



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For full chorus, or may be all male voices, (Light, Medium, Dark and Chorus).

ALL: And God called Moses from the burning bush,
He called in a still, small voice,

*MEDIUM MAN: And he said: *"Moses--Moses--"

ALL: And Moses listened,
And he answered and said:

LIGHT MAN: "Lord, here am I."

ALL: And the voice in the bush said:

SOLO: "Moses, draw not nigh, take off your shoes,
For you're standing on holy ground."

LIGHT MEN: And Moses stopped where he stood,
And Moses took off his shoes,
And Moses looked at the burning bush,
And he heard the voice,
But he saw no man.

ALL: Then God again spoke to Moses,
And he spoke in a voice of thunder:

SOLO: "I am the Lord God Almighty,
I am the God of thy fathers,
I am the God of Abraham,
Of Isaac and of Jacob."

LIGHT MEN: And Moses hid his face.

ALL: And God said to Moses:

SOLO: "I've seen the awful suffering
Of my people down in Egypt.
I've watched their hard oppressors,
Their overseers and drivers;
The groans of my people have filled my ears
And I can't stand it no longer;
So I'm come down to deliver them
Out of the land of Egypt,
And I will bring them out of that land
Into the land of Canaan;
Therefore, Moses, go down,
Go down into Egypt,
And tell Old Pharaoh
To let my people go."

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