

Chronological Bible Study

Week 3:

From Slavery to Deliverance

Exodus 1:1-18:27

Opening Prayer

[Video Link](#)





Introductions


- Name
- Where is the furthest you have travelled from home?

Exodus Overview


- The Exodus occurred in either the 15th or 13th century BC (1446 or 1275 BC). Most believe the 13th century date.
- Writing traditionally attributed to Moses.
- The narrative provides theological history, with the intent to show God's great acts and reveal the nature of God in his acts.
- Location begins in Midian, moves to Egypt, and follows the people in the wilderness of the Sinai.
- This is a continuation of the story of Genesis – ~480 years later. The population has grown – the people of God are a large group, nation-sized, living in bondage and cruel oppression




1-18 REDEMPTION : GOD REDEEMS HIS PEOPLE




1	Israel oppressed as slaves in Egypt
2	The birth of Moses: God raises a deliverer
3	The burning bush: God appears to Moses
4	Moses returns to Egypt with signs for Pharaoh
5	Pharaoh works Israel harder
6	God promises deliverance
7	God VS Pharaoh: the ten plagues
8	
9	
10	
11	The plague on the firstborn
12	The Passover and Exodus from Egypt
13	The Israelites consecrate their firstborn
14	Crossing the Red Sea and Pharaoh defeated
15	A song of praise to God
16	God provides food and water for Israel
17	God gives Israel victory over the Amalekites
18	Jethro instructs Moses




19-24 COVENANT : GOD MAKES A COVENANT WITH HIS PEOPLE




19	Israel gathered as God's people at Mt Sinai
20	God's covenant with Israel: 'the ten words'
21	God's laws for Israel
22	
23	
24	God confirms his covenant with the elders of Israel



25-40 TABERNACLE : GOD DWELLS WITH HIS PEOPLE



25	God gives instructions for the tabernacle and its furnishings
26	
27	
28	God gives instructions for the priests
29	
30	
31	
32	Rebellion: Israel worships the golden calf
33	God's glory appears to Moses
34	God reconfirms his covenant with the elders of Israel
35	The tabernacle and its furnishings are made
36	
37	
38	
39	The priestly garments are made
40	God's glory fills the tabernacle



The Structure of Exodus

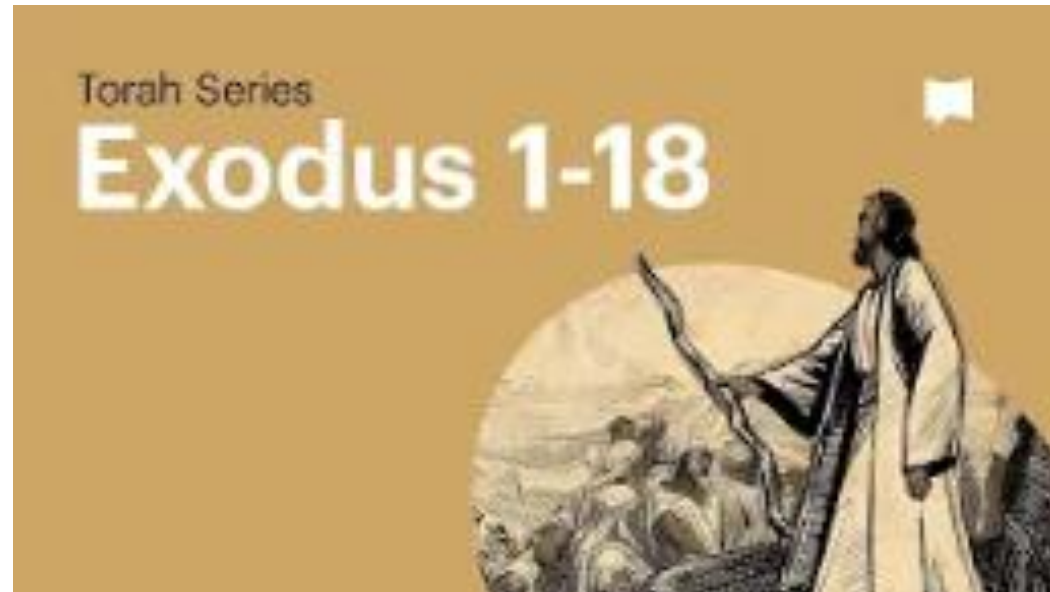
God saves Israel from Egyptian bondage (EX 1-18)

God Gives Israel His Law and makes a covenant with his people (EX 19-24)

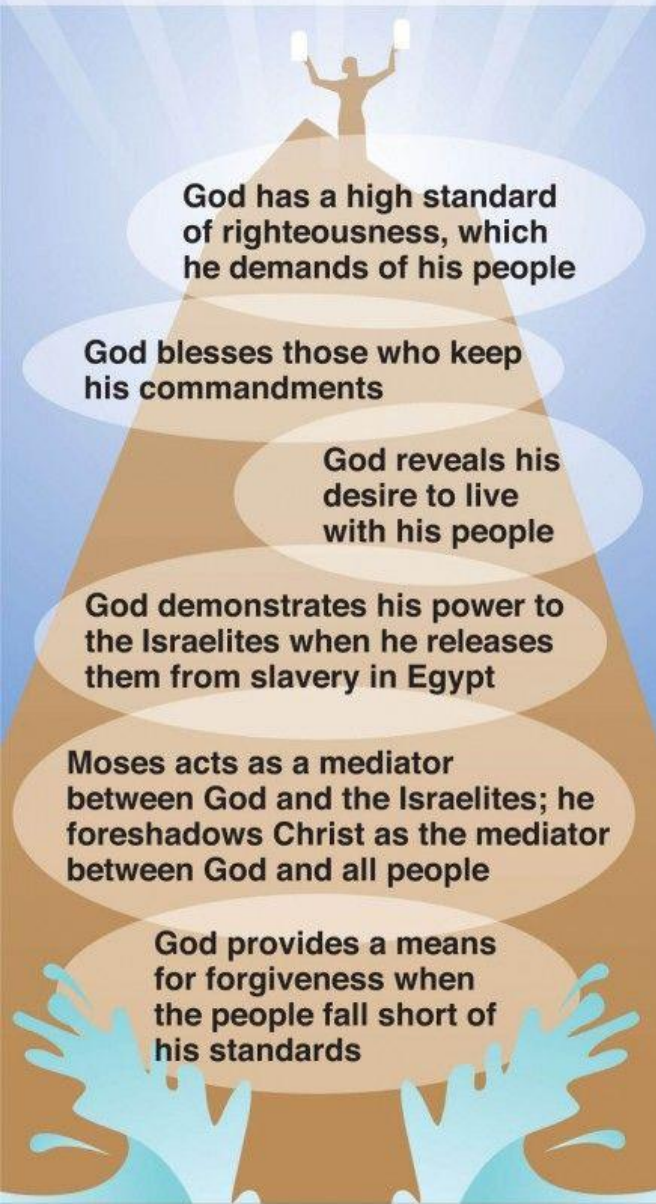
God Commands Israel to Build the Tabernacle so He can dwell with His people (EX 25-40)

Exodus 1-18 Video

[Video Link](#)



Big Ideas in EXODUS



Key Themes in Exodus

- God in relationship with His people
- God's identity and power
- Redemption and deliverance
- The Covenant
- Mediators and the Priesthood

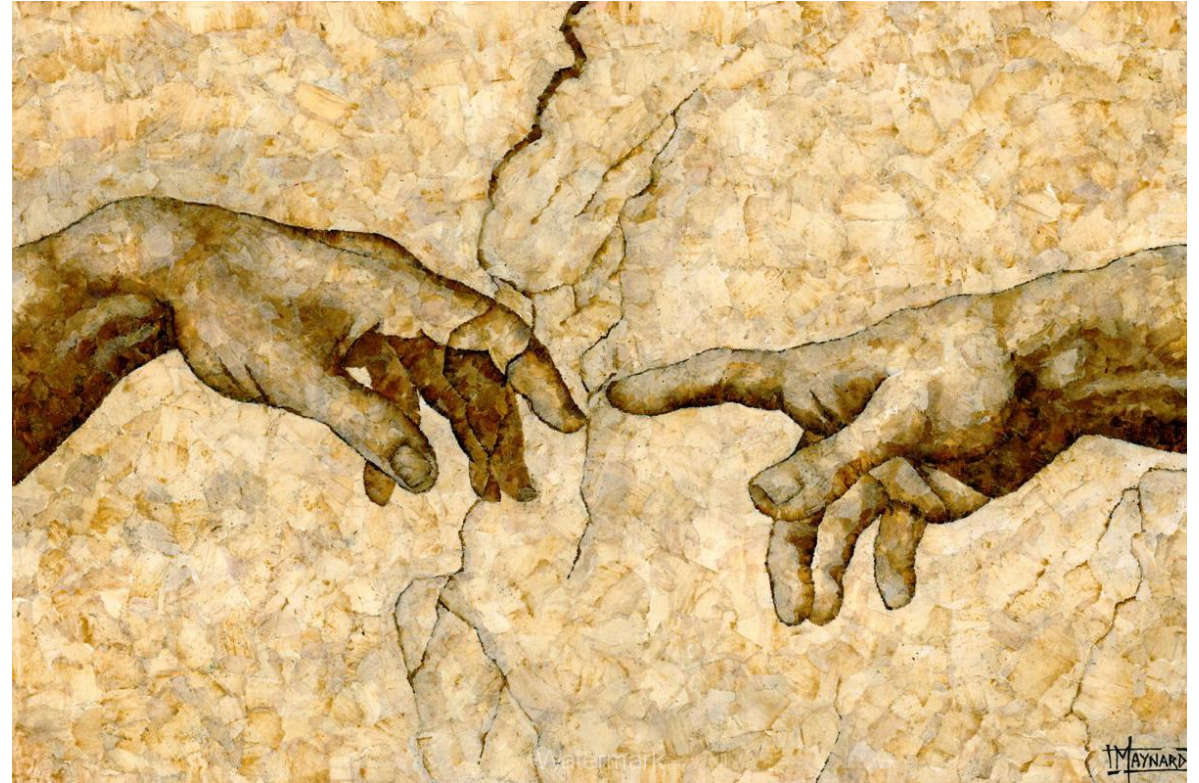
God's Relationship with His People

God's relationship with us is rooted in grace

God:

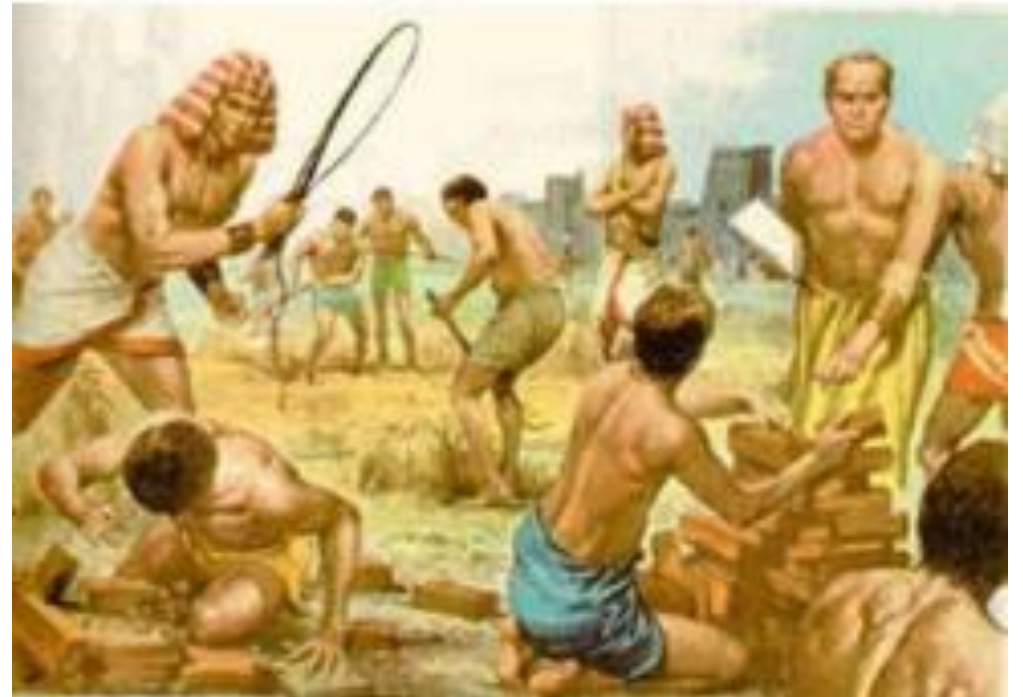
- Remembers
- Redeems
- Restores

According to Exodus 6 our relationship with God is rooted in His grace, rooted in His rescue plan, His mission to bring us into fellowship with Himself wherein there is joy, obedience, and hope.



The Israelites Becomes Slaves in Egypt

- After 100 years “there arose a Pharaoh who knew not Joseph.”
 - This pharaoh resented and feared the Israelites (Hebrews) and forced them all into slavery.
 - The Israelites were slaves in Egypt for 300 years.
- This was many generations from Isaac, Jacob, and Joseph. The people needed to be reminded of the power of their God.





The Story of God's Salvation: Exodus to Jesus

- Jesus, like Israel, is called out of Egypt (Matthew 2:11-15)
- Attempts are made to kill the baby Jesus, just as with Moses (MT 2:16)
- Jesus is tempted in the wilderness after fasting for 40 days and nights (Matthew 4:1-11)
- Moses was given 10 commandments and Jesus presents 10 beatitudes (MT 5:3-12)
- He celebrates Passover (Mark 14:12-25, Matthew 26:28)
- He is identified as the Passover lamb (1 Corinthians 5:7; 11:25)
- He is identified as the supernatural rock that followed Israel in the wilderness (1 Corinthians 10:4)
- He assumes the role of the new Moses (Matthew 5-7)
- Israel's God tabernacles in the very person of Jesus (John 1:14)

Moses and Israel	Jesus and Church
Hidden from Pharaoh twice after two death threats: Ex 2:2,15; Heb 11:23	Hidden from Herod: Mt 2:13
Moses called out of Egypt twice to Mt. Sinai	Jesus called out of Egypt: Mt 2:15
Passover memorial: Ex 12:3-6	Communion memorial: 1 Cor 11:23
Baptized into Moses at Red sea: Ex 14:21-31	Baptized into Christ: 1 Cor 10:1-4
Grumbled, Manna from heaven: Ex 16; Deut 8:3	Grumbled, Jesus from heaven; communion: Jn 6:31-35
Water from Rock: Ex 17:1-7; Num 20:8-12	Jesus is the rock and waters of eternal life: 1 Cor 10:4; Jn 4:14
Fasted 40 days on Mt. Sinai: Ex 24:18; 34:28	Fasted 40 days in wilderness: Mt 4:2
Radiant face on mountain: Ex 34:35	Radiant on Mount: Mt 17:2; 2 Cor 3:7-8
Aliens in Kadesh 38 years: Deut 2:14; Acts 7:29	Aliens in Church till death: 1 Peter 1:1; 2:11
Moses Interceded: Num 14:11-21; 21:7	Jesus Intercedes: Rom 8:34; Heb 7:25
Serpent on pole heals: Num 21:6-9	Christ, a type of the serpent, on cross heals: John 3:14-16
Joshua was a forerunner when he spied out the land and who brought Israel into Canaan 40 years later: Num 14:6-7	Jesus was a forerunner for us into heaven at His ascension and will return to take us to heaven at the Second coming: Heb 6:19-20; Jn 13:36

Moses is Called By God [EX 2:1-4:31]

- Out of fear of the expanding Hebrew population, the Pharaoh gave an order that all male babies born to Israelites were to be killed at birth.
- One mother put her infant son in a basket and floated him on the Nile toward Pharaoh's palace. The Pharaoh's daughter rescued him from the river, named him Moses, and raised him as her son (even though she knew he was a Hebrew baby.)
- When Moses was 40, he killed an Egyptian who was being cruel to a Hebrew slave. Moses immediately fled to Midian where he married Zipporah, a Midianite, and stayed there working as a shepherd for 40 years.
- When Moses was 80 he saw a bush that burned without being consumed. When he got close to the bush God spoke to Moses and called him to return to Egypt and lead the Hebrews out of slavery. Moses tried to talk God out of choosing him but it didn't work.





Theophanies

- Theophany: an appearance of God in an observable form.
- God shows who he is using visual displays and sometimes sounds
- God the Creator is distinct from the created.
- Old Testament theophanies foreshadow the incarnation of Jesus.

Holiness Video

[Video Link](#)



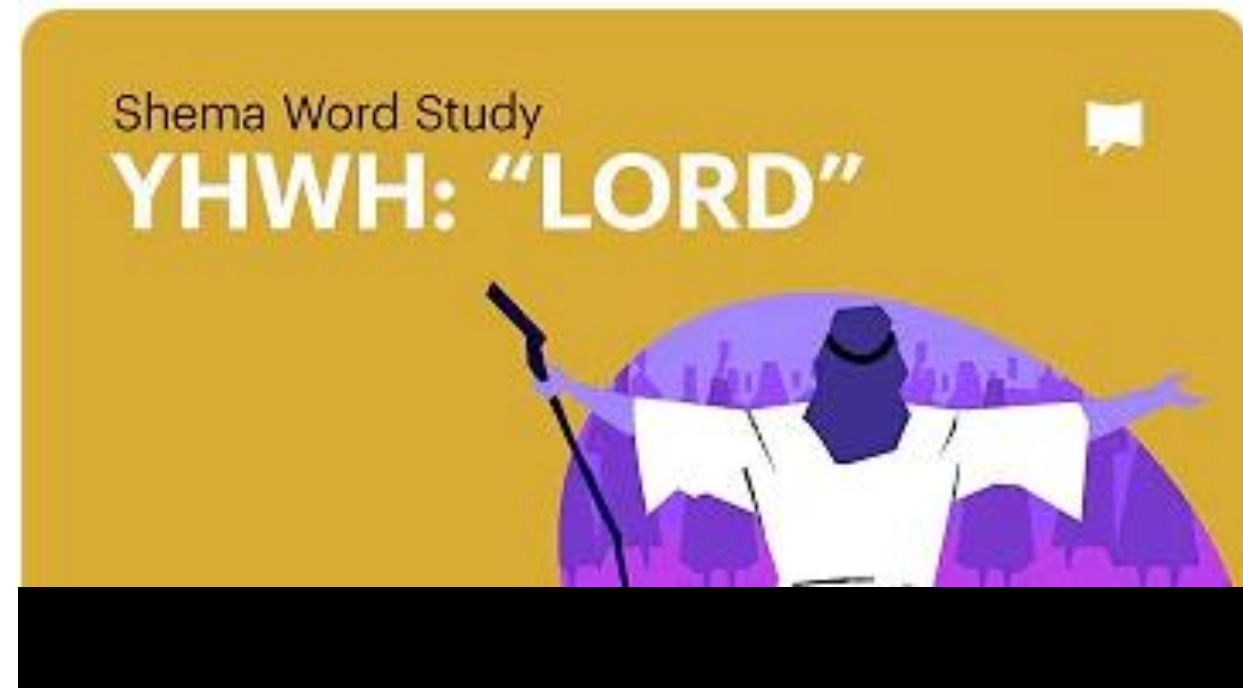
YHWH

- God reveals his name because Moses asks
- Yahweh: a repetition of the verb “to be”
 - I am who I am
 - I will be what/who I will be
 - He brings into existence whatever exists



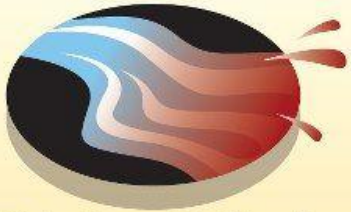
YHWH Video

[Video Link](#)



The Ten Plagues of Egypt

Exodus 7–12



Water turned to blood
7:19



Infestation of frogs
8:5



Influx of gnats
8:16



Masses of flies
8:24



Livestock died
9:6



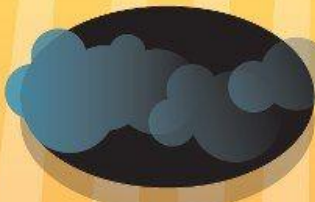
Outbreak of boils
9:10



Pounding hailstorm
9:22



Swarms of locusts
10:12



Overwhelming darkness
10:21



Death of the firstborn
12:29

The Plagues and Egyptian Gods

The plagues were against specific Egyptian gods

Plague 1: judgment against Apis, God of the Nile

Plague 2: judgment against Hequet, frog-headed goddess of birth

Plague 3: judgment on Set, god of the desert

Plague 4: judgment on Uatchit, the fly god

Plague 5: judgment against gods represented by cattle: goddess Hathor and god Apis.

Plague 6: judgment against gods over health and disease (Sekhmet, Sunu, and Isis)

Plague 7: judgment against the sky goddess Nut and the storm god Set and crop god Osiris.

Plague 8: judgment against Nut, Osiris and Set, there would be no harvest

Plague 9: judgment against Re, symbol of Pharaoh himself

The Passover Plague

The final plague, the death of the firstborn males, was a judgment on Isis, the protector of children.

God was teaching the Israelites a spiritual lesson that pointed to Christ.

This plague required an act of faith by the Israelites. Any family that did not demonstrate this faith suffered from the plague.

Passover memorializes the night God delivered His people from bondage. It is a high holy day still for the Jewish people.



Pharaoh's Hardened Heart

- Pharaoh and Egypt appear in the Bible as the first large, full-scale empire that thrives and exists off of oppressing and enslaving other people.
- Pharaoh's heart was hard from the beginning of the story.
- This is a story of good vs. evil.
- God uses evil to accomplish good.



DISCUSSION

In what ways do we see hardened hearts today?

What should we do if we find our own hearts hardening?



The Hebrews Leave Egypt [EX 14:1-40:38]



- The 10th plague convinced Pharaoh to free the 2M Hebrews.
- The Hebrews left Egypt and moved toward the Sinai Peninsula
- God parted the Red Sea for the Hebrews and provided food and water for them as they traveled in the desert toward Mt. Sinai.
- At Mt. Sinai, God formally established the Israelites as His own distinct nation of people, complete with a set of moral and legal laws and a portable temple (The Tabernacle).



God as a Warrior Deity

- The Song of Moses and Miriam (EX 15:1-21) was a victory song for God bringing His people out of Egypt. It is the first song of worship in the Bible.
- The song is in the style of songs to warrior deities of other cultures.
- The Old Testament has many such images – it was part of the culture that God would bring fear to enemies.



Grumbling in the Wilderness

- Moses was used to life in the desert. The Hebrews were used to an agrarian life in the well-watered Nile delta. The desert terrified them.
- Moses becomes the target of the people's grumbling. People begin rebelling. They feared punishment if Pharaoh caught up with them, dying in battle, and dying of thirst or starvation.
- Fear can be a root of unbelief. The Israelites did not listen and obey as God asked. Their grumbling extended to God himself.
- God himself appears to bring the matter to a halt with decisive judgment.

DISCUSSION

The Israelites were ready to return to slavery rather than face uncertainty.

How can we overcome fear through faith in God's powers during difficult times in life?



The Pillar of Fire and Cloud

- Guided the Israelites in the Exodus, allowing them to travel day and night.
- It lasted for their 40 years in the wilderness.
- Served as a testimony to other nations of God's involvement with and protection of his people.



Manna – The Bread of Heaven

- Israelites complain that they are hungry. God responds.
- Sustenance provided by Yahweh.
- The Hebrew word manna means portion, dose, or ration.
- A daily reminder of God's constant presence and care.



Water From the Rock

- Israel faced with a trial of faith and trust in God. They needed water.
- So they test God – they complain and call his faithfulness into question.
- God responds graciously. God commands Moses to strike a rock to make water flow in the desert for the people.



DISCUSSION

Rock and water is used as a metaphor for God in Exodus.

What images from today's world might mean as much to us as water and rock meant to those living in the desert?





Management Advice

- Moses needs help. He cannot lead by himself.
- Jethro, his father-in-law advises him to select judges.

Closing Worship

[Video Link](#)



From Slavery to Deliverance

EX 1:1 – 18:27

26 SEPT – 2 OCT 2023
Week 3 --- 49 Weeks to Go

The end of Genesis marks the move of the Israelite people from Canaan (the promised land) to Egypt (the land of slavery). During the 400 years in Egypt Jacob's family grew from 70 to 2-3 million people. The book of Exodus is the story of how God rescued these people, through his mediator Moses, from the strongest empire of the day, Egypt. In the desert, God instituted his dwelling with them, the tabernacle. God reveals his attributes of justice, truthfulness, faithfulness, mercy, and holiness. God's message of salvation and redemption is clearly seen, particularly in the Passover narrative. Ultimately the story of Exodus is the story of a relationship with a God who never stops working through his people.

Weekly Reading Plan

Day 1: EX 1:1-2:15
Day 2: EX 2:16 - 6:30
Day 3: EX 7:1-10:29
Day 4: EX 11:1-12:36
Day 5: EX 12:37- 14:31
Day 6: EX 15:1-16:36
Day 7: EX 17:1-18:27

Outline

Preparation for Israel's deliverance from bondage
The Israelites as slaves (Day 1)
Moses' birth and call to leadership (Days 1-2)
God saves his people from Egypt (Days 2-7)
Pharaoh's resistance/the Lord's reassurance (Day 2)
Plagues on Egypt (Days 3-4)
Exodus from Egypt Begins (Days 5-7)

Key Characters

Moses
Pharaoh
Zipporah
Aaron
Jethro
Joshua

Key Locations

Egypt
Goshen
Beersheba
Midian
Horeb
Red Sea
Mt. Sinai
The desert

Key Terms

Deliverance
Hardening
Passover (Pesach)
Redemption/Redeem
Exodus
Complaining
Manna
Yahweh

Key Verses

But God has sent me ahead of you to preserve for you a remnant on earth and to save your lives by a great deliverance [GE 45:7]

God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM" and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, "I AM has sent me to you." (EX 3:14)

I am the LORD and I will bring you out from under the yoke of the Egyptians. I will free you from being slaves to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with mighty acts of judgement [EX 6:6]

That day the LORD saved Israel from the power of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. When Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, the people feared the LORD and believed in him and in his servant Moses. [EX 14:30-31]

In your unfailing love you will lead the people you have redeemed. In your strength you will guide them to your holy dwelling (EX 15:13)

EPOCH 3
(1500 – 1200 BC)

Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

Ex1: The Israelites prospered in Egypt, but a new king arose and forced them into hard labour. He commanded that their baby boys be killed.

Ex2: Pharaoh's daughter found a Hebrew baby by the river. She named him Moses. When he grew up, Moses killed an Egyptian and fled to Midian.

Ex3: Moses saw a burning bush. God told him to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. Moses asked God his name and God said, "I am who I am."

Ex4: The LORD gave Moses signs so that the people would listen. Moses was afraid, so the LORD sent his brother Aaron to speak for him.

Ex5: Moses and Aaron told Pharaoh to let the Israelites go into the desert to worship. Pharaoh refused and increased their workload instead.

Ex6: The LORD told Moses that he would lead the Israelites out of Egypt to the promised land. Aaron and Moses were from the tribe of Levi.

Ex7: Moses and Aaron went to Pharaoh. Aaron's staff became a snake, then the LORD turned the Nile to blood, but Pharaoh wouldn't listen.

Ex8: The LORD sent a plague of frogs on Egypt. Pharaoh begged for relief but then hardened his heart. The LORD sent gnats and then flies.

Ex9: The LORD sent a plague on the livestock of Egypt, then boils and then hail. Pharaoh begged for relief but then his heart was hardened.

Ex10: The LORD sent a plague of locusts. Pharaoh begged for relief but then his heart was hardened. The LORD sent darkness for three days.

Ex11: The LORD said that he would send one more plague, and then Pharaoh would let the Israelites go: all the firstborn Egyptians would die.

Ex12: The LORD told the Israelites to take Passover. That night all the firstborn Egyptians were killed. Pharaoh told the Israelites to go.

Ex13: The LORD told the Israelites to consecrate their firstborns to him. He guided them as a pillar of cloud by day and of fire by night.

Chapter Summaries (from @biblesummary)

Ex14: Pharaoh's army caught the Israelites by the sea. The LORD parted the waters and the Israelites crossed. The Egyptian army was drowned.

Ex15: The Israelites sang: "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed; horse and rider he has thrown into the sea." They camped at Elim.

Ex16: The Israelites grumbled to Moses that they had no food, so each day the LORD provided quails and manna. They rested on the Sabbath.

Ex17: The LORD told Moses to strike a rock to provide water. Amalek attacked Israel, but as Moses held up his arms Joshua's army prevailed.

Ex18: Moses' father-in-law Jethro came and offered sacrifices to God. He suggested that Moses appoint leaders to help him judge the people.

Teachings About God

- God keeps his promises.
- God discloses his identity, his character, and his commitment to his people.
- God discloses his name at the burning bush.
- Reveals the LORD as Redeemer. He saves his people from bondage.
- God provides for his people [EX 16]
- Biblical freedom doesn't mean no restrictions. God protects us and his restrictions can result in something better than what we want or ask for.

Teachings About Humanity

- Pharaoh's wickedness [EX 4-14] highlights the universality of human evil and shows rebellion against God.
- God is shown to put great value on humanity.
- Our exiles may not be physical captivity, but we can be stuck in a cycle of dissatisfaction.

Teachings About Salvation

- The exodus was the greatest divine redemptive act until Christ's coming and death.
- God taught explicitly the substitutionary meaning of the Passover lamb's death [EX 12:13]
- In bringing people into a right relationship with him, God was determined to make Abraham's descendants into a true nation.

Reflections of Christ

- Christ is prefigured by Moses and the Passover lambs.
- The Passover lamb, who takes away the sins of the world [John 1:29], are a picture of Christ's death for sinners and his providing access to God.
- Christ was with Israel as the flame that followed them through their journey to the Promised Land.

Literary Genres/Techniques

- Historical narrative.
- Some Laws
- Composed in Hebrew
- The need for Israel to have a permanent historical record of events that brought it into existence as a nation likely prompted Exodus being written.

Author/Date of Writing

- Moses, ~1445 BC

First Audience

- The Israelites at Mount Sinai in the wilderness on their way to Canaan.

WEEK 3 DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

What did I learn about God?

- God rescues Moses from death as an infant and rescues the Hebrews from Egypt. For what purpose does God rescue His people?
- In the Ancient Near East, redemption meant that the redeemed was indebted to the redeemer. What does it mean to be redeemed by God [EX 6:6]? What does redemption mean to us today?
- Why did God initiate the plagues? Do we see God’s mercy in the plagues? How can the story of the plagues help us understand where God is when natural disasters or war occur?
- In EX 17:6, rock and water is used as a metaphor for God. What images from today’s world might mean as much to us as water and rock meant to those who lived in the desert?

What did I learn about human nature?

- Have you ever experienced a “hardened heart”? Why did God harden Pharaoh’s heart? What causes stubbornness?
- In EX 14:13-14 Moses tells the Israelites to “stand firm” and “be still”. The Israelites were even ready to return to slavery rather than face uncertainty. How can we overcome fear through faith in God’s mighty powers during difficult periods in life?
- In what ways are we like the Israelites who complained even though God provided them with all they needed? What lesson was God teaching Israel through the manna?
- Think about the most efficient and effective organization you have worked for? What type of leadership and management philosophy was used? Was it similar to the structure Moses put in place in EX 18:22-23?

What did I learn about my life/relationship with God?

- The Egyptian midwives took a risk by defying the direct order of Pharaoh to kill all the male Hebrew babies. Would you have taken a risk to disobey an order that you knew to be immoral? Have you taken a stand in the past based on your values or faith?
- In rescuing Moses and the Hebrews, God uses other people to complete his mission. How are people used? How can we overcome our inadequacies to be used by God?
- Think about a time when you felt God answered your prayer. What did it feel like to know that the God of the universe cared about you? What does it mean to belong to God?
- Think of a time when you left the familiar for the unfamiliar. How did you feel during the time after you left what you knew but before you settled into your new situation? How does this memory help you empathize with the Israelites as they leave Egypt?

Shared Time/Culture Insights

- The Egyptian magicians competed with God in overcoming many of the plagues (commentary pg. 81). Some scholars believe the plagues represented various Egyptian gods, holding special significance to the Pharaoh and the Egyptians. How does God use miraculous signs? Are there still miracles today?
- Discuss the importance of the Passover Meal (commentary pg. 86) in terms of its symbolism and its tradition. How do rituals help you remember what God has done for you?