



‘Now you shall eat it in this manner: with your loins girded,
your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand;
and you shall eat it in haste—it is the LORD’S Passover.

Exodus 12:11

Welcome to the Book of Exodus!

As you begin your study of Exodus, meditate on the contents of the book represented in the overview chart below. What are the three major movements of Exodus? Notice the progression of events. How do you think each section relates to the walk of a Christ-follower today? In Genesis we viewed the Sovereign choice of God. In Exodus we see sovereign deliverance from the bondage of sin! The great theme of redemption permeates the pages of this pertinent book!

| EXODUS | | Exit |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|
| Deliverance from Bondage | Law Exposed | Tabernacle Constructed |
| 1:9-22;12:51 | 20:1-17 | 25:1-22 |
| 1-12 | 13-24 | 25-40 |

"God's sovereign redemption." 12:51

Take this opportunity to examine each of the references included in the overview chart. These passages reveal the main thrust of the corresponding sections. What have you learned thus far concerning the book of Exodus? A key verse of Exodus is found in 12:51 and reflects the theme of the exit from the bondage of sin by the power of the Sovereign Lord God. As you read, try to glean specific principles concerning redemption.

Genesis closed with the promise of blessing (50:24) and Exodus opens with a problem of bondage (1:8-14). In Genesis we considered God's sovereign choice of His people (12:1-3); in Exodus, we see His sovereign redemption (12:51).

Open your heart as you read!

Though life can be filled with problems, God's promises are sure. God's plan is to choose and redeem; His desire for man is to submit and obey. Though sin reigns in the human race, God provides escape and pardon for His chosen race; the shed blood of a pure Lamb!



KEY BACKGROUND on the book of Exodus

AUTHOR

Moses. Jesus verified this fact in Mark 1:44 and John 7:19 as do His disciples in John 1:45. Also note Exodus 17:14 and 24:4.

DATE

After 1444 B.C. (date of the Exodus) and before 1405 B.C. when Moses died. Exodus was probably completed during the 40 years of wandering, sometime soon after the completion of the Tabernacle (Exodus 35-40).

PURPOSE

Egypt to the average person usually means massive pyramids, hieroglyphic inscriptions, mummies, and King Tut. The land of ancient Egypt brings to most peoples' minds a sense of mystery and magic. To the ancient Israelite, however, the situation was different. For him Egypt meant slavery and suffering but also great victory and the birth of his nation. The book of Exodus is a logical sequel to the patriarchal history of Genesis. The last chapter of Genesis ends on a rather sad note, for Joseph, a great spiritual and human leader, was put 'in a coffin in Egypt' (Genesis 50:26). To a certain degree the book of Exodus begins on that very same sad note. Figuratively speaking, the nation of Israel was in a coffin in Egypt. During the nearly 400 years since the close of Genesis, the patriarchal family had grown into a nation of nearly three million people. The theme of this book as described in Exodus 19:1 centers around Israel's 'exit' from Egypt. Without this exit, everything else that takes place in Exodus could not have happened. In this book, you will read about the deliverance of the nation from slavery (Chapters 1-12), the giving of the nation's law at Mt. Sinai (chapters 13-24), and the building of the nation's place of worship, the Tabernacle (chapters 25-40).

WHY STUDY THE BOOK OF EXODUS?

1. It is clear from a study of Exodus that the Israelites had just as difficult a time exiting from their old ways as they did exiting from the old land of Egypt. As Christ-followers, we need to learn from the bad example of Israel exiting from Egypt "and not crave evil things, as they also craved, and do not be idolaters, as some of them were; as it is written, the people sat down to eat and drink, and stood up to play. Nor let us act immorally...nor let us try the Lord...nor grumble..." (1 Corinthians 10:6-12). Instead we need to practically experience the truth of 2 Corinthians 5:17 '...old things have passed away, new things have come'. Someone has said, "It took only one day to take Israel out of Egypt, but many years to get Egypt out of Israel."

2. Israel's God and Guide steered the travelers away from the most direct route to Canaan, the 'way of the sea', for at least two reasons: 1) To avoid certain warfare; and 2) To take Israel to 'the mountain of God' (3:12). The nation needed to learn to walk with God before learning to fight for Him. Too many Christian organizations and churches today want workers and warriors first and worshippers second. This is the reverse of God's desire for us. Jesus Himself said that the Father seeks true worshippers (John 4:23-24). Only through worshipful submission to our King will we be prepared to work and do warfare for Him.



Exodus Chapter Chart

OPPRESSION & THE DELIVERER

Read Chapters 1-4

| Chapter | Title | Key Verse |
|---------|-------|-----------|
| 1 | | |
| 2 | | |
| 3 | | |
| 4 | | |

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was the cause of this bondage? What was the result?

2. What does 1:12 reveal about God? Israel? Egypt?

3. What are the three questions Moses asks God?

4. Reread the account of the burning bush. List specific feelings you would have if you were in this situation.

5. How is God specifically revealed as Redeemer in these chapters?

What about today?

1. Identify any bondage that is presently in your life. What is the cause? What is the impact?

2. How do the three questions of Moses give you instruction for your own response to God?

1 Thessalonians 5:24 could have provided much comfort to Moses, for the years ahead would provide many opportunities to trust in the Lord!

RESISTED REDEMPTION

Read Chapters 5-11

| Chapter | Title | Key Verse |
|---------|-------|-----------|
| 5 | | |
| 6 | | |
| 7 | | |
| 8 | | |
| 9 | | |
| 10 | | |
| 11 | | |

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Why didn't Pharaoh wish to let Israel go?

2. Why didn't the people listen to the Word of the Lord through Moses?

3. What is the meaning of the statement, "I will harden Pharaoh's heart"? (Note Romans 9)

4. Try to imagine the intensity of these plagues by viewing them as happening in your own country, state, and city! It is an awesome picture of the wrath to come!

5. Read 9:16, 17. What insights do you gain about God's awesome power?

What about today?

1. Picturing Egypt as the world, Christians as Israel, God as His Son, and you as a member of God's chosen people, what lessons can we learn about our struggle with sin?

2. Read Romans 9:14-18. What are the implications as we seek to comprehend a sovereign God and His salvation?

3. What hinders you from listening to the Word of the Lord?

The distinction in 11:7 is a beautiful statement of God's love for His people. When difficult times come, we can have confidence that we are loved in the Beloved! We see this same distinction in Revelation 19:11-15 and 21:6-8.

| Chapter | Title | Key Verse |
|---------|-------|-----------|
| 12 | | |
| 13 | | |
| 14 | | |
| 15 | | |

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. List the similarities you observe between what you know of Christ in the Gospels and this Passover lamb. See how many you can list!

2. How was the Passover a sign to the Jews? The Gentile nations?

3. Note here the key verse of 12:51 relative to 13:8. What was God's desire for future generations?

4. In what manner did God lead Israel out?

What about today?

1. How could this section increase your appreciation of Christ's satisfying sacrifice?

2. How is the "Passover" instinctive to a believer today?

3. What did the events of this section further teach you about God's character?

4. How does the response of the people and Moses instruct you in your own appreciation of the Passover?

We, too, complain in the midst of God's great love for us. Do you have the attitude of Moses (15:11-13)? We should (Revelation 5:1-7)!

How do you feel about being "passed over" on the basis of Christ's blood?

(1 Corinthians 5:7)

SINAI MIGRATION

Read Chapters 15-19

| Chapter | Title | Key Verse |
|---------|-------|-----------|
| 16 | | |
| 17 | | |
| 18 | | |
| 19 | | |

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What were the three forms of sustenance God provided for the Jews as they set out and continued upon their journey?

2. What was the response of the people in each case?

3. What tests did God perform through those three acts of providence?

4. What were the conditional promises that were made?

5. What lessons do we learn from the counsel of Jethro?

What about today?

1. Compare Matthew 6:25-34 to the reaction of the Jews to God's providence. How do you respond in similar situations?

2. What are the principles revealed in the teaching on the Sabbath and do you keep them? Why should (or should not) not these principles be observed?

The migration period was a testing time to purify the people of God. How are you responding to the tests of God in your life (1 Peter 4:12-19)?

| Chapter | Title | Key Verse |
|---------|-------|-----------|
| 20 | | |
| 21 | | |
| 22 | | |
| 23 | | |
| 24 | | |

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. Read 19:5-6. What is revealed about God's desire for His people and His purpose for His law?

2. How should a Christ-follower feel about keeping the ten commandments?

3. What warning is given following the ten commandments and reiterated in 1 John 5:21?

4. How do each of these other laws give instruction on Matthew 22:34-40?

5. In 24:9-11 we see a beautiful example of the mercy of God in withholding His wrath.
What does this mean to us?

What about today?

1. What is our relationship to God's law?

2. What is your heart response to 24:9-11?

The people had been delivered from the suffering of Egypt. They now need to be taught about God's holy standards. We will see the Jews continually desiring to return to Egypt. Read Matthew 6:24. [Whom do you serve, Egypt, or the King of the Promised Land?](#)

| Chapter | Title | Key Verse |
|---------|-------|-----------|
| 25 | | |
| 26 | | |
| 27 | | |
| 28 | | |
| 29 | | |
| 30 | | |
| 31 | | |

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was God's purpose for Himself in building a Tabernacle? For the people?

2. What did each part of the dwelling place reveal about God's relationship to man? Man's responsibility to God?

3. What was the purpose of sustaining a priesthood?

4. What is a 'perpetual covenant'?

What about today?

1. What do we learn about the character and standards of God from these elaborate instructions?

2. Do you feel you are conscientious in your worship and communion with the Lord?

3. What have you learned about obedience in worship?

Read Hebrews 8-9. What do you learn about the Tabernacle? What are the similarities between this and what you have seen in Exodus? What has changed? What is fulfilled? We must learn to worship God in spirit and in truth as well (John 4:24)!

| Chapter | Title | Key Verse |
|---------|-------|-----------|
| 32 | | |
| 33 | | |
| 34 | | |
| 35 | | |
| 36 | | |
| 37 | | |
| 38 | | |
| 39 | | |
| 40 | | |

KEY QUESTIONS:

1. What was the response of the people to God's instructions about the Tabernacle?

2. What was the significance of the ornaments?

3. Why was the request of Moses to see God's glory a significant one?

4. What was the importance of the contributions?

5. In 40:16, we see an example of the followthrough that God desires!

What about today?

1. Are you carrying any ornaments?

2. What have you personally experienced concerning God's glory?

3. What contributions have been stirred up in your life?

4. 40:34-38 reveals God's desire to lead His people.

Communing through the Tabernacle meant knowing the leading and direction of God.
Read Romans 12:1,2. How do we fulfill this need for understanding God's direction?



Check out these passages and learn more about the Tabernacle!

The Tabernacle

Symbol of God's Presence; God's Dwelling Among Man.

Exodus 25:8,22; Exodus 40:38

The Holy Spirit

Seal of God's Presence; God's Dwelling in Man.

Ephesians 1:13,14; John 14:16,17,23,26; John 16:7-15; 1 Corinthians 2:12

The Ark

God met with the people....Exodus 25:21,22

"...above the mercy seat" (atonement cover Exodus 25:17 in the N.I.V.)
Signifies the Mercy of God.

"...between the two cherubim..."
Signifies the Holiness and the Power of God.
(Genesis 3:24)

"...upon (over N.I.V.) the...testimony..."
Signifies the Authority of the Word of God and
His Faithfulness to perform what He has spoken.

The Testimony

Then: Written on tablets of stone; kept in a box. Exodus 25:16; 40:20.

Now: "And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us..." John 1:14;
Romans 10:8,9.

The Bread of the Presence....Exodus 25:30

The Bread of Life...John 6:32-58.

The Lampstand

The light of the tabernacle.

Jesus Christ

The Light of the World. John 8:12

His Children

Commanded to be His 'lights'. Matthew 5:14-16.

God dwells with any seeker who has committed his or her life to allow Him to
tabernacle within our heart!

SOVEREIGN REDEMPTION

Redeem:

To buy out; release by paying a ransom price; to deliver. When we talk about sovereign redemption, we are talking about God's all-powerful and supernatural work in redeeming Israel. Redemption is a work of God! Observe these passages, recording what you learn about redemption. What does redemption involve? What is the purpose of redemption?

Exodus 6:6

Isaiah 62:12

Exodus 13:13,15

Jeremiah 15:21

Deuteronomy 7:8, 9:26; 13:5

Hosea 13:14

Deuteronomy 15:15; 21:8; 24:18

Luke 24:21

Ruth 4:4,6

Titus 2:14

2 Samuel 7:23

1 Peter 1:18,19

1 Chronicles 17:21

Galatians 3:13

Psalms 25:22

Galatians 4:5

Psalms 26:11

Revelation 5:9

Psalms 44:26

Revelation 14:3,4

Psalms 49:7,8

2 Thessalonians 2:8

Psalms 69:18

Ephesians 1:7,14

Psalms 107:2

Colossians 1:14

Psalms 111:9

Romans 6:4

Psalms 130:8

Hebrews 9:12, 15

Psalms 136:24

Romans 8:23

Isaiah 29:22

1 Corinthians 1:30

Isaiah 43:1; 44:22

Ephesians 4:30

MOSES, MAN OF GOD

Here is a six and one-half point study considering Moses, the Man of God. Study each reference and determine one or two personal applications for each point considered. We can learn much from the example of this man of God!

1. **CHOSEN BY GOD**

He was singled out...Exodus 3:4,10

2. **GUARDED BY GOD**

He was drawn out...Exodus 2:6,10

3. **CALLED/COMMISSIONED BY GOD**

He was to bring out...Exodus 3:4, 10; 14:21,22

3 1/2. **UNSURE OF GOD**

He missed out...Exodus 4:10-15

4. **TESTED BY GOD**

He wanted out... Exodus 17:4; Numbers 11:10-15

5. **EXALTED BY GOD**

He was called out and decked out...Exodus 24:15-18; 33:7-10; 34:28-30

6. **BURIED BY GOD**

He was left out...Numbers 20:12; Deuteronomy 3:23-28; 34:4-6

'...unless possibly, after I have preached to others, I myself should be disqualified?'
1 Corinthians 9:27

In what ways was Moses tempted?

How does this parallel potential disqualification in my life?

EGYPT EVALUATION

Observe each of these references to grow in your understanding of the [effect of Egypt upon the people of God](#). As followers of Christ, we are being called out of the bondage of Egypt (sin) and into the freedom of bondage of God. First, let us define Egypt!

Acts 7:22...Egypt was man-centered. In what ways has Egypt impacted you?

Hebrews 11:25...Egypt was pleasure-centered. What pleasures and treasures have been built into your value system?

Acts 7:41...Egypt was self-centered. Someone once said, "God took His people out of the land of Egypt in one day...it took a lifetime to take Egypt out of the people." What are the works of your hands that provide a [snare](#) for you?

Compare 1 John 2:15, 16 and Matthew 4:1-11 for a clear representation of the three temptations that continue to come from Egypt. 1 Corinthians 10:10...How does God help us [escape](#) Egypt?

[God dealt with the bondage of Egypt very specifically.](#)

Sin was confronted (Moses and Pharaoh) 1 Timothy 4:2; Romans 6:6

Blood was applied (Passover) 1 John 1:9; Romans 6:11

Freedom was gained (Red Sea Opened) Romans 8:2; Romans 6:13

Freedom was learned (Wilderness) 1 Peter 4:12-19

How do these principles relate to our own spiritual walk?

From what are we to flee?

1 Corinthians 10:14

1 Timothy 2:22

1 Corinthians 6:18

To what or Whom are we to turn?

2 Timothy 3:5

What are we to resist?

Hebrews 12:4

James 4:7

Departing Egypt means forsaking everthing that exalts itself above God. What specifically needs to be forsaken in your life - in light of the preceding passages? Make a specific list and be honest!

THE PLAGUES ON EGYPT

It is quite probable that the plagues that came against Pharaoh and Egypt were targeted toward the Egyptians and specific 'gods'. Here are some possible correlations with what we know of the Egyptian 'gods' of the day.

| TEN PLAGUES | POSSIBLE EGYPTIAN GOD |
|---|---|
| Nile Turned to Blood Exodus 7:14-25 | Khnum: guardian of the Nile Hapi: spirit of the Nile Osiris: the Nile was his bloodstream |
| Frogs Exodus 8:1-15 | Hett: form of a frog, god of resurrection |
| Gnats and Flies (2) Exodus 8:16-19; 20-32 | No correlations |
| Cattle Exodus 9:1-7 | Hathor: mother goddess; form of a cow Apis: bull of god Ptah; symbol of fertility Mnevis: sacred bull of Heliopolis |
| Boils Exodus 9:8-12 | Imhoptep: god of medicine |
| Hail Exodus 9:13-35 | Nut: sky goddess Isis: goddess of life Seth: protector of crops |
| Locusts Exodus 10:1-20 | Isis: goddess of life Seth: protector of crops |
| Darkness Exodus 10:21-29 | Re, Aten, Atum, Horus: all sun gods of sorts |
| Death of Firstborn | The deity of Pharaoh: Osiris, the giver of life |

This may not indicate that God has a sense of humor, but it certainly shows His attention to detail!