

The Exodus of Israel

Sunset Church of Christ

July – September 2020

| Subject Reading | Date |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Exodus 1-2 | July 1 |
| Exodus 3-4 | July 8 |
| Exodus 5-6 | July 15 |
| Exodus 7-8 | July 22 |
| Exodus 9-10 | July 29 |
| Exodus 11-12 | August 5 |
| Exodus 13-15 | August 12 |
| Exodus 16-17 | August 19 |
| Exodus 18-19 | August 26 |
| Exodus 20 | September 2 |
| Exodus 21-24 | September 9 |
| Exodus 25-31 | September 16 |
| Exodus 32-34 | September 23 |
| Exodus 35-40 | September 30 |

CLASS 1: Moses, Israel and Egypt

READING: Chapter 1-2

It is uncertain as to precisely when the Exodus of Israel occurred. Some hold a date of around 1450 BC, while others suggest closer to 1280 BC. This would mean that the Pharaoh of the Exodus is either Ramses II or Amenhotep II. 1 Kings 6:1 states that it was 480 years from the Exodus to the building of the Temple, which is sometime around 960 BC.

Chapter 1

1. What brought the children of Israel to Egypt in the first place?
2. Was it right for the Egyptian midwives to lie about the birth of the Hebrew children?

Chapter 2

1. Who were Moses' parents (Ex.6:20)? Who were his older brother and sister? What does "Moses" mean?
2. How was Moses raised (by whom, in what status, etc.)?
3. Did Moses know he was a Hebrew?
4. According to Acts 7:23-25, why did Moses attack the Egyptian?
5. Who are the Midianites?
6. How old was Moses when he fled from Egypt?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1. What is Egypt meant to be a spiritual parallel to for us (Romans 6:16-23)?
2. Why is Exodus 2:23-25 so important to us today?

CLASS 2: God Speaks to Moses

READING: Chapter 3-4

For forty years Moses was a prince; now for 40 years he is a shepherd. He himself wrote Psalm 90; verse 10 suggests a man of 80 is at the very end of his life. Now God appears to enact His plan. He has prepared Moses, but Moses does not agree. God details both His plan and His means of thoroughly equipping Moses to do this work.

Chapter 3

1. What is the other name for Mount Horeb? What other person stayed there in 1 Kings 19? Why is it called the Mountain of God?
2. What is the significance of the name of God? How is it translated today?
3. What would Israel take with them from Egypt?

Chapter 4

1. List the excuses Moses presented to God. How did God respond to them? What was God's attitude towards Moses in this?
2. What is the "rod of God" (4:20)? When else will this rod appear in prominence?
3. What was the significance of the circumcision of Moses' sons?
4. Why had Aaron come to the wilderness?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) Why do we need to consider the excuses of Moses today?
- 2) Why is the name of God not used at all in the New Testament?

CLASS 3: Moses and Aaron before Pharaoh

READING: Chapter 5-6

The King of Egypt was called the “Pharaoh” (“Great House”). His empire was the oldest in the world, and the most powerful. While the Pharaoh who murdered the children and who sought to kill Moses is gone, this Pharaoh may be a relative of the woman who adopted Moses. Moses and Aaron will confront him and order him to release what may be his most valuable national commodity: slaves.

Chapter 5

1. What questions does Pharaoh ask of Moses and Aaron? What is his suspicion?
2. What does Pharaoh do to the Israelites? How did the Israelites respond per Moses and Aaron in verse 21?
3. Of what does Moses accuse God at the end of the chapter?

Chapter 6

1. God purposed for Pharaoh to reject him in order to demonstrate His power. Among other things, what was this meant to demonstrate according to Exodus 12:12?
2. God declares that His name was not known to Abraham. Why make it known now?
3. What do most modern translations do to reveal the name of God in Scriptures?
4. In the lineage of Aaron a grandson (Phinehas) is mentioned in verse 25. What is the significance of this grandson?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) What can we learn about why might God make us struggle or suffer today?

CLASS 4: The Plagues of Egypt

READING: Chapter 7-8

An extremely important event is about to occur. God is declaring war on a nation in a way that He has not done before (but He shall do again in the future). The plagues are important to know in the Bible, because they are the substance of some of the teaching of the New Testament.

Beginning at Exodus 7:14 list the plagues of Egypt:

| Plagues |
|---------|
| 1. |
| 2. |
| 3. |
| 4. |
| 5. |
| 6. |
| 7. |
| 8. |
| 9. |
| 10. |

Chapter 7

1. Earlier God had given Moses three signs he could (or perhaps did) perform before Pharaoh. Which one is revealed here?
2. How might the plagues have been a strike against the very gods of Egypt?
3. What were the names of the magicians of Egypt (2 Timothy 3:8)?

Chapter 8

1. What is the "abomination" that Israel could not sacrifice in Egypt (Gen. 46:34)?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) Did God force Pharaoh to reject him, or was this Pharaoh's choice?

CLASS 5: The Plagues of Egypt (cont.)

READING: Chapter 9-10

As the plagues continue we see different reactions from Pharaoh and the people. Some of the plagues hurt the people more, and sometimes Pharaoh seems to relent. Consider how it is that these plagues are having long term impacts on the nation of Egypt, and how they are undoing all the greatness brought to Egypt by Joseph.

Chapter 9

1. What plague stopped the magicians from confronting Moses?
2. What plague caused Pharaoh to repent? Was it a genuine repentance?

Chapter 10

1. Who begged Pharaoh for the first time to let Israel go?
2. What prominence does wind play in the Exodus story? Who might be represented by the wind?
3. Why might the darkness be particularly impactful on the Egyptians?
4. What did Moses demand of Pharaoh in addition to the freeing of the people to worship? Why was this fair?
5. After the ninth plague, did Moses go see Pharaoh again? Was this the last time he saw Pharaoh (hint – 11:8)?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) Why did Moses constantly tell Pharaoh and the people what God was planning to do? How does this apply to us today?

CLASS 6: The Passover
READING: Chapter 11-12

From the beginning God intended to bring this tenth plague. Chapter 11 is almost a summary of the works of God, and seem to be a continuation of the conversation between Pharaoh and Moses in chapter 10. The great wonder is the death of the first born, and the protection of Israel from this death. But that protection only came by obedience.

Chapter 11

1. Why were the Israelites favored by the people of Egypt?
2. How did the Israelites “loot” the Egyptians?

Chapter 12

1. What did God begin with the Passover?
2. Is this Passover direction the same as all Passovers to come? What is different?
3. How is the Passover an everlasting ordinance?
4. What statement in this chapter related to proselytizing people?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) Passover parallels so many aspects of the Way of Christ. Identify these parallels:
 - a) The death of the First Born:
 - b) The blood of the Lamb
 - c) The door to the home
 - d) The home
 - e) The unleavened bread (here)
 - f) Feast of unleavened bread
 - g) Circumcision

CLASS 7: Leaving Egypt
READING: Chapter 13-15

The death of the firstborn is the cost of the release of the children of Israel from Egypt. But it is not entirely their freedom. Instead, they must still escape the power of Egypt. The blood bought their freedom, the water will be the moment of their deliverance, and the Spirit will prepare the water for them. *“And there are three that bear witness on earth: the Spirit, the water, and the blood; and these three agree as one”* (1 John 5:8)

Chapter 13

1. Why were the firstborn to be redeemed? What happened to the firstborn who were not redeemed? Was this still a practice in Jesus' time (Luke 2:23)?
2. What was the purpose of the feast of unleavened bread?
3. How did God lead Israel out of Egypt? What was the fastest route to Canaan?
4. Why did Moses take the bones of Joseph on the Exodus?
5. Where else did God manifest Himself as a pillar of smoke/cloud and a pillar of fire?

Chapter 14

1. Why would God cause Pharaoh to pursue the Israelites?

Chapter 15

1. Where else is the song of Moses mentioned in the Bible?
2. What is God called in the song of Moses?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) According to 1 Corinthians 10, what is the passage of the sea foreshadowing?
- 2) What is the symbolism in that the same cloud and fire that guided Israel blinded Egypt?

CLASS 8: Israel Arrives in Wilderness

READING: Chapter 16-17

Already the children of Israel have complained when they arrived at the sea, when they had bitter water, when they had no food, and with no water again. God answers in a remarkable way: Manna. Moses is struggling to keep himself and this people together while waiting for God's great plan.

Chapter 16

1. How did the glory of the Lord appear to the Israelites?
2. What did manna taste like? Where was the *omer* of manna stored? When did the manna end?

Chapter 17

1. Why was it wicked to complain even when the needs of Israel were serious (enemies, food, water)? How is complaining a temptation to God?
2. Later God would again bring water from a rock (Num. 20). What was different?
3. Who are the Amalekites? When does God ultimately seek vengeance for their attack on Israel (1 Sam. 15)?
4. How does the Rod of God play into this account? Is this the same rod used in verse 5?
5. What do we know about Hur (Ex. 31:2)?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) According to John 6, what was the symbolism of manna pertaining to in general? How does it correspond to the time in the wilderness?
- 2) According to 2 Corinthians 8:15, what is manna a symbol to us in the church?
- 3) According to Jesus in Matthew 4 (and Deut. 8:3), what was the lesson of manna meant to teach Israel and us?

CLASS 9: At Mount Sinai
READING: Chapter 18-19

Moses has come back to the place where God first spoke to Him. All of Israel is now camped before this mountain, its exact location is not known. Before this most solemn work of establishing the covenant of Moses, God has Moses prepare the people with an oath.

Chapter 18

1. What was the solution of Jethro to Moses' problem?
2. What were the qualifications of judges?
3. What does Moses begin doing in order to keep this event remembered?

Chapter 19

1. What does God mean when He calls all of Israel to be a kingdom of priests?
2. Why would it be evil to touch the mountain?
3. What other times has God appeared as a thick cloud? Why choose this form?
4. How did the people react to the appearance of God on the third day?
5. Who are the priests in verse 22?
6. What has Moses done to prepare the mountain? To prepare the people?
7. In Chapter 20 the people relate that as God spoke to Moses, they heard sounds of thunder and trumpets. Why is this significant? How does this compare to John 12:29?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) What is an important lesson from Moses' appointment of judges?
- 2) Why is important to see understand the symbols of God's manifestation?

CLASS 10: The Ten Commandments

READING: Chapter 20

At the end of 19 Moses has ascended to God on the mountain and is receiving the instruction of God. The first things God tells him are the Ten Commandments. These rules are the foundation of the Covenant. They are not the only rules, nor the most important necessarily, but representative of the Law of God. They are also called the tablet of testimony and the tablets of the covenant

Chapter 20

1. List the Ten Commandments. On the side write if it pertains to God or man.

| THE COMMANDMENT | GOD OR MAN |
|-----------------|------------|
| 1. | |
| 2. | |
| 3. | |
| 4. | |
| 5. | |
| 6. | |
| 7. | |
| 8. | |
| 9. | |
| 10. | |

2. What other important things are in groups of ten?

3. What commandments existed before this?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1) How did one take the name of God in vain? What about now (Rom. 2:23-24)?

2) What was the Sabbath? What is the Sabbath today (Heb. 4)?

3) The Catholic Church has a different list of the Ten Commandments than Christians and Jews. When looking at that list, why might it be different?

CLASS 11: The Law

READING: Chapter 21-24

It is not clear if the ascension of chapter 24 preceded the law giving begun in chapter 20. It may be that the first part of the book of the covenant (24:8) is the first rules. It seems that the law is intermingled with the narrative from here on. Moses is receiving from God the rules Israel must live by in order to have the blessings of the land.

Chapter 21

1. What were the rights of slaves?
2. Where did God appoint to flee?

Chapter 22

1. What does Exodus 22:1-3 say about self-defense?
2. Who did God declare were never to be mistreated?
3. What were the rules of loaning money?

Chapter 23

1. What were some of the laws of justice?
2. How often were the men of Israel to appear before God? What are these days?

Chapter 24

1. Who began the ascent with Moses? Who went with him?
2. How did God appear to the 70 elders? Where else is this image seen?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) Were the laws of slavery moral?
- 2) What did the Law of Christ say about the law of “an eye for an eye”?

CLASS 12: The Law on the Mountain

READING: Chapter 25-31

Whether this is immediately after ascending the mountain, or continuing from chapter 23, we continue with the law. Now we are considering the development of the instruments of worship. This is a very detailed set of directions on building a sanctuary for God.

Chapter 25

1. Most of the things of worship were built of precious metals and gems. Why?

Chapter 26

1. Where would the wealth (gold, gems, cloth) come from to build the sanctuary?

2. What is the mercy seat? What are cherubim?

Chapter 28

1. Who was charged with tending the tabernacle of meeting?

2. According to 28:29, what did the breastplate symbolize?

3. What did the Urim and Thummim do?

4. What act was done (28:41) to make priests?

Chapter 30

1. What holy thing(s) is forbidden for common use?

Chapter 31

1. Who was Bezalel?

2. With what were the tablets written?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1) “Forever:”, “perpetual” and “everlasting” is used to describe 17 things in Exodus. What does it mean? Are these things still sacred?

CLASS 13: The Law on the Mountain

READING: Chapter 32-34

In the midst of receiving the law, the people of Israel fail. God restarts the process of law giving and establishing Moses as His mediator.

Chapter 32

1. Why would the people demand an idol? Why might Aaron have complied?
2. When God again sought to destroy Israel in Numbers 14:12-20, what was different and what was similar to this event?
3. What mediations did Moses offer to God as propitiation?

Chapter 33

1. Where does God commune with Moses next?
2. According to 34:6 God passed before Moses on Mount Sinai. What is the “presence” (sometimes translated “face”) of God? Who else was later on this mountain and had God pass before them?

Chapter 34

1. Who else fasted for 40 days and 40 nights? Where?
2. What might be the significance of the illumination of the face of Moses (2 Cor. 3:13)?
- 3) Where did this new set of stones end up?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

- 1) 1 Corinthians 10:1-8 warns us that this fall of Israel can also be ours. How?

CLASS 14: The Tabernacle

READING: Chapter 35-40

Once more God reveals the distinct plan of the Tabernacle. As stated before, the Tabernacle, the priesthood, and the tools of worship were physical INSTRUMENTS of the worship of God. They were holy and important, but only foreshadows of the true worship to come (Heb. 8:5).

Chapter 35

1. How many times was the Sabbath law given in Exodus? Why repeatedly?

Chapter 36

1. What was the motivation of the collection begun in chapter 35? What had happened to their wealth earlier?

Chapter 38

1. Why might there have been such a careful accounting of the cost of the Tabernacle?

Chapter 39

1. Were musical instruments part of the utensils of worship?

2. What was the criteria for Moses blessing the work of the artisans?

Chapter 40

1. When the Tabernacle was erected, how did God enter it? Compare this to 1 Kings 8:10 and Ezek. 10:18; did the glory of the Lord enter the temple of Zerubbabel? Was He present in the time of Jesus?

APPLICATION QUESTIONS

1) How has the Spirit of the Lord come to the New Temple of God?