
Chronological Study

Exodus 1:1-24:18

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OUTLINE

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| Author | Moses |
| Focus | Israel's birth as a nation |
| Key | Redemption: only accomplished through death; from bondage into a covenant relationship, by the mighty work of God, demonstrating His right to be Israel's King. |
| Time | 431 years (1875-1445 BC) |

Exodus abounds in God's powerful redemptive acts. It begins in pain and ends in liberation; from the groaning of the people to the glory of God. God faithfully and quickly delivers the people, "with an outstretched arm and with great judgment" (Exodus 6:6).

There are no specific references to Christ in the form of Messianic prophecies, but there are numerous types:

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|--------------------------|--|
| Moses | A prophet, priest, and king (Deuteronomy 18:15). |
| The Passover | Christ is our God and the slain Passover Lamb (John 1:29, 36; 1 st Corinthians 5:7). |
| Seven Feasts | Each feast portrays some aspect of Christ's ministry. |
| The Red Sea | Relates to baptism (Romans 6:2, 3; 1 st Corinthians 10:1, 2). |
| Manna & water | The New Testament applies both to Christ (John 6:31-35, 48-63; 1 st Corinthians 10:3, 4). |
| The Tabernacle | Speaks of the person of Christ |
| The High Priest | Foreshadows the ministry of Christ, our Great High Priest. |

Redemption from Egypt (Exodus 1:1 – 18:27)***The Need for Redemption: Exodus 1:1-22******Exodus 1***

Exodus picks up where Genesis left off, with the death of Joseph. Exodus again repeats the twelve tribes of Israel, the sons of Jacob. Verses 6 and 7 of the chapter cover approximately 430 years, connecting the death of Joseph and his generation and the growth of the Nation. Verses 8 through 22 of Chapter 1 detail the change of fortune of the Nation from a favored people to an undesired people. The key behind the change is found in verses 8 and 9; a new ruler came to power "*who did not know Joseph*" and he feared the Israelites could become an enemy. In response, first, Pharaoh enslaved the people. When that did not slow the growth of the Nation of Israel, Pharaoh determined to exterminate the Nation. ***Genesis 15:13; Exodus 1:6-7***

Genesis 15:13: Then He said to Abram: "Know certainly that your descendants will be strangers in a land that is not theirs, and will serve them, and they will afflict them four hundred years.

Exodus 1:6-7: Joseph died, and all his brothers and all that generation. 7 But the sons of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly, and multiplied, and became exceedingly mighty, so that the land was filled with them.

In Pharaoh's actions, we observe the influence of the evil one, who, through human agencies, persistently seeks to obstruct God's plan for the salvation of the world. This is not the last instance where Satan will work through a human ruler to try and hinder the coming of the Lord Jesus.

Ephesians 2:1-2; 2 Corinthians 4:3-4

- To this day, much of the hatred for God that we see in the world is the consequence of the working of Satan to injure those whom God loves.

Ephesians 2:1-2: And you were dead in your trespasses and sins, 2 in which you formerly walked according to the course of this world, according to the prince of the power of the air, of the spirit that is now working in the sons of disobedience.

2 Corinthians 4:3-4: And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing, 4 in whose case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelieving so that they might not see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.

God Prepares the Leader for Redemption: Exodus 2:1-4:31

Exodus 2: Moses' Early Life

In Chapter 2, verses 1 through 10, we are introduced to probably the most significant person to the Jews in their history, Moses (there might be some debate regarding Abraham being the most significant). Pharaoh had ordered the murder of all male children as part of his plan to exterminate the Nation of Israel. This chapter shows how God providentially overrules the plans of man to accomplish his purposes, oftentimes through the natural actions of others. When Moses was put in the river, it was Pharaoh's daughter, in her compassion when she found him, did not obey her father, and saved the boy. God arranged for Moses' mother to raise and care for Moses while being paid by Pharaoh.

In the second half of the chapter, we see Moses' failed attempt to deliver the people by his own hand and power, which led to the murder of an Egyptian. When Pharaoh learned of Moses' murder, Moses fled Egypt to the wilderness of Midian. Moses will spend forty years in the wilderness, tending the flocks of his father-in-law, Jethro (or Reuel). Unbeknownst to him, all the time, God is training Moses to rely on God to deliver the people. ***Acts 7:22-25; Hebrews 11:24-27***

- Before individuals are sent into the field of ministry by God, they must undergo training. The greater the calling, the more in-depth the training required.

Acts 7:22-25: *Now when he was forty years old, it came into his heart to visit his brethren, the children of Israel. ... 25: For he supposed that his brethren would have understood that God would deliver them by his hand, but they did not understand.*

Hebrews 11:24-27: *By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter, 25 choosing rather to suffer affliction with the people of God than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin, 26 esteeming the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures in Egypt; for he looked to the reward. 27 By faith he forsook Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured as seeing Him who is invisible.*

Exodus 3 & 4: God Calls a Reluctant Moses

In Chapter 3, we encounter the well-known story of the burning bush, where God appears to Moses and calls him to his ministry. Moses resists this call aggressively, to the point that the Lord's anger burns against him. We observe the transformation that the LORD has worked in Moses over his forty years in the wilderness. Moses no longer relies on himself to deliver the people. God sends his older brother along to assist Moses in delivering the people.

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In this encounter, God reveals Himself to Moses in a manner distinct from how He revealed Himself to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. When asked His name, God discloses His name to Moses, **"I AM WHO I AM."** John, in his Gospel, recorded that Jesus applied this name to Himself in a discourse with the Pharisees. **John 8:24-29, 58-59**

John 8:24-29: *Therefore I said to you that you will die in your sins; for if you do not believe that I am He, you will die in your sins." ... 28 Then Jesus said to them, "When you lift up the Son of Man, then you will know that I am He, and that I do nothing of Myself; but as My Father taught Me, I speak these things.*

John 8:58-59: *Jesus said to them, "Most assuredly, I say to you, before Abraham was, I AM." 59 Then they took up stones to throw at Him; but Jesus hid Himself and went out of the temple, going through the midst of them, and so passed by.*

God not only called Moses but also provided him with the complete plan for the nation's deliverance. Despite Pharaoh's resistance, God was determined to lead the people out of Egypt and into the promised land. Furthermore, upon Israel's departure from Egypt, they were destined to plunder the nation, a plan that received the assistance and approval of the Egyptians. The Nation accepted Moses' calling and leadership when he returned to Egypt.

God Redeems Israel from Egypt: Exodus 5:1-15:21

Exodus 5 & 6: Pharaoh and Moses

In Chapter 5, we witness the encounter between Moses, Aaron, and Pharaoh. Moses, speaking through Aaron, conveys God's demand to let His people go. Pharaoh responds with open defiance, a repeating pattern we will see throughout Moses' dealings with Pharaoh. He states, **"Who is the Lord that I should obey His voice?"** and responds by inflicting more difficulties and abuse on the

Israelites, who respond by complaining to Moses (another repeating pattern that Moses will contend with for the next forty years); God reassures and encourages Moses to follow Him.

Exodus 7 - 11: The Plagues Begin

In chapters 7 through 10, we find the account of how God moved to demonstrate His power and sovereignty over all creation through nine plagues, that the *Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD*. Each manifestation of God's power underscores the undeniable fact that Moses is speaking on behalf of the Almighty. Simultaneously, we observe the continued hardening of Pharaoh's heart. With each encounter, Pharaoh's heart becomes increasingly embittered towards God, persistently refusing to yield. Notably, the first five times, we are told Pharaoh hardened his heart, while the subsequent five times, God states that He hardened Pharaoh's heart.

Exodus 7:4-5: "When Pharaoh does not listen to you, then I will lay My hand on Egypt and bring out My hosts, My people the sons of Israel, from the land of Egypt by great judgments. The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the sons of Israel from their midst."

In Exodus, God, through the plagues, is showing Himself superior to the deities of Egypt; each plague attacked one of the Egyptian gods. Some have found a striking similarity between the plagues of Exodus and those recorded in the Book of Revelation.

| <i>Plague</i> | <i>Exodus</i> | <i>Revelation</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------|
| #1- Blood | Exodus 7:20 | Revelation 8:8-9, 11:6, 16:3-6 |
| #2- Frogs | Exodus 8:6 | Revelation 16:13-14 |
| #3- Lice | Exodus 8:17 | |
| #4- Swarms of flies | Exodus 8:21 | Revelation 6:8 (wild beasts) |
| #5- Pestilence | Exodus 9:1-5 | Revelation 6:8 (pestilence) |
| #6- Boils | Exodus 9:10 | Revelation 16:1-2 |
| #7- Hail | Exodus 9:22-24 | Revelation 8:7 |
| #8- Locusts | Exodus 10:1-6 | Revelation 9:3-4 |
| #9- Darkness | Exodus 10:21-22 | Revelation 8:12, 16:10 |
| #10- Death of the Firstborn | Exodus 11:4-5 | Revelation 19:19-21 |

Exodus 12: Redemption Through the Passover

Chapter 12 God prepares the people for their deliverance with the introduction of the Passover, which is a picture or type of Jesus Christ's redemptive work for lost sinners. The importance of the Passover is seen in God defining a new calendar that connects the new year with the Passover. God gave the Passover as a perpetual celebration to commemorate His deliverance of the people out of the bondage of slavery into freedom. ***Romans 7:4; 1 Corinthians 5:7***

- Christ is our Passover, delivering us from the bondage of sin and into freedom from the Law.

Romans 7:4: Therefore, my brethren, you also have become dead to the law through the body of Christ, that you may be married to another-- to Him who was raised from the dead, that we should bear fruit to God.

1 Corinthians 5:7 Therefore purge out the old leaven, that you may be a new lump, since you truly are unleavened. For indeed Christ, our Passover, was sacrificed for us.

In verse 29, we witness the stark consequences of rejecting God and, conversely, the blessings of deliverance for those who believed in and obeyed God. The LORD struck the firstborn sons and the firstborn males of the livestock among those who had resisted the call of the LORD, resulting in their deaths. On the other hand, those who obeyed lost nothing but were delivered. Faced with the consequences of their rebellion, the Egyptians, in fear that they all might die, drove the people away. ***Genesis 15:6; Exodus 12:30-33; James 2:23***

Genesis 15:6: Then he believed in the LORD; and He reckoned it to him as righteousness.

Exodus 12:30-33: Pharaoh arose in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians, and there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was no home where there was not someone dead. 31 Then he called for Moses and Aaron at night and said, "Rise up, get out from among my people, both you and the sons of Israel; and go, worship the LORD, as you have said. 32 "Take both your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and go, and bless me also." 33 The Egyptians urged the people, to send them out of the land in haste, for they said, "We will all be dead."

James 2:23: And the Scripture was fulfilled which says, "Abraham believed God, and it was accounted to him for righteousness." And he was called the friend of God.

Exodus 13 & 14: Sanctification and Deliverance Through the Passover

Through the Passover, all who participated by faith were sanctified or made holy to the Lord. Utilizing the death of the firstborn for deliverance, the LORD henceforth claimed the firstborn sons of the people and the firstborn males of their livestock as His, in remembrance of His distinguishing favor. They were deemed holy or sanctified to God, and parents were obligated to redeem their sons and fully dedicate the firstborn males of their livestock.

- Today God calls holy all who go through the Passover of the death of Christ.

God led the people out of Egypt, as a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night. Knowing the character of the people, having been slaves and not worriers, did not take them on the most direct route to their final destination.

- God, today, leads all those who are holy to Him by the Holy Spirit, day, and night.

Chapter 14 begins with God instructing Moses to position the people between Migdol and the sea. At the same time, God reveals to Moses that He is setting a trap for Pharaoh; He *"will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will chase after them; and I will be honored through Pharaoh and all his army, and the Egyptians will know that I am the LORD."*

God reveals the complete and unyielding stubbornness of Pharaoh's heart and his relentless pursuit of the Israelites in his attempt to subjugate them. As the Egyptians overtake the Israelites, they find themselves backed against the Red Sea, a situation orchestrated by God. Upon seeing the approaching Egyptians, the Israelites are consumed with fear, not comprehending that God is working to be glorified and to fully and finally deliver them from Pharaoh. ***Ephesians 1:11-12***

- Believers often find themselves in situations and positions that they do not understand, yet God is always working to His glory in the deliverance and on-going sanctification of His saints.

Ephesians 1:11-12: In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will, 12 that we who first trusted in Christ should be to the praise of His glory.

Israel Preserved in the Wilderness: Exodus 15:22-18:27

Exodus 15:22-18:27

From verse 22 of Chapter 15 through the end of Chapter 18, we see the initial wonderings of the people as God prepares them to inherit the Land of Promise. God preserved the people from thirst multiple times and hunger. We see the immaturity of the people in that every time they were confronted with difficulties they complained, wished for their old life, and did not do as God had instructed. With each situation, we see the patience of God with the immature people graciously providing deliverance; in God's deliverance, He is teaching them to trust and obey Him. ***Romans 8:18-19; 1 Corinthians 10:13; 2 Corinthians 1:3-5***

- Being in Christ is not a promise of deliverance from trials and tribulations, rather it is a promise that no matter the trial or tribulation, God will deliver or provide a means of escape, with the objective to sanctify the believer.

Romans 8:18-19: For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worthy to be compared with the glory which shall be revealed in us. 19 For the earnest expectation of the creation eagerly waits for the revealing of the sons of God.

1 Corinthians 10:13: No temptation has overtaken you except such as is common to man; but God is faithful, who will not allow you to be tempted beyond what you are able, but with the temptation will also make the way of escape, that you may be able to bear it.

2 Corinthians 1:3-5: Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies and God of all comfort, 4 who comforts us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort those who are in any trouble, with the comfort with which we ourselves are comforted by God. 5 For as the sufferings of Christ abound in us, so our consolation also abounds through Christ.

At the end of Chapter 17 and through Chapter 18, we see God moving to mature the people from a disjointed mob to a Nation. First, the Nation encounters its first attack from the enemy, the Amalekites, who were descendants of Esau. God delivered the people by His power, through the intercessory prayer of Moses and the leadership of Joshua, the understudy of Moses, who will one day take over the leadership of the Nation.

- Prayer and action often go hand in hand; we are called to pray and then to step out in obedient faith. God tends not to provide or perform the miraculous when He has already provided human means to accomplish the objective.

Chapter 18 is the story of Moses's encounter with his father-in-law again; Moses had sent his wife and children to live with Jethro during the confrontation with Pharaoh. In observing Moses judge the people, by himself, all day long, Jethro suggested that Moses learn to delegate, as the LORD leads. *Exodus 18:22-23*

- Delegation is important for the leader to improve their overall effectiveness (focus on the most important items) and for the development of their subordinates.

Exodus 18:22-23: And let them judge the people at all times. Then it will be that every great matter they shall bring to you, but every small matter they themselves shall judge. So it will be easier for you, for they will bear the burden with you. 23 If you do this thing, and God so commands you, then you will be able to endure, and all this people will also go to their place in peace.

Revelation from God (Exodus 19:1 – 40:38)

The Giving of the Law: Exodus 19:1-24:18

Exodus 19:1-24:18

Chapter 19 is the introduction to the subsequent establishment of the Mosaic covenant, which is the only temporary covenant God established with man. The Chapter details the location of the establishment of the covenant, Sinai, and the purpose of the covenant, “*you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; 6 and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.*” *Exodus 19:5-6; Hebrews 8:7-13; 1 Peter 2:9-10*

- Today our God's covenant was established at Calvary and like Israel, our acceptance of God's offer of a covenant relationship with Him, He sets us apart to be a holy people; a nation of priests (we are to plead to God for the people).

Hebrews 8:7-13: For if that first covenant had been faultless, then no place would have been sought for a second. 8 Because finding fault with them, He says: "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and with the house of Judah-- 9 not according to the covenant that I made with their fathers in the day when I took them by the hand to lead them out of the land of Egypt; because they did not continue in My covenant, and I disregarded them, says the LORD. ... 13 In that He says, "A new covenant," He has made the first obsolete. Now what is becoming obsolete and growing old is ready to vanish away.

1 Peter 2:9-10: But you are A CHOSEN RACE, A royal PRIESTHOOD, A HOLY NATION, A PEOPLE FOR God's OWN POSSESSION, so that you may proclaim the excellencies of Him who has called you out of darkness into His marvelous light; 10 for you once were NOT A PEOPLE, but now you are THE PEOPLE OF GOD; you had NOT RECEIVED MERCY, but now you have RECEIVED MERCY.

In verse 7 Moses presents the offer of God to establish a covenant relationship with the Nation, which the Nation accepts. Having accepted the offer of God, God immediately told Moses that He would speak to the people but they must sanctify themselves to God.

In chapters 20 through 23 God delivers His Law to Moses, which we will cover later in greater detail when Moses reviews and explains the Law to the people. Suffice, the establishing of the covenant, which contained the Law, was only ratified through the blood of the sacrificial animal.
Luke 22:20; Hebrews 9:15

- Today, the New Covenant was ratified through the blood of Christ, which we remember through the celebration of communion.

Luke 22:20: Likewise He also took the cup after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in My blood, which is shed for you.

Hebrews 9:15: And for this reason He is the Mediator of the new covenant, by means of death, for the redemption of the transgressions under the first covenant, that those who are called may receive the promise of the eternal inheritance.