

2 - Exodus ("The Outgoing"): The Birth of the Nation

The Torah

Genesis The Book of Beginnings
Exodus The Birth of the Nation
Leviticus The Law of the Nation

Numbers The Wilderness Wanderings
Deuteronomy The Laws Reviewed

Highlights

PART 1: The Exodus (Chapter 1-18) God's Deliverance

Birth and deliverance of Moses, God's call of Moses, Moses' return to Egypt, The Plagues, The Passover, The Crossing of the Red Sea

- **People prospered in Goshen temporarily**, but new Pharaohs did not know Joseph, insecure because of rapid growth of Jews, oppressed and enslaved them. The Exodus was necessary to bring out God's nation, built in Egypt, but now shackled in slavery. In Genesis they entered as a family, in Exodus they come out a nation.
- **The Burning Bush:** A Levitical symbol of judgment, but also mercy. (Bush burning, but not consumed); Gods' name: **"I AM that I AM"**; Jesus' claim in John 8:58 ("before Abraham was, I AM")
- **Ten Plagues** *"...against all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgment..."*
 1. Water turned to blood
 2. Frogs
 3. Lice
 4. Scarabs ("Swarms", beetles?)
 5. Plague in animals
 6. Boils
 7. Hail, Fire
 8. Locusts
 9. Darkness (*that was felt*)
 10. Death of Firstborn
- **Passover:** Calendar changed, delivered from death, covered by the blood, delivered from bondage, memorialized as a feast forever, prophetic (*"Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world."*) John 1:29, 34.
- **Egypt is a "type" of the world**, material wealth and power, ruled by despotic princes who claimed to be gods, fleshly wisdom and false religion, organized on force, ambition and pleasure, persecuted the people of God, overthrown by divine judgment.
- **Crossing the Red Sea:** Israel cornered against the Sea, the Shekinah (*visible glory of God*) blocks the Egyptian army as the Sea parts to allow Israel to cross, Egyptians follow and are drowned.
- **God's deliverance of Israel is used by Him as a measurement standard.** All throughout scripture He keeps pointing back to this. (*"As in the days when you came out of the land of Egypt, I will show them wonders."*) (Micah 7:15) In other words, what He did in Egypt has become a standard by which all other works and miracles are measured. Comparisons found throughout scripture.
- **Our emancipation from bondage through Jesus - Spiritual, not just physical.** Delivered by the shedding of blood (Jesus, not animal anticipatory symbols); Universal, not national (*"Whosoever believeth on Him shall be saved."*) John 3:16). The entire Exodus is a very dramatic type for our personal exodus. We are also slaves in bondage to sin. We also live in a type of Egypt – the world in opposition to God. (Babylon is also a symbol of the world opposed to God, ruled by the enemy.)

PART 2: The Law (Chapters 19-24) God's Expectations and Agreements

God meets the people at Mt. Sinai, The Mosaic Covenant, Sin and Judgment, Giving of the Law

The Law - Commandments (Moral Laws) Chapters 19-20, The Terms, The Parties, The Altar

The Ten Commandments

1. Thou shalt have no other gods before me.
2. Thou shalt not worship any graven image.
3. Thou shalt not take the name of the Lord thy God in vain.
4. Remember the Sabbath Day to keep it holy.
5. Honor thy father and thy mother.
6. Thou shalt not murder.
7. Thou shalt not commit adultery.
8. Thou shalt not steal.
9. Thou shalt not bear false witness.
10. Thou shalt not covet

- The “Judgments” (Social Laws) Chapters 21-22, Rights and practices
- The Ordinances (Religious Laws) Chapters 23-24, Sabbaths and Feasts

• NOTE: The top of Jabal al Lawz, which many now think is the real Mt. Sinai, is completely blackened. Not all the way through, though. You break the rock off and find granite underneath the black. It appears the top of this mountain has experienced some pretty startling and severe fire! This is definitely in keeping with the scripture account. (NOTE: A submerged “land bridge” has been discovered across the Strait of Tiran supporting an Arabian site of Mt. Sinai.)



- Why was the Law given? To provide a standard of righteousness and to expose and identify sin and our sin nature, and reveal God’s divine holiness. To drive us to despair in our own efforts, and to dependence on God. (Romans 7 tells us all this)
- The Gospel supercedes the Law; commandments were fulfilled by Jesus. *“For Christ is the end of the law for righteousness to every one that believeth.”* (Romans 10:4) *“For what the law could not do, in that it was weak through the flesh, God sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and for sin, condemned sin in the flesh: That the righteousness of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.”* (Romans 8:3, 4) Our refuge is FAITH, not PERFORMANCE. We serve an inward power rather than respond to an outward command.

PART 3: The Tabernacle (Chs 25-40) God's Dwelling Place with the People

The building of the Tabernacle, The Priesthood

- The God of the Universe actually **CHOOSES to dwell with His people?** Amazing!
- **The Tabernacle ("the House of Blood")** Beginning in chapter 25, we come to this very interesting structure, the Tabernacle. The scriptures devote more time to the Tabernacle than any other single subject. There must be a very important reason for that - we must pay attention! Bottom line, God desires fellowship with His people, and has gone to extraordinary lengths to have it. The entire Bible is about His plan for our reunion and fellowship together. The Tabernacle is the most graphic and visual symbol of this.
- There are very detailed and specific instructions about the structure, the materials, the coverings, the furniture, the priesthood (and his garments) and the offerings (*more info about these in Leviticus*).
- **Material symbolism is important in scripture.** It is good to remember these, prominent in the Tabernacle: BRASS: fire, judgment; GOLD: Deity, divinity; ACACIA WOOD: Humanity; SILVER: Redemption, blood money. And ALL of it points to ONE person: Jesus, our Atonement.
- **The Shekinah ("Glory in the tent") the visible manifestation of God's Presence** *“Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle....”* (40:34) The book of Exodus ends with the people finally getting their act together, at least for the moment, the tabernacle is completed according to God’s specifications, and now the glory of God settles on the tabernacle and His presence remained with them through the 40 years of wandering.
- **SO THEY WILL KNOW...**Besides all the incredible lessons in deliverance, protection, power and identification of God, we find throughout this book a number of verses that read *“SO THAT THEY WILL KNOW that I am God.”* This book shows that God is revealing Himself, both to Israel and to Egypt, to His chosen people and to the world at large. He acts so that we may know that He is God, and there is no other like Him.

