

# Exodus

## 1. Introduction to Exodus

### 1) Title

- In the Hebrew Bible the title is “now these are the names”
- A Greek translation of Genesis (called the *Septuagint*) titled it “Exodus”

### 2) Author—Moses

### 3) Theme—deliverance

### 4) Purpose

- Exodus shows how God made Israel a kingdom of priests and a holy nation via the Mosaic Covenant, working toward the fulfillment of the Abrahamic Covenant (Gen 12:2; 17:6; Exod 19:6)
- Exodus records the birth of Israel as a nation

### 5) Message

- Exodus has three primary themes—

- (1) The exodus out of Egypt, 1-18
- (2) The giving of the Law, 19-24
- (3) The description and function of the Tabernacle, 25-40

☞ Exodus focuses on God’s deliverance of Israel out of Egypt and His establishment of Israel as a nation over which He rules.

- Summary: Exodus takes up the history of the Israelites where Genesis leaves off. Delivered out of Egyptian bondage, the newly constituted nation is given the law, the priesthood, and the system of sacrifice as the provision for the worship and government of a redeemed people. Moses is set forth as the great deliverer and lawgiver.

## 2. Outline of Exodus

### *Basic Outline*

- 1) The Exodus, 1–18 *the nation of Israel formed*
- 2) The Law, 19–24, *the constitution of Israel given*
- 3) The Tabernacle, 25–40, *the worship of Israel established*

NOTE all three essentially, inherently combined. Israel was not just a state, nor a religious people, nor an ethnic group. This is so important to understand what the Bible says about Israel, nothing more and nothing less: A distinct ethnic nation with laws and an organized, official worship. Each and every aspect were essential to Israel.

## More Detailed Outline

### 1) The Exodus, 1–18

#### a. Projected in Moses, 1–4

- (1) Israel's bondage in Egypt, 1
- (2) Moses in the land of Egypt, 2:1–15
- (3) Moses in the land of Midian, preparing for the work the Lord had for him, 2:16–25
- (4) The call of Moses, 3–4

#### b. Obstructed by Pharaoh, 5–11

- (1) God's demand, 5:1–7:13
- (2) Nine plagues increasing in severity, 7:14–10:29  
*These plagues were directed against the Egyptian gods and demonstrated that the Lord is the one true God (Exod 12:12; Num 33:4). The purpose of these miracles was to prove to the Egyptians that God is the Lord (7:5; 8:22; 9:14-16). To know the true God means to recognize and submit to his authority.*
- (3) The tenth plague, the death of the firstborn, resulted in the departure of Israel from Egypt, 11:1–10

#### c. Effected by the Lord, 12–18

- (1) Exodus and Passover, 12:31–13:16
  - (a) The observance of the first Passover, 12:31–36
  - (b) Israel's departure from Egypt, 12:37–51
  - (c) Dedication of the firstborn, 13:1–16
- (2) Miracle at the Red Sea, 13:17–15:21  
*In the OT this is the central, most important event in Israel's history of God's deliverance. In the NT it is the resurrection of Christ, but in the OT it is the Lord's deliverance of Israel from Egypt through the Red Sea.*
- (3) From Red Sea to Sinai, 15:22–18:27
  - (a) During this journey God provides water (15:22–27; 17:1–7) and manna (16:1–36)
  - (b) Amalek is defeated by Joshua, 17:8–16
  - (c) Moses is visited by his father-in-law, Jethro, 18

### 2) The Law, 19–24

At Mount Sinai Israel became a nation ruled by God, a nation representing God to every other nation on earth (“*you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation,*” 19:6). The Mosaic Law was Israel’s “constitution,” organizing and controlling the nation. God gave this Law to regulate the spiritual and national life of Israel (Exod 19:5–6).

#### a. Commandments governing moral life, 19–20

#### b. Commandments governing social life, 21–23

#### c. Commandments governing religious life, 24

### 3) The Tabernacle, 25–40

These ten laws reflect spiritual and moral principles upon which the hundreds of laws in the Mosaic Law code rest. There are more than 600 other laws in Israel's constitution. The first four of the Ten Commandments stress man's relationship to God, and the last six emphasize man's relationship to man. These laws revealed God's holiness and the resulting standards for his people. Beware, *Survey of the OT*, p. 59

*The Tabernacle served as the place where God dwelt with men (cf. 6:7; 40:34–35).*

#### a. Designed, 25–31

#### b. Delayed (the golden calf incident), 32–34

#### c. Completed, 35–40