

# Book of Exodus

## Synopsis



## Introduction

Book No	2
Name	Exodus
Written By	Moses
Testament	Old
Category	Pentateuch
Date Written	Approx. 1450 - 1410 BC
Place Written	Wilderness of Sinai
Audience	To the people of Israel
Purpose	To record the events of Israel's deliverance from Egypt and development as a nation
History Covered	1640 - 1279 BC
❖ Chapters	❖ 40
❖ Verses	❖ 1213
❖ Key Verse	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ And the LORD said, I have surely seen the affliction of my people which are in Egypt, and have heard their cry by reason of their taskmasters; for I know their sorrows (3:7)</li> <li>❖ And I am come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians, and to bring them up out of that land unto a good land and a large, unto a land flowing with milk and honey (3:8)</li> <li>❖ Come now therefore, and I will send thee unto Pharaoh, that thou mayest bring forth my people the children of Israel out of Egypt (3:10)</li> </ul>

Key People	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Moses</li> <li>❖ Miriam</li> <li>❖ Pharaoh</li> <li>❖ Jethro</li> <li>❖ Aaron</li> <li>❖ Joshua</li> <li>❖ Bezalel</li> </ul>
Key Places	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Goshen</li> <li>❖ Ramesses</li> <li>❖ Midian</li> <li>❖ Baal-zephon</li> <li>❖ Marah</li> <li>❖ Elim</li> <li>❖ Sin desert</li> <li>❖ Rephidim</li> <li>❖ Mount Sinai</li> </ul>

### Purpose of the Book

Exodus is the continuation of the Genesis account, dealing with the development of a small family group of seventy people into a large nation of millions. For 430 years the Hebrews lived in Egypt, most of the time in bondage. Exodus records Moses' development, Israel's deliverance from their bondage, their trip from Egypt to Mount Sinai to receive God's law, and His instructions on the building of the tabernacle. It ends with the construction of the tabernacle as a dwelling place for God.

Deliverance did not occur instantaneously; it was a process. A considerable amount of time and ten plagues were used to gain the release of the Hebrews from Pharaoh's grip. The plagues accomplished two important things: first, they demonstrated the superiority of the Hebrew God over Egyptian gods and, second, they brought freedom to the Hebrews.

God had His hand on the lives of His special people. Since they witnessed His presence and knew the way God worked in their behalf, they could adjust their lives to His way in order to continue receiving His blessings.

God's deliverance of the people is for the specific purpose of developing a covenant people. The results of living outside this covenant structure are demonstrated by the incident involving the golden calf.

The book of Exodus begins with people whose hearts were aching, longing to find rest. They lived seemingly futile lives filled with pain, suffering under the whips of their Egyptian masters. These people, the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, wanted relief from their plight, yet it seemed that they were all but forgotten by God. But just when their situation became almost unbearable, God sent Moses to redeem his people. Exodus is the story of that deliverance, an experience more profound than God's people had ever imagined. What began as a tale of woe ended in a dramatic expression of God's love.

At the end of the book of Exodus, as the people worshiped in a way that was pleasing to him, the glory of the Lord descended and filled the Tabernacle. Thus, the Israelites moved from the poverty of Egypt to the very presence of God at Sinai. Through this we see clearly and gratefully the God who wants to love his people!

Exodus provides us with an early glimpse of corporate worship. In Genesis, the recorded acts of worship are largely individual gestures of gratitude and thankfulness: Recall the sacrifices of Noah, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob. In Exodus, the promises made to the patriarchs are fulfilled. Beyond that, Exodus marks a new chapter in our understanding of God. His greatness is revealed to his people and to his enemies. Lesser gods and hostile armies submit to his dominion. The Lord offers his covenant to the Israelites, consisting of both promises and demands. The Israelites learn—albeit painfully at times—that worship is the only appropriate response to God's covenant.

God led Moses and the nation of Israel, and he wants to lead us as well. Is he preparing you, like Moses, for a specific task? He will be with you; obey and follow. Is he delivering you from an enemy or a temptation? Trust him, and do what he says. Have you heard his clear moral directions? Read, study, and obey his Word. Is he calling you to true worship? Discover God's presence in your life, in your home, and in the body of assembled believers. Exodus is the exciting story of God's guidance. Read with the determination to follow God wherever he leads.

## Overview

- ❖ 2<sup>nd</sup> book of the BIBLE, Old Testament and Pentateuch
- ❖ The Book of Exodus can be divided into three major sections:
  - the miraculous deliverance of Israel (1:1–13:16),
  - the miraculous journey to Sinai (13:17–18:27), and
  - the miraculous revelations at Sinai (19:1–40:38).
- ❖ Four major events occur in Second section.
  - First, the Hebrews witness God’s miraculous delivering power (13:17–15:21).
  - Second, they experience first hand God’s ability to provide for His children (15:22–17:7).
  - Third, they receive protection from their enemy, the Amalekites (17:8–16).
  - Fourth, ruling elders are established to keep peace among the people (18:1–27).
- ❖ Third section has three major components.
  - First is the giving of the Ten Commandments and those instructions that explain in great detail how these commandments are to be expressed in the lives of God’s covenant people (19:1–23:19).
  - Second are instructions concerning the building of a tabernacle and its furniture (25:1–31:18).
  - Third is the actual construction of the tabernacle, its furnishings, and the dwelling of God’s presence in the completed structure (35:4–40:33).
- ❖ The first concept to be gleaned from the Book of Exodus is that God blesses those who remain in a covenant relationship with Him.
- ❖ Second, God explains in great detail what is acceptable to Him.
- ❖ Third, God delivers those who find themselves in bondage.
- ❖ 300 years separate Exodus from Genesis.
- ❖ Exodus is the record of Israel’s birth as a nation.
- ❖ Exodus begins in pain and ends in liberation.
- ❖ Exodus covers the period from the arrival of Jacob in Egypt to the erecting of the Tabernacle in the wilderness some 431 years later.
- ❖ During the time Israel was in Egypt, Egypt became a world empire.

- ❖ Moses was a Levite.
- ❖ At the time of the Exodus there were 600,000 men above the age of 20 besides the women and children.
- ❖ Probably 3 to 4 million people left Egypt in the Exodus.
- ❖ While it took God one night to get Israel out of Egypt, it took 40 years to get Egypt out of Israel.
- ❖ With Exodus begins the story of Moses himself.
- ❖ The story of Moses constitutes about one-seventh of the whole Bible.
- ❖ The story of Moses is about two-thirds as large as the New Testament.
- ❖ Egyptians were the descendants of Ham.
- ❖ Marching 50 abreast, it would stretch for 40 miles into the desert. At a modest pace of 2 ½ miles per hour, the people would require more than 16 hours to pass by the same point.
- ❖ Just to provide the minimum ration of food and water for the people (not including provisions for their animals) would take the equivalent of 30 boxcars of food and 300 tank cars of water every day of their 40 year journey.

### Hebrew Names of GOD used in Exodus

- ❖ ADONAI
- ❖ JEHOVAH
- ❖ JEHOVAH-ROPHE
- ❖ JEHOVAH-NISSI
- ❖ JEHOVAH-SHALOM
- ❖ KANNA
- ❖ MELEKH

### Revelation of JESUS CHRIST

- ❖ Moses is a type of Christ, for he delivers from bondage.
- ❖ Aaron serves as a type for Jesus as the High Priest (28:1) making intercession at the altar of incense (30:1).
- ❖ The Passover indicates that Jesus is the Lamb of God who was slain for our redemption (12:1–22).
- ❖ Moses speaks of the bread of God in two ways, the manna (16:35) and the showbread (25:30).
- ❖ Jesus is the Light of the World; in the tabernacle the lampstand serves as a never-failing light (25:31–40).

---

## Work of THE HOLY SPIRIT

- ❖ The anointing oil is a type of the Holy Spirit, which is used to prepare worshipers and priests for godly service (27:20) (30:31).
- ❖ The fruit of the Holy Spirit is listed in Galatians 5:22, 23. A parallel list can also be found in Exodus 34:6, 7, which lists the attributes of God as being merciful, gracious, longsuffering, good, truthful, and forgiving.
- ❖ The most direct references to the Holy Spirit can be found in 31:3–11 and 35:30–36:1, when individuals are empowered by the Holy Spirit to become great artisans.

## Mega Themes of Exodus

### SLAVERY

During the Israelites' 400-year stay in the land of Egypt, they became enslaved to the Egyptians. Pharaoh, the king of Egypt, oppressed them cruelly. They prayed to God for deliverance from this situation.

Like the Israelites, we need both human and divine leadership to escape from the slavery of sin. After their escape, the memory of slavery helped the Israelites learn to treat others generously. We need to stand against those who oppress others.

### RESCUE/REDEMPTION

God rescued Israel through the leader Moses and through mighty miracles. The Passover celebration was an annual reminder of their escape from slavery.

God delivers us from the slavery of sin. Jesus Christ celebrated the Passover with his disciples at the Last Supper and then went on to rescue us from sin by dying in our place.

### GUIDANCE

God guided Israel out of Egypt by using the plagues, Moses' heroic courage, the miracle of the Red Sea, and the Ten Commandments. God is a trustworthy guide.

Although God is all-powerful and can do miracles, he normally leads us by wise leadership and team effort. His Word gives us the wisdom to make daily decisions and govern our lives.

### TEN COMMANDMENTS

God's law system had three parts. The Ten Commandments were the first part, containing the absolutes of spiritual and moral life. The civil law was the second part, giving the people rules to manage their lives. The ceremonial law was the third part,

showing them patterns for building the Tabernacle and for regular worship.

God was teaching Israel the importance of choice and responsibility. When they obeyed the conditions of the law, he blessed them; if they forgot or disobeyed, he punished them or allowed calamities to come. Many great countries of the world base their laws on the moral system set up in the book of Exodus. God's moral law is valid today.

### THE NATION

God founded the nation of Israel to be the source of truth and salvation to all the world. His relationship to his people was loving yet firm. The Israelites had no army, schools, governors, mayors, or police when they left Egypt. God had to instruct them in their constitutional laws and daily practices. He showed them how to worship and how to have national holidays.

Israel's newly formed nation had all the behavioural characteristics of Christians today. We are often disorganized, sometimes rebellious, and sometimes victorious. God's Person and Word are still our only guides. If our churches reflect his leadership, they will be effective in serving him.

### Life Lessons in Exodus

Truth	Lesson
<p><b>Growing in Godliness</b></p> <p>Godly living is simply living with God in your life and His life in you. He gives us guidelines to help build our lives on His precepts. God calls us to acts of faith that build godliness.</p> <p>Without faith, our religious acts are hollow and self-willed. Faith-filled godliness embraces godly practices by not allowing them to become mere observances and avoiding dead "religious" ceremonies.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Stay alert to seek God's working. It often comes in ways we do not expect.</li> <li>❖ Participate regularly in the Lord's Supper. Passover points forward to our ultimate deliverance through Jesus, our Messiah.</li> <li>❖ Stand and watch as God works. You will see His deliverance.</li> <li>❖ Be careful to apply God's Word. He wants us to follow His instructions.</li> <li>❖ Celebrate God's blessings to you.</li> <li>❖ Dwell in and esteem God's presence. It distinguishes His people from everyone else.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Rest in God’s Sabbath. His rest gives us rest from our own works (Heb. 4:10, 11).</li> </ul>
<p><b>Cultivating Dynamic Devotion</b></p> <p>Devotion to God begins with growth in knowing God. In Exodus, God reveals part of His nature and character.</p> <p>Knowing God in truth will dramatically impact our lives. Exodus gives four keys to make our lives more faithful and fruitful.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Understand that God is. His Name is “I AM WHO I AM.”</li> <li>❖ Rest on this foundation.</li> <li>❖ Be grounded and established in Him.</li> <li>❖ Receive God as “The LORD Who Heals You.” His nature is to heal; His will and compassionate desire is to make us whole.</li> <li>❖ Rely upon God, who is “The LORD Your Banner.” Surrender to Him, for the battle and the victory belong to the Lord.</li> <li>❖ Pursue God, for it is He who sanctifies us. His life in us makes our holiness possible</li> </ul>
<p><b>Pursuing Holiness</b></p> <p>God calls us to be holy, to be set apart to Him and His purposes. God intends His people to be distinguished in nature and in character from the world—different in the way we think, act, and live. This visible difference in our lives brings glory to God.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Know that God deals differently with His own people than with the nonbelieving world (see 8:23; 9:26; 10:23; 11:7).</li> <li>❖ Rely on the blood of Jesus to protect you (see 1 Pet. 1:18, 19).</li> <li>❖ “Special Treasure” is what God calls those who obey His Word and keep His covenant.</li> <li>❖ Be Jesus’ bondservant. Freely submit to serve Him for the rest of your life.</li> <li>❖ Be zealous for God’s holiness. He honors those who honor Him.</li> </ul>
<p><b>The Walk of Faith</b></p> <p>God calls His people to wisdom. The beginning of wisdom is the fear of the Lord (Prov. 9:10). Godly wisdom</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Rely fully on God to enable you to obey His Word, knowing that His Spirit and His Presence set you apart.</li> </ul>

<p>enables us to apply truth rightly. Exodus gives principles that teach us ways to live wisely; how to apply wisdom practically in our lives. The Holy Spirit will help us to practice wisdom as a godly discipline, leading to full and vibrant life in Him.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Meditate often on the Ten Commandments, remembering God’s moral nature and character.</li> <li>❖ Learn reverence for the Lord. It will spur you on to obey Him fully.</li> <li>❖ Do not follow the crowd when they do evil. Evil is often popular, but believers are to turn away and earnestly follow the Lord.</li> <li>❖ Give when you assemble with God’s people for worship. Giving demonstrates praise and faith, showing that the Lord is your provider.</li> <li>❖ Resist becoming impatient with God. Patience helps avoid sinning.</li> <li>❖ Acknowledge that your skills and abilities are God’s gifts to you.</li> <li>❖ Thank Him for them, and use them wholeheartedly for His glory.</li> </ul>
<p><b>Keys to Understanding Authority</b></p> <p>It is important to recognize it is the Lord who places leaders in positions of authority. Exodus teaches us to support, encourage, and follow God ordained leadership.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>❖ Uphold the leaders God has placed over you. Walk alongside them, pray for them, encourage them when they are tired, and offer to help in practical ways. Doing so honors the Lord and helps to fulfill His purposes</li> </ul>

**Praise Points in Exodus**

- ❖ HIS provision of God-fearing, uncompromising people in influential positions (1:17);
- ❖ HIS attentiveness to the desperate cries of his people (2:24);
- ❖ HIS faithfulness in keeping his promises (2:24-25);
- ❖ HIS tender concern for the plight of his people (2:25);

- ❖ HIS provision of capable leaders to guide his people (3:18);
- ❖ HIS limitless mastery over nature (9:13-16);
- ❖ HIS watchfulness over his people (13:20-22);
- ❖ HIS power over his enemies (14:1-31);
- ❖ HIS provision of food and water to refresh his people (15:27–16:36);
- ❖ HIS patience with his people (15:25; 16:1-12; 17:1-7);
- ❖ HIS provision of wise and discerning counselors (18:1-27);
- ❖ HIS desire to dwell among his people (19:10-11; 25:8; 40:34-38);
- ❖ HIS laws of great wisdom and compassion (20–23);
- ❖ HIS forgiveness of sin and his call to worship him (24–31);
- ❖ HIS willingness to listen when we intercede for others (32:11-14); and
- ❖ HIS character, which is merciful, gracious, slow to anger, loving, faithful, and forgiving (34:6-7).

### Worship Insights in Exodus

- ❖ Worship begins with God, who rescues us from sin and oppression (1–3).
- ❖ Worship reminds us of God’s absolute dominion over nature and humanity (7:14–11:10).
- ❖ Ceremony can vividly recall the power and mercy of God (12:1-30).
- ❖ Song can celebrate God’s deeds and teach about his salvation (15:1-18).
- ❖ The Sabbath rest, which brings renewal from God, is inseparable from worship (23:12).
- ❖ We worship a holy God and must not enter his presence casually or carelessly (25–31).
- ❖ Symbolic art and handiwork can help us learn about God (36:1–39:31).
- ❖ Preparation for worship is essential as we approach the living God (39–40).

### An Outline of Exodus

#### I. A People Who Refused to Die: [Exo\\_1:1-22](#)

- A. Covenant: [Exo\\_1:1-7](#)
- B. Change: [Exo\\_1:8](#)
- C. Conflict: [Exo\\_1:9-14](#)
- D. Commitment: [Exo\\_1:15-22](#)
- E. Death and Life

F. Life and Choice

G. Confirmation and Certainty

II. The Providence of God in Moses' Formative Years: [Exo\\_2:1-25](#)

A. A Miracle Child: [Exo\\_2:1-10](#)

B. Moses Grows Up: [Exo\\_2:11-15](#)

C. Moses' Exile in Midian: [Exo\\_2:15-22](#)

D. When Are We Most Like God: [Exo\\_2:23-25](#)

III. The Call of Moses: Exo. 3:1-4:17

A. Lessons from the Burning Bush: [Exo\\_3:1-6](#)

B. A Redeeming God and a Redemption that is Complete: [Exo\\_3:7-10](#)

C. A Reluctant Prophet: Exo. 3:11-4:12

D. Moses' Refusal and God's Anger: [Exo\\_4:13-17](#)

IV. The Testing of Faith: Exo. 4:18-5:21

A. Faith Tested on the Journey Back to Egypt: [Exo\\_4:18-31](#)

B. Faith Tested in Confrontation with Pharaoh: [Exo\\_5:1-5](#)

C. Faith Tested in the Renunciation of Moses by His People: [Exo\\_5:6-21](#)

V. The Triumph of Faith: Exo. 5:22-7:13

A. Live the Questions: Exo. 5:22-6:13

B. The Family Tree: [Exo\\_6:14-27](#)

C. Aaron's Miraculous Rod: Exo. 6:28-7:13

VI. The Plagues: Revelations of God's Power: Exo. 7:14-10:29

A. The First Plague: The Nile Turned to Blood: [Exo\\_7:14-25](#)

B. The Second Plague: Frogs: [Exo\\_8:1-15](#)

C. The Third Plague: Lice: [Exo\\_8:16-19](#)

D. The Fourth Plague: Flies: [Exo\\_8:20-32](#)

E. The Fifth Plague: Pestilence Upon the Cattle: [Exo\\_9:1-7](#)

F. The Sixth Plague: Boils Upon Man and Beast: [Exo\\_9:8-12](#)

G. The Seventh Plague: Hail: [Exo\\_9:13-35](#)

H. The Eighth Plague: Locusts: [Exo\\_10:1-20](#)

I. The Ninth Plague: Darkness: [Exo\\_10:21-29](#)

J. Let God Be God

**VII. The Passover: Exo. 11:1-13:16**

- A. The Tenth Plague: Death: [Exo\\_11:1-10](#); [Exo\\_12:29-42](#)
- B. Institution of the Passover: [Exo\\_12:1-28](#)
- C. Passover Regulations: [Exo\\_12:43-51](#)
- D. Dedication of Firstborn: [Exo\\_13:1-16](#)

**VIII. The Crossing of the Red Sea: Exo. 13:17-14:31**

- A. The Wilderness Way: [Exo\\_13:17-22](#)
- B. What to Do When You are in a Fix: [Exo\\_14:1-18](#)
- C. Crossing the Red Sea: [Exo\\_14:19-31](#)

**IX. The Gospel of Marah: [Exo\\_15:1-27](#)**

- A. Songs Celebrating Victory: [Exo\\_15:1-21](#)
- B. The Bitter Waters of Marah: [Exo\\_15:22-27](#)

**X. Fresh Every Morning: [Exo\\_16:1-36](#)**

- A. The Miracle of the Manna: [Exo\\_16:1-21](#)
- B. Manna for the Sabbath: [Exo\\_16:22-36](#)

**XI. Lessons from Rephidim: [Exo\\_17:1-16](#)**

- A. Being the Lord's Instrument: [Exo\\_17:1-7](#)
- B. Being the Lord's Intercessor: [Exo\\_17:8-16](#)

**XII. Family Reunion: [Exo\\_18:1-27](#)**

- A. A Joyful Reunion: [Exo\\_18:1-7](#)
- B. Jethro Worships Yahweh: [Exo\\_18:8-12](#)
- C. Sharing the Load: [Exo\\_18:13-27](#)

**XIII. With the Lord at the Mountain: [Exo\\_19:1-25](#)**

- A. Israel: A Special Treasure to the Lord: [Exo\\_19:1-8](#)
- B. Preparation for Meeting the Lord: [Exo\\_19:9-15](#)
- C. The Coming of the Lord: [Exo\\_19:16-25](#)

**XIV. Covenant Law at Sinai: The Ten Commandments: [Exo\\_20:1-26](#)**

- A. The Ten Commandments: [Exo\\_20:1-17](#)
- B. The Thick Darkness Where God Was: [Exo\\_20:18-26](#)

**XV. Covenant Law at Sinai: Civil, Criminal, and Covenant: Exo. 21:1-24:18**

- A. The Law Concerning Servants: [Exo\\_21:1-11](#)
- B. The Law Concerning Violence: [Exo\\_21:12-27](#)
- C. Animal Control Laws: [Exo\\_21:28-36](#)
- D. Responsibility for Property: [Exo\\_22:1-15](#)
- E. Moral and Ceremonial Principles: Exo. 22:16-23:19
- F. Ministering Angel: [Exo\\_23:20-33](#)
- G. Israel Affirms the Covenant: [Exo\\_24:1-18](#)

**XVI. Camping with God: The Tabernacle and the Priest: Exo. 25:1-31:18**

- A. Materials for the Sanctuary: [Exo\\_25:1-9](#)
- B. The Tabernacle: [Exo\\_26:1-37](#)
- C. The Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat: [Exo\\_25:10-22](#)
- D. The Table of Showbread: [Exo\\_25:23-30](#)
- E. The Gold Lampstand: [Exo\\_25:31-40](#)
- F. The Altar of Burnt Offering: [Exo\\_27:1-8](#)
- G. The Altar of Incense: [Exo\\_30:1-10](#)
- H. The Bronze Layer: [Exo\\_30:17-21](#)
- I. The Ransom Money: [Exo\\_30:11-16](#)
- J. The Holy Anointing Oil and the Incense for the Altar: [Exo\\_30:22-38](#)
- K. The Court of the Tabernacle: [Exo\\_27:9-19](#)
- L. The Care of the Lampstand: [Exo\\_27:20-21](#)
- M. The Garments of the Priesthood: [Exo\\_28:1-43](#)
- N. The Consecration of the Priests: [Exo\\_29:1-46](#)
- O. The Appointment of Craftsmen: [Exo\\_31:1-11](#)
- P. Keeping the Sabbath: [Exo\\_31:12-17](#)
- Q. With the Finger of God: [Exo\\_31:18](#)

**XVII. Rebellion: Exo. 32:1-33:6**

- A. The People's Faithlessness: [Exo\\_32:1-6](#)
- B. It's Tough to Be God: [Exo\\_32:7-14](#)
- C. Taught by a Golden Calf: [Exo\\_32:15-29](#)
- D. Powerful Intercession: [Exo\\_32:30-35](#)
- E. The Command to Leave Sinai: [Exo\\_33:1-6](#)

**XVIII. Renewal of the Covenant: Exo. 33:7-40:38****A. Moses' Third Intercession: [Exo\\_33:7-17](#)****B. Show Me Your Glory: Exo. 33:18-34:9****C. Renewal of the Covenant: [Exo\\_34:10-35](#)****D. Construction of the Tabernacle: Exo. 35:1-40:38**