OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Part 1: The Pentateuch

WEEK 4: BOOK OF EXODUS

DELIVERANCE, COVENANT, & TABERNACLE

PENTATEUCH

GENESIS	EXODUS	LEVITICUS	NUMBERS	DEUTERONOMY
CREATION	REDEMPTION	WORSHIP	FAITH	OBEDIENCE
God Of Promise	God Of Power	God Of Purity	God Of Perseverance	God Of Preparation
Formation of the Family of God	Deliverance out of Bondage & Slavery	The people shall treat God as Holy	Wilderness Wanderings	Revisit the Law before entering the Land

EXODUS: HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

- Events in Exodus take place hundreds of years after Genesis ends.
- There is some debate about the date of the Exodus with two primary options:
 - -1446 B.C. (1 Kings 6:1; Judges 11:26)
 - -1275-1225 B.C. (Ex. 1:11 city built by Rameses II)

EXODUS: THEOLOGICAL BACKGROUND

- Deliverance ~ God intervenes to rescue & save the Israelites out of slavery (Ex. I-18)
- Covenant ~ God makes a covenant with Israel and gives laws to guide the relationship (Ex. 19-40)
- Presence of God ~ God's presence is evident throughout, but the law & tabernacle help prepare Israel to experience life in God's presence.

(Arnold & Beyer, Encountering the Old Testament, p. 86-87)

THE PROBLEM: SLAVERY & OPPRESSION

Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph. And he said to his people, "Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us. Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and, if war breaks out, they join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land." Therefore they set taskmasters over them to afflict them with heavy burdens... (Ex. 1:8-11)

God knows our need (2:25)

BUT GOD...

During those many days the king of Egypt died, and the people of Israel groaned because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. And God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham, with Isaac, and with Jacob.

(Exodus 2:23-24 ESV)

- God knows our need (1-2)
- God raises up a deliverer (3-4)

And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am."

(Exodus 3:2–6 ESV)

Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." And he said, "I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob." And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

(Exodus 3:2–6 ESV)

Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM." And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'I AM has sent me to you.'"

(Exodus 3:13-14 ESV)

But I know that the king of Egypt will not let you go unless compelled by a mighty hand. So I will stretch out my hand and strike Egypt with all the wonders that I will do in it; after that he will let you go.

(Exodus 3:19-20 ESV)

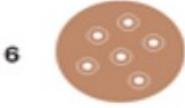
- God knows our need (1-2)
- God raises up a deliverer (3-4)
- God demonstrates his power through signs & miracles (7-12)

THE PLAGUES ON EGYPT EXODUS 7-12 STEELER STEEL

1

BLOOD (7:14-24)

The Nile, along with all of the water in Egypt, turns into blood. But Pharaoh does not let the Israelites go.



BOILS (9:8-12)

Festering boils break out on the Egyptians and their animals. But Pharaoh does not let the Israelites go.



FROGS (7:25 - 8:15)

Frogs cover the land of Egypt. Pharaoh promises to let the Israelites go, but changes his mind.



HAIL (9:13-35)

Hail strikes down everything in the fields humans, animals and trees. Pharaoh asks for forgiveness and promises to let the Israelites go, but changes his mind.



GNATS (8:16-19)

The dust turns to gnats, which cover the people and animals of Egypt. But Pharaoh does not let the Israelites go.



8

LOCUSTS (10:1-20)

Locusts devour every tree and plant in the land of Egypt. Pharaoh asks for forgiveness, but does not let the Israelites go.



FLIES (8:20-32)

Flies fill the houses and land of Egypt. Pharaoh promises to let the Israelites go, but changes his mind.



DARKNESS (10:21-29)

Darkness covers the land of Egypt for three days. Pharaoh promises to let the Israelites go, but changes his mind.



LIVESTOCK (9:1-7)

All of the livestock of the Egyptians die. But Pharaoh does not let the Israelites go.



FIRSTBORN (11:1-10; 12:29-32)

Every firstborn son and firstborn of the cattle in Egypt dies. Pharaoh finally lets the Israelites leave Egypt, only to change his mind and pursue them to the Red Sea.

EXODUS: THE 10 PLAGUES

- Organized into 3 sets of 3 with #10 being set apart
 & climactic.
- The number 10 often represents "completeness" in the Bible - in this case complete judgment.
- The plagues have significant allusion to Gen. I-2 & Exod. I-2 (de-creation & retribution)
- The plagues represent God's power over corresponding "gods" in Egypt.

The Plagues & the Gods of Egypt

Possible Egyptian gods targeted by plagues

Nile: Khnum ram and guardian of the Nile and others

Hapi (also called Apis), the bull god, god of the Nile; Isis, goddess of the

Reference

7:14-25

Plagues

Nile turned to blood

		Nile; Knnum, ram god, guardian of the Nile, and others
2. Frogs	8:1-15	Heget, goddess of birth, with a frog head
3. Gnats	8:16-19	Set, god of the desert
4. Flies	8:20-32	Ra/Re, a sun god; or the god Uatchit, possibly represented by the fly
5. Death of livestock	9:1-7	Hathor, goddess with a cow head; Apis, the bull god, symbol of fertility
6. Boils	9:8-12	Sekhmet, goddess with power over disease; Sunu, the pestilence god, Isis, goddess of healing
7. Hail	9:13-35	Nut, the sky goddess, Osiris, god of crops and fertility; Set, god of storms
8. Locusts	10:1-20	Nut, the sky goddess; Osiris, god of crops and fertility
9. Darkness	10:21-29	Ra/Re, the sun god; Horus, a sun god; Nut, a sky goddess, Hathor, a sky goddess
10. Death of the firstborn	11:1-12:30	Min, god of reproduction, Heget, goddess who attended women at childbirth; Isis, goddess who protected children; Pharaoh's firstborn son

From The Bible Knowledge Commentary, Old Testament (Victor Books, 1985), p. 120.

EXODUS: PURPOSE OF THE PLAGUES

The plagues were intended to teach both the Egyptians and Israelites about the sovereign character of the God of Israel.

(Arnold & Beyer, Encountering the Old Testament, p. 80)

EXODUS: PURPOSE OF THE PLAGUES

But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth. (Exodus 8:22 ESV)

[To Pharaoh] For this time I will send all my plagues on you yourself, and on your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is none like me in all the earth. (Exodus 9:14 ESV)

EXODUS: THE FIRST PASSOVER

Then they shall take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it. They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it.

(Exodus 12:7-8 ESV)

EXODUS: THE FIRST PASSOVER

In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover. For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD.

(Exodus 12:11-14 ESV)

EXODUS: THE FIRST PASSOVER

The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt. "This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.

(Exodus 12:11-14 ESV)

"The Passover shows that redemption involves not only the release from slavery, but also the shedding of blood as a means of escape from judgment."

(Goldsworthy, According to Plan, p. 135)

- God knows our need (1-2)
- God raises up a deliverer (3-4)
- God demonstrates his power through signs & miracles (7-12)
- God requires a response of faith to experience his salvation (12-14)

And Moses said to the people, "Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent."

(Exodus 14:13-14 ESV)



- God knows our need (1-2)
- God raises up a deliverer (3-4)
- God demonstrates his power through signs & miracles (7-12)
- God requires a response of faith to experience his salvation (12-14)
- God is worshipped for his gracious salvation (15)

Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying, "I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea. The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

(Exodus 15:1-2 ESV)

JOURNEY TO SINAI



OLD TESTAMENT COVENANTS

	NOAHIC	ABRAHAMIC	MOSAIC	DAVIDIC
MEDIATOR	Noah	Abraham	Moses	David
PROMISE	Will not destroy earth with flood again	Nation, Land, & Blessing to the nations	Israel to be kingdom of priests & holy nation	Eternal kingdom & descendant on the throne
BENEFICIARY	Whole earth	Abraham's Descendants	Israel	David's Seed
SIGN	Rainbow	Circumcision	Sabbath	N/A

God's redemption results in a new identity (19)

EXODUS: COVENANT ESTABLISHED

'You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation.' These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."

(Exodus 19:4-6 ESV)

EXODUS: COVENANT ESTABLISHED

All the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD. And the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever."

(Exodus 19:8-9 ESV)

EXODUS: COVENANT ESTABLISHED

"The Lord doesn't begin with a demand that Israel observe these commands in order to be his people. Quite the contrary. Israel has done nothing to deserve the Lord's favor, and yet he rescued them from slavery, and only after he had bestowed such grace and mercy did he give them commands."

(Thomas Schreiner, Covenant and God's Purpose for the World, p. 61)

- God's redemption results in a new identity (19)
- God's redemption results in a new lifestyle (20-25)

THE 10 COMMANDMENTS

You shall have no other gods before me.

6 You shall not murder.

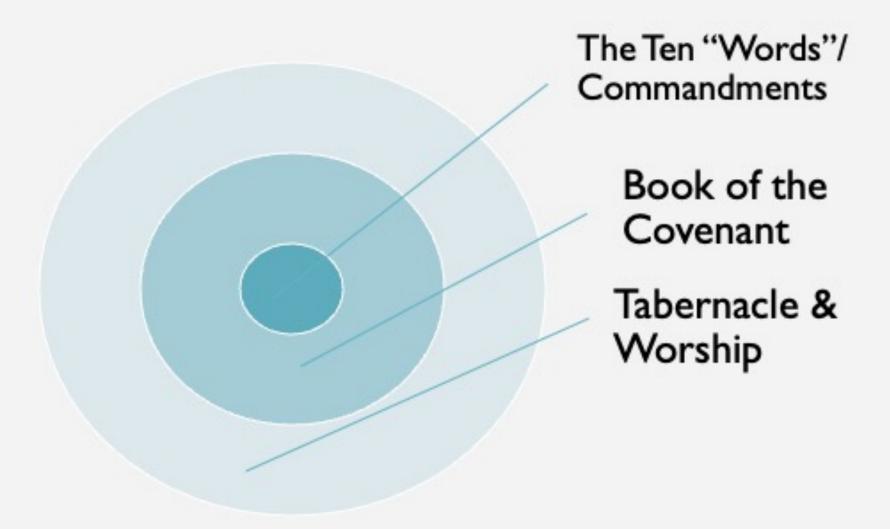
2 You shall not make idols.

- 7 You shall not commit adultery.
- You shall not take the name of the LORD your GOD in vain.
- 8 You shall not steal.
- Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy.
- You shall not bear false witness against your neighbour.

Honour your father and your mother.

10 You shall not covet.

ORGANIZATION OF THE LAW



EXODUS: BOOK OF THE COVENANT

"These chapters list specific cases in which the principles of covenant law are applied to life. This type of law (known as **casuistic law**) was widely used in the ancient Near East."

(Arnold & Beyer, Encountering the Old Testament, p. 81)

EXAMPLES OF CASUISTIC LAW

"If a man steals an ox or a sheep, and kills it or sells it, he shall repay five oxen for an ox, and four sheep for a sheep. If a thief is found breaking in and is struck so that he dies, there shall be no bloodguilt for him, but if the sun has risen on him, there shall be bloodguilt for him. He shall surely pay. If he has nothing, then he shall be sold for his theft. If the stolen beast is found alive in his possession, whether it is an ox or a donkey or a sheep, he shall pay double. (Exodus 22: I-4 ESV)

"The law is given to the chosen and already redeemed people of God so that they might know what their new relationship to God means for the way they live."

(Goldsworthy, According to Plan, p. 143)

"Some people view Christianity as: God has rules, and if I follow the rules, God will love me and save me. That's not what happened in the story of the exodus. The Israelites were an oppressed people, and God said, "I hear your cry. I will save you because I love you. And when you are saved, free, and forgiven, I'm going to give you a new way to live."

(Kevin DeYoung, "10 Things You Should Know About the 10 Commandments")

- God's redemption results in a new identity (19)
- God's redemption results in a new lifestyle (20-25)
- Instructions about the tabernacle (26-31)



TABERNACLE DESIGN INSTRUCTIONS

"First, the tabernacle is seen as a tented palace for Israel's divine king. He is enthroned on the ark of the covenant in the innermost Holy of Holies (the Most Holy Place). His royalty is symbolized by the purple of the curtains and his divinity by the blue. The closer items are to the Holy of Holies, the more valuable are the metals (bronze→ silver→ gold) of which they are made."

(ESV Study Bible on Exod. 25:1-31:17)

TABERNACLE DESIGN INSTRUCTIONS

"Every element of the tabernacle structure represents some element that would draw people back to the Eden narrative, from its three-tiered structure that mimicked the ancient Hebrew conception of the garden, to the cherubim carved by its entrance, to its furniture that represented different elements of the garden."

~ Tim Mackey, The Bible Project

TABERNACLE DESIGN INSTRUCTIONS

"The tabernacle, like the garden of Eden, is where God dwells, and various details of the tabernacle suggest it is a mini-Eden. These parallels include the east-facing entrance guarded by cherubim, the gold, the tree of life (lampstand), and the tree of knowledge (the law)."

(ESV Study Bible on Exod. 25:1-31:17)

- God's redemption results in a new identity (19)
- God's redemption results in a new lifestyle (20-25)
- Instructions about the tabernacle (26-31)
- Idolatry among God's people (32)

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, "Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." (Exodus 32:1-4 ESV)



So Aaron said to them, "Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. (Exodus 32:1-4 ESV)



And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"

(Exodus 32:1-4 ESV)



And the LORD said to Moses, "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt..."

(Exodus 32:7-10 ESV)

And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you."

(Exodus 32:7-10 ESV)



- God's redemption results in a new identity (19)
- God's redemption results in a new lifestyle (20-25)
- Instructions about the tabernacle (26-31)
- Idolatry among God's people (32)
- Moses intercedes for the people (33-34)

GOD'S REVEALS HIS GLORY

The LORD passed before him and proclaimed, "The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, keeping steadfast love for thousands, forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."

(Exodus 34:6-7 ESV)

- God's redemption results in a new identity (19)
- God's redemption results in a new lifestyle (20-25)
- Instructions about the tabernacle (26-31)
- Idolatry among God's people (32)
- Moses intercedes for the people (33-34)
- Tabernacle: Preparing for God's Presence (35-40)

TABERNACLE COMPLETED

And he erected the court around the tabernacle and the altar, and set up the screen of the gate of the court. So Moses finished the work. Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.

(Exodus 40:33-35 ESV)



OLD TESTAMENT SURVEY

Part 1: The Pentateuch