

Journey Through the Bible

Exodus

Message 1: Exodus - A Bird's Eye View

Outline:

- I. **Enslaved in Egypt**
 - A. **Exodus 5:8-9** And the quota of the bricks which they made previously, you shall still place upon them; you shall not diminish any of it, for they are idle; therefore they cry out, saying, Let us go and sacrifice to our God. Let the work be laid more heavily upon such men, so that they do it and not pay attention to false words.
 - B. **Exodus 1:10** Come, let us deal wisely with [the children of Israel], lest they multiply and, when some war occurs, they also join themselves to those who hate us and fight against us and go up from the land.
- II. **Redeemed and Saved**
 - A. **Exodus 12:13** And the blood shall be a sign for you upon the houses where you are; and when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and there will be no plague upon you to destroy you when I strike the land of Egypt.
 - B. **Exodus 14:30** Thus Jehovah saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead upon the seashore.
- III. **Led**
 - A. **Exodus 13:21** And Jehovah went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them on the way and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might go by day and by night.
- IV. **Supplied**
 - A. **John 6:51** I am the living bread which came down out of heaven; if anyone eats of this bread, he shall live forever; and the bread which I will give is My flesh, given for the life of the world.
 - B. **1 Corinthians 10:4** And all drank the same spiritual drink; for they drank of a spiritual rock which followed them, and the rock was Christ.
 - C. **Numbers 11:5-6** We remember the fish which we used to eat in Egypt for nothing, the cucumbers and the melons and the leeks and the onions and the garlic; But now our appetite has gone; there is nothing at all but this manna to look at.
- V. **Receiving Revelation**
 - A. **Exodus 25:8** And let them make a sanctuary for Me that I may dwell in their midst.
- VI. **Building the Tabernacle**
 - A. **Exodus 40:33-34** And he raised up the court all around the tabernacle and the altar, and put 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 Jehovah filled the tabernacle.
 - B. **Revelation 21:3** And I heard a loud voice out of the throne, saying, Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men, and He will tabernacle with them, and they will be His peoples, and God Himself will be with them and be their God.

READING EXCERPT

THE GENERAL SKETCH

The general sketch of Exodus firstly shows how the children of Israel were enslaved in Egypt (1:8-14). Then it reveals that the children of Israel were redeemed and saved (12:27 ; 14:30). After their redemption and salvation, the children of Israel were led by the Lord in the

wilderness (13:17-18 , 21-22 ; 17:1 ; 19:1-2 ; 40:36-38). They were led by the pillar of cloud and by the pillar of fire. Furthermore, manna rained down from heaven, and living water flowed from the cleft rock. In their journeys the children of Israel eventually were brought by the Lord to Mount Sinai where they received a revelation of God's eternal purpose, which is to have His dwelling place on earth (25:8-9 , 40). After receiving this revelation, they built the tabernacle for God's habitation (39:32 ; 40:2 , 34-35).

Egypt Typifying the World

According to the Bible, the world has at least three aspects: the aspect of rebellion and idolatry, signified by Babel; the aspect of sinfulness, signified by Sodom; and the aspect of enjoyment and pleasure, signified by Egypt. Rebellion is related to idolatry, the worship of anything other than God. Because those who worship idols are in rebellion against God, idol worship signifies rebellion. In the Bible Babel is a symbol of the rebellious and idolatrous world. On earth today there are idols everywhere, even in Christian countries.

The exodus of the children of Israel from Egypt represents another aspect. Egypt signifies the world of enjoyment, the world of pleasure. Those who are involved with this aspect of the world are not ensnared primarily by rebellion or idolatry; they are fully occupied by pleasure, by the rich material supply and physical enjoyment of the world (Gen. 12:10 ; 42:1 ; Num. 11:4-5). The river Nile, which irrigates the land of Egypt, makes the land rich in produce. When the children of Israel were wandering in the wilderness, they said, "We remember the fish, which we did eat in Egypt freely; the cucumbers, and the melons, and the leeks, and the onions, and the garlic" (Num. 11:5). All these items represent the material riches of the world for enjoyment and pleasure.

THE CENTRAL THOUGHT

The central thought of Exodus is that Christ is the redemption, salvation, and supply of God's people and the means for them to worship and serve God so that in Him they may be built up with God together for them and God to meet, communicate, and dwell mutually. We see Christ throughout the book of Exodus. As the Passover, He is the means of our redemption. As the great salvation for God's people, He saves us out of the hand of Pharaoh, Satan. As the manna and the living water, He is our life supply. Furthermore, the Red Sea signifies Christ's death in which we are baptized (1 Cor. 10:2). Romans 6:3 says that those who are baptized into Christ are baptized into His death.

In Exodus Christ is many other items: the pillar of cloud and the pillar of fire, the seventy palm trees and twelve springs at Elim, and the tabernacle with all its furniture. Through the tabernacle and its furniture, God's redeemed people could serve Him and worship Him. This indicates that Christ is the means by which we serve God and worship Him. God's chosen people are to be built up together into one entity, the tabernacle, where God and man may mutually meet, communicate, and dwell. In Christ we and God, God and we, are built together, meet together, and dwell together. This is the central thought of the book of Exodus.

Question:

1. Using the phrases from each roman numeral in the outline, practice giving a bird's eye view of the book of Exodus.
2. What does Egypt signify in the Bible?
3. What does Satan do to keep God's people from fulfilling His purpose?
4. What would you say is the goal of the Book of Exodus? What verse would you give to support this conclusion?