EXODUS

MEMORY CHALLENGE

THEME: Redemption & Deliverance of Israel – "LET MY PEOPLE GO!"

OUTLINE:

I. The Exodus (Ex.1-18)
II. The Law (Ex. 19-24)
III. The Tabernacle (Ex. 25-40)

KEY CHAPTERS:

The Ten Plagues of Egypt (Ex. 7-11) The Ten Commandments (Ex. 20) The Golden Calf (Ex. 32)

KEY PASSAGES:

Exodus 3:13-15 "Then Moses said to God, "Behold, I am going to the sons of Israel, and I will say to them, "The God of your fathers has sent me to you.' Now they may say to me, 'What i His name?' What shall I say to them?" God said to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM"; and He said, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.'" God, furthermore, said to Moses, "Thus you shall say to the sons of Israel, 'The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is My name forever, and this is My memorial-name to all generations.

Exodus 6:6 "Say, therefore, to the sons of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from their bondage. I will also redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments."

Exodus 19:5-6 "Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall b to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

Exodus 21:22-25 "If men struggle with each other and strike a woman with child so that she gives birth prematurely, yet there is no injury, he shall surely be fined as the woman's husband may demand of him, and he shall pay as the judges decide. "But if there is any further injury, then you shall appoint as a penalty life for life, eye for eye, tooth for tooth, hand for hand, foot for foot, burn for burn, wound for wound, bruise for bruise.- the *Lex Taliones*

KEY PEOPLE:

Yahweh / Jehovah (*tetragrammaton*, יהוה YHWH) – the LORD – speaks to God's sovereignty and self-existency; the NT equivalent of *Kyrios*, LORD.

Elohim – the Lord, the strong and mighty God.

Aaron – Moses' spokesman and brother, consecrated first high priest.

Moses – Prophet, lawgiver, deliverer of Israel, author of the Pentateuch

I. <u>INTRODUCTION:</u>

- 1. Whereas Genesis provided multiple portraits of God's power and His sovereignty in selecting the younger over the elder son in the context of promise and covenant, Exodus portrays the power of God and His redemption of His chosen nation. Moreover, Exodus demonstrates that God's relationship to the nation Israel in covenant would be clearly like that of God and Abraham. The giving of the ten commandments and of the covenant emphasizes the corporate essence of the people of Israel.
- 2. The book of Exodus is a book of redemption. The designation is made because the central event is the deliverance of the Hebrew people from their bondage in Egypt under the leadership of Moses to begin their journey to the Promised Land.
- 3. The opening phrase in Hebrew "We'ellh Shemoth", which means, "Now these are the names", is the Hebrew title of the Book of Exodus. Our English title derives directly from the Greek-Exodus. This title itself reveals the aforementioned redemption as the word exodus means "departure, a going out, a way out."
- 4. Exodus seemingly picks up where Genesis leaves off as its records span the period of time from 1875 when Jacob enters into Egypt until 1405 and the death of Moses.
- 5. Also prominent in the book is the beginning of Israel as a theocratic nation at Mt. Sinai when God inaugurated the Mosaic covenant with the law, tabernacle, priesthood and Shekinah glory of His presence.
- 6. The entire book is typical of the redemption in the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, especially the Passover lamb, tabernacle, priesthood and sacrificial ritual (cf. 1 Cor. 10 & Hebrews).

II. OUTLINE OF EXODUS:

I. ISRAEL IN EGYPT: (Exodus 1-12)

a. EGYPTIAN BONDAGE: (Ex. 1)

- i. Nearly 300 years have elapsed since the death of Joseph (Gen. 50), and the Hebrew people have been in Egypt some 370 years.
- ii. Their once privileged status is gone. Living under a new Pharaoh and a dynasty which has long forgotten Egypt's debt to Joseph (cf. Gen. 41), they are now a slave nation.
- iii. This new pharaoh has begun a great building program, building multiple store-cities. He has a large, ready-made economic labor force in the resident Israelites, who he organizes under taskmasters to dig out mud and make the bricks for building the new cities.
- iv. The growth of the Jewish population within Egypt threatens Pharaoh and he orders all the Hebrew baby boys to be killed.

b. The Preparation of a Deliverer (Ex. 2-4)

i. After four centuries of slavery, the people of Israel cry to the God of Abraham, Isaac and Jacob for deliverance.

- ii. God remembers his covenant with Abraham and prepares Moses for this very purpose. He is miraculously saved at birth from Pharaoh's decree, raised by Pharaoh's daughter and educated under the best Egyptian training.
- iii. After killing an Egyptian at age forty, Moses flees to the desert of Midian for another forty years.
- iv. There God commissioned him at the burning bush to stand before Pharaoh as God's messenger and plead, "Let My People Go!"
- v. Moses is most reluctant, raising many objections (no ability, no message, no authority, no eloquence, no inclination), but each is countered by God (His presence, His power, His enablement, His direction, His instruction).

c. Moses Confronts Pharaoh (Ex. 5-11)

- i. Moses comes before Pharaoh and requests the freedom of his people. But the king cruelly imposes heavier burdens, compelling the Israelites to gather their own straw.
- ii. Moses, with Aaron, repeatedly come before Pharaoh and God ultimately inflicts the ten plagues upon Egypt. These plagues, object lessons of God's power over Pharaoh and Egyptian gods, grow in severity until the tenth brings death to the first born of every household of Egypt.
- iii. Hardening of Pharaoh's heart (20 times total between Ex. 4-14). Ten times Pharaoh hardens his own heart (Ex. 7:13, 14, 22; 8:11, 15, 28; 9:7, 34, 35; 13:5). Ten times God hardens Pharaoh's heart (Ex. 4:21; 7:3; 9:12; 10:1, 20, 27; 11:10; 14:4, 8, 17). God, who could have softened his heart (as He did Paul's), simply let him be and gave him up to his own desires (Romans 1; 9:17).

d. The Passover (Ex. 12)

- i. Israel is redeemed from this plague by means of the Passover lamb, which prefigured Christ slain on Calvary (Lk. 1:29).
- ii. As the blood was applied to their door, they were protected from the death angel. So, the believer is shielded from the wrath of God (1 Cor. 5:7) through faith in Christ.
- iii. The unleavened bread showed their clean-cut, hasty separation from Egypt and the bitter herbs were intended to recall their suffering in Egypt under Pharaoh's cruelty.
- iv. Pharaoh now urges God's people to leave and the Egyptians supplied them with many necessary provisions.

II. ISRAEL IN THE WILDERNESS: (Exodus 13-18)

a. The Exodus and Pursuit (Ex. 13)

i. Israel is now free after 400 years of bondage and the journey to the promised land begins. There are 600,000 men, probably 2-3 million people in all, counting women and children.

ii. As they leave Egypt, God guides them by a pillar of fire and smoke, symbolizing God's guidance and protection.

b. The Red Sea Crossing (Ex. 14-15)

- i. Pharaoh decides to chase the Israelites, embarking his light, mobile chariotry, hemming them in against the Red Sea.
- ii. Miraculously, God parts the sea, allowing the Israelites to escape, and then drowns the pursuing Egyptian army. This miracle is the most dramatic and powerful in the OT and the most memorable event in Israel's national history.

c. Journey to Mt. Sinai (Ex. 16-18)

- i. In the desert now, the people are soon thirsty and hungry; grumbling begins against Moses. But God provides 'manna' each day and water from the rock (both prefiguring the spiritual provision of Christ for His own (Lk. 6:33-35; 7:37-39).
- ii. Joshua leads in victory over the Amalekites and Jethro provides practical advice for Moses regarding the heavy demands of leadership.

III. ISRAEL AT SINAI: (Exodus 19-40)

a. The Ten Commandments (Ex. 19-20)

- i. Israel arrives at Mt. Sinai, as God had promised (Ex. 3:12), where He will now establish His covenant with the nation of Israel.
- ii. Now that His people have been redeemed, they are ready to be taught what God expects of them. His redeemed people must now be set apart to walk with God in holiness.
- iii. Thunder, fire, earthquake and lightening herald God's presence. The Lord God, holy, awesome, unapproachable speaks.
- iv. Written on two stone tablets (to be preserved in the ark of the covenant), God revealed His law to Israel. The first tablet (four commandments) govern our relationship to God. The second tablet (last six commandments) governs our relationship with one another.

b. CIVIL AND CEREMONIAL LAWS (Ex. 21-23)

- i. This section, known as "the book of the covenant", records the rights of persons and property and the requirements for common justice and for observing the festal seasons.
- ii. There is a high view of human life demonstrated by fixed and just penalties.

c. RATIFICATION OF THE COVENANT (Ex. 24)

- i. The people willingly agree to the covenant which is formally sealed by a special sacrifice and the covenant meal.
- ii. The blood sprinkled on the people and on the altar unites the two parties to the agreement.

d. Tabernacle and Priesthood Instructions (Ex. 25-31)

- i. God gives Moses instructions to build a special tent for Him to dwell in, the tabernacle, as a visible sign that God will always be with His people.
- ii. Included in the blue print for the tabernacle are specifications for the ark of the covenant, table, lampstand, outer linen curtains, coverings, boards, veils, outer screen, bronze altar, layout of the court, and oil for the light.
- iii. The Lord then instructed Moses concerning the priesthood which was to minister in the tabernacle as a representative of the people and preside over the nations's religious life. The priest was to wear a special attire, befitting the One whom he served.
- iv. The Lord now appointed the craftsmen who were to do the construction work for the tabernacle.

e. The Golden Calf (Ex. 32)

- i. Only six weeks after making their solemn covenant with God, the people clamored for a replica of the old gods of Egypt, shamefully violating their commitment to keep God's commandment (Ex. 20:4).
- ii. Moses encounters this scene of apostasy and idolatry by smashing the tablets of the law, symbolizing the people's breaking of the covenant.
- iii. Moses intercedes for the people, entreating the Lord for an atonement for their sin.

f. RENEWAL OF THE COVENANT (Ex. 33-34)

- i. God then told Moses that he and the people should go on toward the Promised Land.
- ii. Moses asked to see the glory of God and this request was dramatically fulfilled as he saw God's goodness and back, but *not* His face.
- iii. The Lord gave Moses new stone tablets of the Ten Commandments and was given a new vision of God and a new commission. Moses returned to the people, his face shining by God's glory and then veiled to conceal it.

g. Construction of the Tabernacle (Ex. 35-40)

- i. With the covenant renewed, the construction of the tabernacle was essential. The instructions for building the tabernacle must now be carried out.
- ii. Materials were gathered, workers were trained, and the work commenced. The tabernacle structure was built, along with its furnishings, the courtyard, and the priest's garments.
- iii. When the work is completed, God gives Moses instructions for setting up and arranging the tabernacle, which are carefully obeyed. Aaron and his sons are anointed for priestly service.
- iv. God's promise ("I will dwell among the Israelites and be their God," Ex. 29:45) was fulfilled as the glory of the Lord filled the tabernacle. So great was the splendor, Moses was not able to minister.
- v. The cloud, symbolic of the Lord's presence, would lead them to the Promised Land.

III. THE CENTRAL THEMES:

Yahweh (the God of Creation, the God of the Patriarchs) redeemed the Sons of Israel from bondage in Egypt and entered into a Covenant with the Nation of Israel at Sinai. After nearly four hundreds years of growth in Egypt, Exodus continues the history of God's chosen people, the nation of Israel, and describes their deliverance out of Egypt and their development as a nation, actually, a theocracy under God. It describes the birth, history, and call of Moses by God to lead the people out of their Egyptian bondage and into the Promised Land, namely Canaan. Through the Passover lamb, the sparing of the firstborn, along with the miracles of the ten plagues, and the crossing of the Red Sea, God showed His people that He was not only more powerful than any Egyptian Pharaoh, but was the sovereign Lord, *Yahweh*, the God of redemption and revelation.

Once the people had crossed the Red Sea and arrived in the wilderness or desert, God gave them His righteous law and declared that they were a treasured possession to Him and were to be a kingdom of priests, a holy nation as a testimony to the nations (Ex. 19:4-7). This holy law, including the Ten Commandments, demonstrated God's holiness, taught them how to love God and one another, but in the process, it also demonstrated how all fall short of the holiness of God and need a way of access to God that provides forgiveness. This was provided for in the tabernacle, the sacrifices, and the levitical priesthood.

I. <u>REDEMPTION</u> (6:6; 15:13) & <u>DELIVERANCE</u> (2:19; 3:8-12; 6:6-8; 7:4; 12:17, 42, 51; 13:3, 9, 14, 16; 16:6, 32; 18:1; 19:4; 20:2; 29:46; 32:1-4, 11; 33:1, 12).

II. YAHWEH:

- a. <u>THE NAME OF YAHWEH</u> (3:13-15; 6:2-8; 9:16; 15:3; 20:7, 24; 23:21; 33:12-34:9.14)
- b. <u>THE KNOWLEDGE OF YAHWEH</u> (5:2; 6:3, 7; 7:5, 17; 8:10, 22; 9:14, 29, 30; 10:2; 14:4, 18; 16:6, 12; 18:11; 29:46; 31:13; 33:12, 13)
- c. The Fear of Yahweh (1:17, 21; 9:20, 30; 14:31; 18:21; 20:20)
- III. <u>HOLINESS</u> (3:5; 12:16; 13:2; 15:11, 13; 16:23; 19:6, 10, 14, 22, 23; 20:8, 11; 22:31; 26:33, 34; 28:2, 3, 4, 29, 35, 36, 38, 41, 43; 29:1, 6, 21, 29, 30, 31, 33, 34, 36, 37, 44; 30:10; 31:10; 35:2).
- IV. THE PATRIARCHS (2:24; 3:6, 15, 16; 4:5; 6:3, 8; 32:13; 33:1)

V. THE COVENANTS:

- a. Abrahamic Covenant (2:24; 6:4, 5)
- b. Sinaitic [Mosaic] Covenant (19:5; 20-23; 24:7, 8; 31:16; 34:10-27)
- VI. <u>The Sabbath</u> (16:23, 25, 26, 29; 20:8-11; 23:10-12; 31:13-17; 35:2, 3)
- VII. THE PASSOVER (12, 34) & UNLEAVENED BREAD (12, 13, 23, 34)
- VIII. THE DECALOGUE (20:3-17; 31:18; 32:15-19; 34:27-29)

- IX. <u>THE TABERNACLE</u> (25-31; 34-40)
- X. <u>THE WILDERNESS</u> (3:1, 18; 4:27; 5:1, 3; 7:16; 8:27, 28; 13:18, 20; 14:3, 11, 12; 15:22; 16:1, 2, 3, 10, 14, 32; 17:1; 18:5; 19:1, 2; 23:31)

VII. CHRIST IN EXODUS:

While Exodus contains no direct prophecy of Christ, there are a number of beautiful types of the Savior.

I. <u>VEILED TYPES</u>

- a. **Moses** Deuteronomy 18:15 shows that Moses, as a prophet, anticipates Christ. Both are kinsman-redeemers who were endangered in infancy, renounced their power to serve others, and functioned as mediators, lawgivers, and deliverers (Phil. 2:5-10; Heb. 11:24-26).
- b. **Passover** is a very specific type of Christ as the sinless Lamb of God (John 1:29, 36; 1 Cor. 5:7).
- c. **Seven Feasts** each of which portray some aspect of the Savior.
- d. **Exodus** which Paul connects with baptism, pictures our identification with Christ in His death, burial, and resurrection (1 Cor. 10:1-2; Rom. 6:2-3).
- e. **Manna and Water** both portrayed as pictures of Christ (John 6:31-35, 48-63; 1 Cor. 10:3-4).
- f. **Tabernacle** portrays the Savior in its material, colors, furniture, arrangement, and the offerings sacrificed there (Heb. 9:1-10:18).
- g. **High Priest** clearly foreshadows the person and ministry of Christ (Heb. 4:14-16; 7; 9:11-12, 24-28).

IV. EXODUS IN FOCUS:

I. KEY FACT: TIME SPAN OF EXODUS

- a. Chapter 1 covers several centuries
- b. Chapter 2 covers about 80 years
- c. Chapters 3-40 cover about 1 year

II. KEY FACT: DATE OF THE EXODUS

a. The exodus from Egypt would most likely have occurred around 1446/1445 B.C.

III. KEY PEOPLE: Moses

- a. Moses is introduced in Exodus 2:1
- b. He was born approximately 1525 B.C.
- c. Parents were godly Israelites
- d. Moses was their 3RD child (Miriam 7 & Aaron 3)
- e. Moses was hid for 3 months, then placed in a floating basket, picked up by Pharaoh's daughter.

- Thutmose 1st is King his daughter is Hatshepsut she wants to be the sole monarch of Egypt. When her father passes away, she steps in by marrying her ½ brother Thutmose II (a rather weak individual) & basically rules till he can be discarded.
- She raises Moses & her son Thutmose III side by side Thutmose III hates his mom & everything to do with her. As soon as she died, he set out to erase any trace of her throughout the kingdom!
- It was Thutmose III's son (Amenhotep II) who was the Pharaoh of the Exodus.
- f. Murder committed Ex. 2:11, leads to self imposed exile (approximately 1485)
- g. <u>Hebrews 11:23-29</u>: "By faith Moses, when he was born, was hidden for three months by his parents, because they saw he was a beautiful child; and they were not afraid of the king's edict. By faith Moses, when he had grown up, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter; choosing rather to endure ill-treatment with the people of God, than to enjoy the passing pleasures of sin; considering the reproach of Christ greater riches than the treasures of Egypt; for he was looking to the reward. By faith he left Egypt, not fearing the wrath of the king; for he endured, as seeing Him who is unseen. By faith he kept the Passover and the sprinkling of the blood, so that he who destroyed the first-born might not touch them. By faith they passed through the Red Sea as though *they were passing* through dry land; and the Egyptians, when they attempted it, were drowned."

III. KEY CHAPTERS: CALL OF MOSES (Ex. 3-4)

- a. Married (Zipporah)
- b. Burning bush
- c. Moses's excuses

IV. KEY CHAPTERS: LET MY PEOPLE GO (Ex. 7-11)

- a. Ten plagues (occurring over an approximate span of 6-9 months)
- b. God & Pharaoh hardening his heart

V. KEY CHAPTER: PASSOVER (Ex. 12)

- a. Final plague death of the firstborn son
- b. Foreshadowing of the true Passover Lamb (Jesus Christ)

VI. KEY CHAPTER: PARTING OF THE RED SEA (Ex. 14)

- a. Israel numbered about 2 million strong.
- b. Red Sea was a literal event Involved three aspects:
 - i. A glory cloud that shielded the Israelites & a pillar of fire
 - ii. Red Sea water opened
 - iii. Egyptian army drowned!

VII. KEY CHAPTER: Mosaic Covenant (Ex. 19)

a. Inauguration of the new nation's constitution.

- b. Exodus 19:5-6: "Now then, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be My own possession among all the peoples, for all the earth is Mine; and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."
- c. Law was set up as temporary until the New Covenant was instituted!
 - i. Gal 3:24 Therefore the Law has become our tutor *to lead us* to Christ, that we may be justified by faith.
 - ii. The will of God was revealed in the law. There was no ambiguity because the law taught people how to treat their parents, neighbors, and God. Paul said it was "holy, righteous, and good" (Romans 7:12)
 - iii. The law protected the nation from evil men. It severely punished evildoers but gave godly people nothing to fear. "The law is not made for a righteous man but for those who are lawless and rebellious..." (1 Tim. 1:9).
 - iv. The law enabled the nation to enjoy the promises God made to Abraham. By the nation's obedience, the unique blessings of God were granted to Israel.
 - v. The law separated Israel from heathen people. Ceremonial and moral law kept God's chosen nation unique.
 - vi. The ceremonies of the law educated the nation. Blood atonement, instituted in the law, helped Jewish people understand the importance of trusting in the shed blood of a substitute, and ultimately, a Redeemer. Christianity, then, is actually the fulfillment of orthodox, biblical Judaism. When John the Baptist said, "Behold the Lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world," the Jewish people understood what that meant, or they should have, because they had seen hundreds of lambs slaughtered as sacrifices for sin. Christ is then the ultimate fulfillment of the law. He did not come to abolish the law but to fulfill it (Matt. 5:17).
 - vii. Christ died to free people from the law so they could live in maturity under grace (Gal. 4:1-7).
 - viii. The major purpose of the law, according to Romans 7, was to remove ambiguity about guilt. It was a mirror to reflect sins. A mirror does not make you clean, but it removes any doubt about the need for cleansing.

VIII. KEY CHAPTER: TEN COMMANDMENTS (Ex. 20)

- a. "You shall have no other gods before Me." Ex. 20:3
- b. "You shall not make for yourself an idol." Ex. 20:4
- c. "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain." Ex. 20:7
- d. "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy." Ex. 20:8
 - a. only commandment not repeated in the NT
- e. "Honor your father and your mother." Ex. 20:12
- f. "You shall not murder." Ex. 20:13
- g. "You shall not commit adultery." Ex. 20:14
- h. "You shall not steal." Ex. 20:15
- i. "You shall not bear false witness." Ex. 20:16
- j. "You shall not covet." Ex. 20:17

IX. KEY CHAPTER: Breaking of the Law (Ex. 32)

- a. Fashioning of a golden calf, which was a throwback to the idols of Egypt
- b. Moses shatters the stone tablets signifying the breaking of God's commandments by the people of Israel.

X. <u>KEY CHAPTER: THE TABERNACLE (Ex. 40)</u>

- a. "First day of the month" The Tabernacle was set up one year after the Exodus from Egypt (12:2) and nine months after Israel's arrival at Sinai (19:1).
- b. The Tabernacle consisted of an outer court and an inner court (holy of holies), which housed the ark of the covenant containing the stone tablets, Aaron's budded rod and manna.
- c. The glory of the Lord filled the Holy of holies as a visible cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night, representing God's Shekinah glory, covered over the tent of meeting.

XI. KEY PEOPLE:

- a. **Aaron** Moses' spokesman and brother; consecrated as the first high priest
- b. **Jethro** Moses' father-in-law
- c. **Miriam** Moses' sister, a prophetess; let women in worship (Ex. 15:20-21).
- d. **Moses** Prophet of the highest order, Lawgiver, author of the Pentateuch; prominent individual in Exodus through Deuteronomy
- e. **Zipporah** Moses' wife

V. <u>CONCLUSION:</u>

- 1. The book of Exodus began with a mob of miserable slaves in Egypt. And it concludes with an emancipated nation in fellowship with God and on its ways to the Promised Land of Canaan. This truly is a book of redemption.
- 2. This same God wants to do the same in your life as well. He wants to redeem you from your spiritual slavery and bondage to sin, Satan and the world, and set you free to walk in close fellowship with Him.
- 3. All of this is possible through personal faith in the pure and precious blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, who is the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world. He is the Mediator of the New Covenant in His blood.
- 4. Your redemption in Christ marks only the beginning of your personal exodus, a spiritual pilgrimage that will lead you to God's promised rest.

REFLECTION / DISCUSSION QUESTIONS

1. Note the four excuses Moses made for not obeying God. In each case, what was God's response?

3. Note the hardening of Pharaoh's heart.
• Ex 7:13,14,22; 8:15,19,32; 9:7,34,35
• Ex 4:21; 7:23; 9:12; 10:1,20,27; 11:10; 14:4,8,17
• Rom 9:17,18
What inference(s) can we draw?
4. What do you understand by the term 'passover'? In the light of Ex.12:23, what other meaning could 'passover' have? What parallels are there in the NT with Passover?
12:5
12:6
12:7
12:17
12:24
12:26
12:27; 15:13
5. What was the significance and purpose of the Tabernacle in the Old Testament? What is the New Testament believer's counterpart to the Tabernacle?
6. What was the purpose of the Law? What characteristics of God are revealed in the giving of the Mosaic Covenant (Ex. 19, 20, 24)? Describe the differences between the Mosaic Covenant and the Abrahamic Covenant.

2. What is the significance of God's name, YHWH, as revealed for the first time in Ex 3:14?