

EXPLORING GOD'S WORD

LESSON 4a (Teacher Guide)

[Assigned Reading: Exodus chapters 1-12]

[Themes to Teach: Passover, Plan of Salvation]

(Read Exodus 1:1-14 & 22)

God chose Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob to be the patriarchs of a great nation. Jacob (Israel) and his sons relocated to Egypt under the protection of Joseph. The children of Israel lived in the land of Goshen for nearly 400 years and grew from a small family of 70 people into a nation of hundreds of thousands of people.

A new king rose to power. He feared the numbers and might of Israel. So, he enslaved them and eventually began systematically killing every male child. Yet, in all this suffering and loss, the purpose of God continued to be advanced as the children of Israel increased and multiplied greatly.

- **GOD RAISED UP A DELIVERER BY NAME OF MOSES:** (Read Acts 7:17-25)
- **God spared Moses' life as child:** (Read Exodus 2:1-10)
 - Moses was hidden by his parents for 3 months.
 - When she could no longer hide him, his mother made an ark and placed him in the river.
 - Moses was discovered by Pharaoh's daughter and raised as a prince in Egypt.
- **Moses made the right choice:** (Read Hebrews 11:23-29)
 - By faith, he chose to suffer with God's people, instead of enjoying the pleasures of sin for a season.
 - Moses forsook Egypt and refused to be called the son of Pharaoh's daughter.
 - Responding to God in faith will often bring us to a point of decision. We may have to walk away from some things to embrace all God has in store for us.
- **Moses is called back to Egypt:** (Read Acts 7:30-34)
 - Moses fled Egypt and lived in the wilderness for 40 years.
 - After 40 years, God spoke to Moses from a burning bush.
 - God revealed himself to Moses as the I AM and sent Moses to free the children of Israel.
- **ISRAEL'S EXODUS FORESHADOWED GOD'S PLAN OF SALVATION:**

The Exodus from Egypt is a beautiful picture of God's New Testament plan of deliverance from sin and death. Moses confronted Pharaoh and commanded him to let God's people go. Pharaoh refused and hardened his heart. Therefore, God used Moses to bring judgement upon Egypt in the form of 10 plagues.

- **The ten plagues were God's judgement upon Egypt:**
 - Water to Blood
 - Frogs
 - Lice
 - Flies
 - Cattle Slain

- Boils
- Hail
- Locusts
- Darkness
- Firstborn Slain

(Read Exodus 12:1-3, 7-8 & 12-14)

All sin will be judged. God is holy, and He cannot simply overlook sin.

- **Israel was spared from judgement by the Blood of the Lamb:**

The Angel of the Lord was to pass through Egypt and execute judgement upon the land. Only those who had the blood of a lamb applied to their home would be spared. God told Moses; "When I see the blood, I will pass over..."

- The blood of the Passover lamb pointed to the atoning blood of Jesus Christ as the Lamb of God without spot or blemish.
- This event also foreshadowed our repentance and turning to Christ as our atonement. When we turn to Him and apply His sacrificial death to our lives, the judgement of God will pass over us.
- It was not enough for a lamb to die; its blood must be applied. Jesus died for all, but only those who apply His blood will be spared.
- **Jesus is our Passover:** (1 Corinthians 5:7)
- The Jews were instructed to commemorate this day with an annual feast.
- Jesus, the perfect Lamb of God, was crucified more than a thousand years later, on Passover.
- Jesus used the Passover meal to introduce the New Covenant and point to Himself as its fulfillment (Read Luke 22:14-20)
- **They passed through the Red Sea:** (Read Exodus 14:13-14 & 21-23)

Israel's passing through the Red Sea is a type of our baptism. They went into the sea and their slave masters pursued them. Yet, Israel came out of the sea and their past was buried beneath the waves.

"...the Egyptians whom ye have seen today, ye shall see them again no more forever"

Just as God removed the past from Israel by having them pass through the water, He removes our sin from us in the waters of baptism. (See Acts 22:16)

- **They met and followed the cloud:** (Read Exodus 13:21-22)

This is a foreshadow of being filled with and led by the Holy Spirit.

God's plan of deliverance for the Hebrew slaves from Egypt foreshadowed our own deliverance from the bondage of sin. (See Acts 2:37-39 & Romans 6:3-5)

- Passover = Blood & Death. This is fulfilled in our turning to Jesus in repentance.
- Red Sea Crossing = Burial & Water. This is fulfilled in water baptism.

- Promise Land = Spirit giving them a new life. This is fulfilled through the infilling of the Holy Spirit.

Paul referenced the two baptisms of the nation of Israel: (Read 1 Corinthians 10:1-2)
These two baptisms symbolize being born of the water and of the Spirit.

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