

EXODUS (Teacher's Edition)

Part One: **Redemption from Egypt** (1:1--18:27)

- I. **The Need for Redemption from Egypt** 1
 - A. Israel's Rapid Multiplication 1:1-7
 - B. Israel's Severe Affliction 1:8-14
 - C. Israel's Planned Destruction 1:15-22
- II. **The Preparation of the Leaders of the Redemption** 2:1--4:31
 - A. Moses is Saved 2:1-10
 - B. Moses Avenges a Wrong 2:11-22
 - C. Israel Calls upon God 2:23-25
 - D. God Calls upon Moses 3:1--4:17
 - E. Moses Accepts the Call 4:18-26
 - F. Israel Accepts the Call of Moses as Deliverer 4:27-31
- III. **The Redemption of Israel from Egypt by God** 5:1--15:21
 - A. Moses Confronts Pharaoh by Word 5:1--6:9
 - B. Moses Confronts Pharaoh with Miracles 6:10--7:13
 - C. Moses Confronts Pharaoh Through Plagues 7:14--11:10
 - 1. First Plague: Blood 7:14-25
 - 2. Second Plague: Frogs 8:1-15
 - 3. Third Plague: Lice 8:16-19
 - 4. Fourth Plague: Flies 8:20-32
 - 5. Fifth Plague: Disease on Livestock 9:1-7
 - 6. Sixth Plague: Boils 9:8-12
 - 7. Seventh Plague: Hail 9:13-35
 - 8. Eighth Plague: Locusts 10:1-20
 - 9. Ninth Plague: Darkness 10:21-29
 - 10. Tenth Plague: Death Announced 11
 - D. Israel Redeemed by Blood through the Passover 12:1--13:16
 - E. Israel Redeemed by Power from Egypt 13:17--15:21
- IV. **The Preservation of Israel in the Wilderness** 15:22--18:27
 - A. Preserved from Thirst 15:22-27
 - B. Preserved from Hunger 16
 - C. Preserved from Thirst Again 17:1-7
 - D. Preserved from Defeat 17:8-16
 - E. Preserved from Chaos 18

Part Two: **Revelation from God** (19:1--40:38)

- I. **The Revelation of the Old Covenant** 19:1--31:18
 - A. The Preparation of the People 19
 - B. The Revelation of the Covenant 20
 - 1. The Ten Commandments 20:1-17
 - 2. The Response of Israel 20:18-21
 - 3. Provision for Approaching God 20:22-26
 - C. The Judgments 21:1--23:33
 - 1. Social Regulations 21:1--22:15

- 2. Moral Regulations 22:16--23:9
- 3. Religious Regulations 23:10-19
- 4. Conquest Regulations 23:20-33
- D. The Formal Renewal of the Covenant 24:1-11
 - 1. The Covenant Is Renewed through Blood 24:1-8
 - 2. The God of the Covenant Is Revealed 24:9-11
- E. **The Tabernacle** 24:12--27:21
 - 1. The Revelation Is Given on Mount Sinai 24:12-18
 - 2. The Offering for the Tabernacle 25:1-7
 - 3. The Revelation of the Tabernacle 25:8--27:21
- F. **The Priests** 28:1--29:46
 - 1. The Clothing of the Priests 28
 - 2. The Consecration of the Priests 29:1-37
 - 3. The Continual Offerings of the Priests 29:38-46
- G. **Institution of the Covenant** 30:1--31:18
 - 1. Instructions for Using the Tabernacle 30
 - 2. Instructions for Building the Tabernacle 31:1-11
 - 3. Sign of the Covenant: The Sabbath 31:12-17
 - 4. Two Tablets Are Presented 31:18
- II. The Response of Israel to the Covenant 32:1--40:38**
 - A. Israel Willfully Breaks the Covenant 32:1-6
 - B. Moses Intercedes for Israel's Salvation 32:7-33
 - C. Moses Convinces God Not to Abandon Israel 32:34--33:23
 - D. God Renews the Covenant with Israel 34
 - E. Israel Willingly Obeys the Covenant 35:1--40:33
 - F. God Fills the Tabernacle with His Glory 40:34-38

AUTHOR:

Exodus is one of the first five books of the OT traditionally assigned to Moses. There are two sound reasons why Moses can be accepted without question as the divinely inspired author of this book.

First, Exodus itself **speaks of the writing activity** of Moses. In Ex 34:27 God commands Moses to "write these words." Another passage tells us that "Moses wrote all the words of the Lord" in obedience to God's command (24:4). Second, Moses either observed or participated in the events described in Exodus. He was well qualified to write about these experiences, since he had been educated in the household of the Pharaoh during his early life. An even greater authority: **Jesus also declares** Moses' authorship: Mark 7:10; 12:26; Luke 20:37; John 5:46, 47; 7:19-23.

WHEN THE BOOK WAS WRITTEN:

As with Genesis, the most likely time is between 1440-1400 B.C. Most believe it was written closer to **1400 B.C.** near the **end** of Moses' life.

ABOUT THE BOOK:

Whereas Genesis is the book of **origins**, Exodus is the book of **redemption**. Delivered out of Egyptian bondage, the newly formed nation is endowed with The Law, the priesthood and the sacrificial system which provided for the **worship and regulation** of a redeemed people.

The time comprised in this book, from the death of Joseph to the erection of the tabernacle in the wilderness, is about **145 years**, on the supposition that the four hundred and thirty years (12:40) are to be computed from the time of the promises made to Abraham (Gal 3:17).

Exodus is the continuation of the Genesis account, dealing with the development of a family of 70 into a nation of 2 to 3 million. For over 400 hundred years the Hebrews lived in Egypt, much of the time as slaves in horrible bondage. Exodus records Moses' development, Israel's deliverance, their trip to Sinai to receive God's law, and His instructions on building the tabernacle. The book ends with the building of the tabernacle as a dwelling place for God.

The Book of Exodus has exercised much influence over the faith of Israel, as well as **Christian theology**. The Bible's entire **message of redemption** grows out of the **covenant** relationship between God and His people first described in this book.

The Passover (see Ex 12), first instituted by God for the deliverance of the Hebrews from slavery, became one of the focal points of Israel's faith. It also served as the base on which Jesus developed the **Last Supper** as a lasting memorial for His followers. With clear insight into Exodus, the message of the Bible and the meaning of the life of Jesus dawns with greater understanding for Christian believers.

Recorded is also a dramatic testimony to the power of God. The signs and plagues sent by God to break Pharaoh's stubbornness are clear demonstrations of **His power**. In addition to setting the Israelites free, they also dramatize the **weakness of Egypt's false gods**. The puny idols of Egypt are powerless before the mighty God of Israel. In the table below you can see which "gods" Yahweh was "judging".

The Plagues of God vs. the gods of Egypt

Plague	Possible Deity
Blood (9:10)	Khnum, Giver of the Nile
Frogs (8:6)	Heket, goddess with a frog's head
Lice (8:17)	Hathor or Nut, sky goddesses
Flies (8:24)	Shu, air god
Livestock deceased (9:6)	Apis, god in form of bull
Boils (9:10)	Sekhmet, goddess of sickness
Hail (9:23)	Aker or Geb, earth-gods
Locusts (10:13)	Serapis, protector from locusts
Darkness (10:22)	Ra, god of sun
Death of firstborn (12:29)	Selket, guardian of life

I must share an important word regarding this. The book opens with the Hebrews **oppressed and enslaved**. Like any group under restraint, the Hebrews complained. Their complaint was made known not only to their captors, but **to their God** (2:23–25). God heard their plea and put in motion a plan to deliver them. He accomplished this deliverance through selecting a prophet named Moses (3:1–10). But deliverance **did not occur instantaneously**; it was **a process**. This is an especially important thought for the instant-minded generation we live in today. 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 our God** over Egyptian gods and, second, they **brought freedom** to the Hebrews. When our God delivers people today He has the same purposes in mind: to **demonstrate** He is **more powerful** than the gods of the modern generation **and to bring freedom**.

One last thought here. The crossing of the Red Sea is one of the most dramatic events in the entire Bible; the biblical writers repeatedly refer to it as the most significant sign of God's love for Israel. It is even used as a type of **water baptism** (see 1 Corinthians 10:2). Their powerful Redeemer God had delivered a helpless slave people from their enemies. They celebrated their victory with a song of praise that emphasizes the theme of the Book of Exodus. This song is found in Exodus 15: 1, 2.

A GENERAL ASSESSMENT OF EXODUS (BASIC THEMES):

There is no theme repeated more often than the testimony of the **blood of the Lamb** as the means of **redemption**. There is no event more often referred to as the deliverance of Israel though the Red Sea. These two facts frame the picture of God's people for all time: He is **saving people through the Lamb** and **calling people out**- making a way for their deliverance from bondage into His freedom! **In Exodus 19:5-6**, God tells us: "Now if you obey me fully and keep my covenant, then out of all nations you will be my treasured possession. Although the whole earth is mine, you will be for me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation."

Hence, in order for us to achieve our true mission and purpose, we must first learn how to "worship". What we mean by worship is not just singing. It is **obedience and doing things for the glory and honor of God**. God is saying, "Worship Me, first and foremost!"

Another important point to remember is the interesting emphasis on worship and the Word. God's Word and God's worship are the foundation stones upon which His people's destiny will be realized. God lays out how He wants to be worshiped! We cannot worship **any old way**, which is why He speaks in detail on the tabernacle and proper ways to approach Him. (See Deuteronomy 12:30-32). When you consider this, remember: the giving of the law **took forty days**, while establishing the tabernacle of worship (i.e., establishing the rules on how God should be served) **took over a year!**

This demonstrates how much more slowly people consent **to obey** the Word in **daily surrender** (we want to go to God our own way, live by our own rules), compared with the **study of God's Word**.

In summary, the book shows us:

1. God blesses those who remain in a covenant relationship with Him
2. God takes great pains in explaining *exactly how He wants to be worshipped*
3. God delivers people from bondage. This may not come immediately, but it will come to those who wait and **make preparations for it**. You can say that the deliverance is based on **obedience to God's will** and upon moving when He says to move!

A POSSIBLE KEY WORD:

All right, I have two because they are about the same. How about: **Redemption** or **Deliverance**? This thought is central to the book as well as the entire Bible!

KEY VERSE(S) AND CHAPTER(S):

How about the key verses being: **Exodus 6:6-7** & **19:5-6** and the key chapters (and this may surprise you): **Exodus 12-14**?

Why? Because in the verses God makes His declaration to them of His intent to set them free and be their God and make them His people! The chapters hit me because the entire OT, and a major foundation for salvation history, hinges upon the two things brought up: the salvation of God's people through the blood (the Passover), and through the power of the Holy Spirit (the Red Sea).

JESUS REVEALED IN THE BOOK:

Here are a few places:

- ❖ Moses is a type of Christ since he delivers from bondage and comes doing great miracles
- ❖ **The Passover and the lamb which is slain**
- ❖ **Jesus is revealed in the manna- see John 6. He is the true bread!**
- ❖ **How about "the angel" mentioned in Exodus 23: 20-26?**
- ❖ **Who was it in the pillar of fire?**

THE HOLY SPIRIT REVEALED IN THE BOOK:

Here are a few places the Holy Spirit and His role are mentioned:

- ❖ All the anointing oil mentioned in the book
- ❖ **Probably some of the coolest references are in Exodus 31:3-11 and 35:30 where God directly declares that His Spirit enabled the artisans to perform their duties. The Holy Spirit even works through people who are laborers! He helps with "common" work this is very important, since we take credit for our own abilities.**
- ❖ **How about in Exodus 15:26? Our healing God heals through His Spirit!**

- ❖ All the revelations that Moses received, from the law to the directions for His tabernacle to the burning bush, were all done by the work of the Spirit. See John 16: 12-15.
- ❖ Of course, in all the miracles!

SOME TRUTHS AND APPLICATIONS:

Exodus 15:26

This is the OT healing covenant. This verse sets forth a condition for physical healing: God's people were to listen to God's voice, live righteous lives, hear His commands, and keep all His decrees. When we obey the Scriptures, we are assured of healing.

Exodus 20:7

Don't use God's name in vain! God's name is neither meaningless nor empty; therefore, it is not to be used in a manner that denies the reality of God's character and power. To use God's name when not in proper relationship with that name is to use it in vain.

Exodus 32:1

Don't become impatient with God or His people. It only leads to sin!

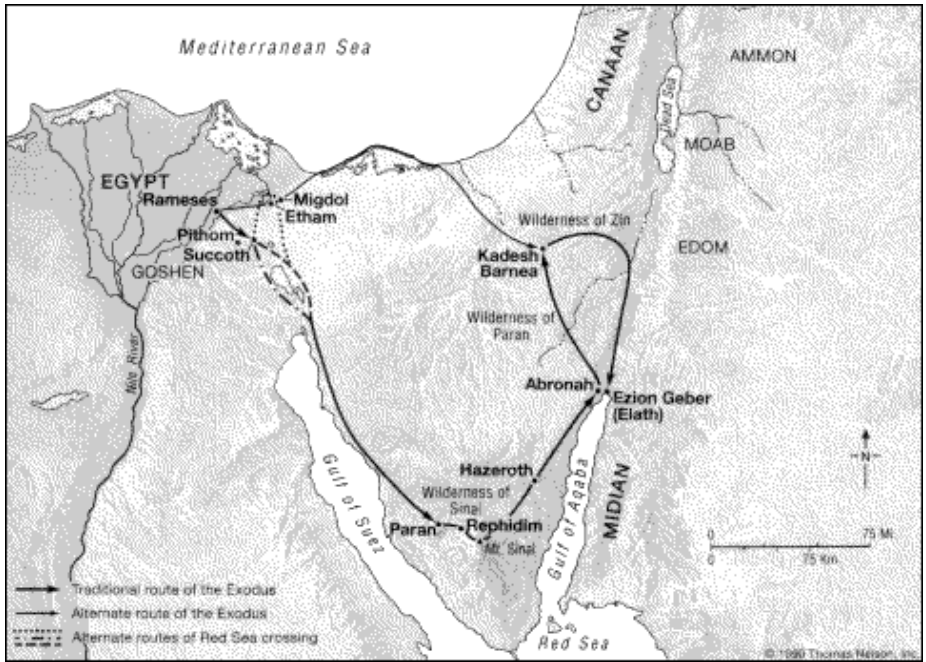
Exodus 16:8; 22:28; 35: 20-29

Don't grumble against spiritual leadership. When you do, you are grumbling against the Lord and are rebelling! You need to listen to those God sends to speak to and lead you. Don't rebel against their leadership, because in disregarding godly leaders, you are disregarding Him.

Some Things of Interest

The Exodus from Egypt

The precise route taken by the Israelites to Mt. Sinai after their departure from Egypt is uncertain. As the map below indicates, scholars have proposed both northern and southern routes, with the southern path the most likely. It took approximately two months to reach Sinai, where the Israelites encamped for roughly ten months during the period of divine revelation.



The Plan of the Tabernacle

The tabernacle was to provide a place where God might dwell among His people. The term tabernacle sometimes refers to the tent, including the holy place and the Most Holy, which was covered with embroidered curtains. But in other places it refers to the entire complex, including the curtained court in which the tent stood.

N

W

Ark of the Covenant

Altar of Incense

Table of Showbread

the Most Holy

the holy place

● ●

○
Bronze Laver

■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■ ■
Altar of Burnt Offering

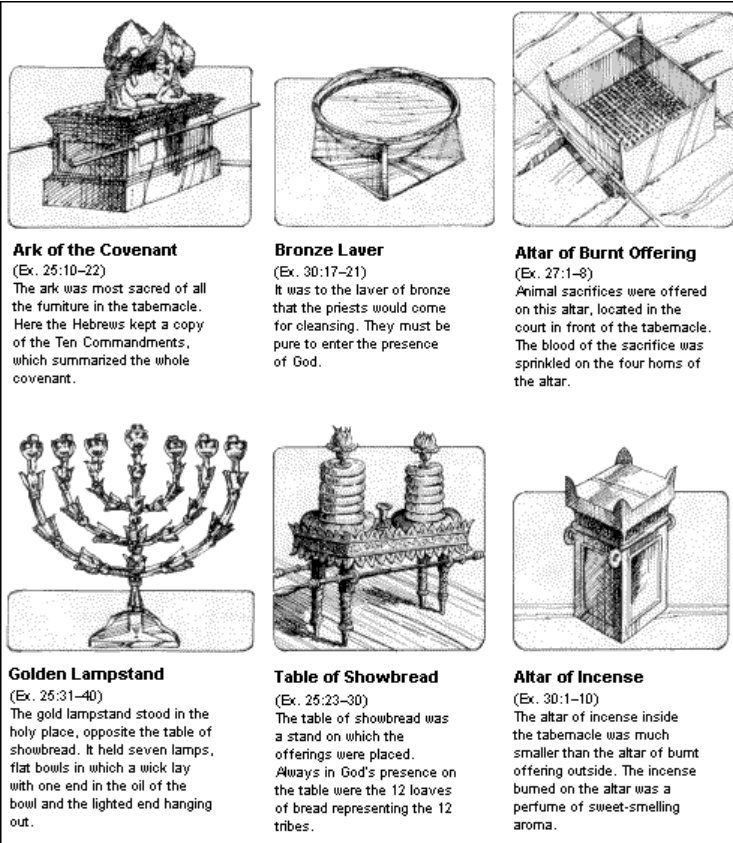
● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ● ●
Golden Lampstand

E

S

This illustration shows the relative positions of the tabernacle furniture used in Israelite worship. The tabernacle is enlarged for clarity.

The Furniture of the Tabernacle



Ark of the Covenant

(Ex. 25:10-22)

The ark was most sacred of all the furniture in the tabernacle. Here the Hebrews kept a copy of the Ten Commandments, which summarized the whole covenant.

Bronze Laver

(Ex. 30:17-21)

It was to the laver of bronze that the priests would come for cleansing. They must be pure to enter the presence of God.

Altar of Burnt Offering

(Ex. 27:1-8)

Animal sacrifices were offered on this altar, located in the court in front of the tabernacle. The blood of the sacrifice was sprinkled on the four horns of the altar.

Golden Lampstand

(Ex. 25:31-40)

The gold lampstand stood in the holy place, opposite the table of showbread. It held seven lamps, flat bowls in which a wick lay with one end in the oil of the bowl and the lighted end hanging out.

Table of Showbread

(Ex. 25:23-30)

The table of showbread was a stand on which the offerings were placed. Always in God's presence on the table were the 12 loaves of bread representing the 12 tribes.

Altar of Incense

(Ex. 30:1-10)

The altar of incense inside the tabernacle was much smaller than the altar of burnt offering outside. The incense burned on the altar was a perfume of sweet-smelling aroma.