

Access the Bible

Tualatin Presbyterian Church

Exodus Outline

Introduction: Exodus tells the central story of the Bible- the freeing of the Hebrew people from slavery. In this story God takes the side of the weak and oppressed Hebrew slaves over and against the rich and powerful Egyptian government. Then, God follows the people into the wilderness meeting with Moses on the mountain to give them the law. Far from being dead legalism, Exodus depicts the law the practical way of seeing faith lived out.

Scholars widely agree that while the Bible begins with Genesis, the Hebrew people really became conscious as a people during the flight from Egypt. The Passover, the flight from Egypt- this is the central event that binds the Jewish people together. When the Bible imagines God, this image of liberator, law giver, and one who takes the side of the oppressed- these are the key images. Like other epic literature, and as we will see with the Gospels, this master story then spurred interest in origin stories, a story like Genesis, and then stories that offered speculation about the future. So, even though the book of Exodus comes second in the Torah, the story of Exodus is really the primary story of the Old Testament.

Section One: Moses Cycle

- Chapter 1: New Pharaoh, Shiprah and Puah moment with Pharaoh
- Chapter 2: Birth of Moses; Moses kills Egyptian and flees to Midian
- Chapter 3: God appears in burning bush; the Call of Moses
- Chapter 4: Moses protests, God pairs him with Aaron, strange incident with foreskin
- Chapter 5: Moses and Aaron confront Pharaoh; people complain against Moses
- Chapter 6: God's promise to M and A; tribal roll call
- Chapter 7: Moses and Aaron perform wonders with Pharaoh, Water to blood
- Chapter 8: Frogs, Gnats, Flies
- Chapter 9: Pestilence, Boils, Hail
- Chapter 10: Locusts, Darkness
- Chapter 11: Prediction of Passover and destruction of first born
- Chapter 12: The Passover
- Chapter 13: Cont.
- Chapter 14: Pharaoh pursues and Moses parts the sea
- Chapter 15: Song of Moses; Song of Miriam

Section Two: Israelites in Wilderness

- Chapter 16: Manna
- Chapter 17: Striking the rock; Battle with Amelek and Moses and his arms
- Chapter 18: Jethro visits; system of judges

Section Three: Laying Down the Law

- Chapter 19: Moses meets God at Mt. Sinai
- Chapter 20: Ten commandments
- Chapter 21: Slave and criminal law
- Chapter 22: Property law, care of aliens
- Chapter 23: Caring for others, Sabbath laws
- Chapter 24: Moses enters into cloud on Mt. Sinai
- Chapter 25: Construction of the ark
- Chapter 26: Tabernacle
- Chapter 27: Cont.
- Chapter 28: Aaronic Priesthood
- Chapter 29: Sacrifices
- Chapter 30: Altar, taking the census, further description
- Chapter 31: Naming of the craftsmen

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Chapter 32: Golden calf episode

Chapter 33: Moses seeing the backside of God

Chapter 34: Second set of tablets; "grace" laws

Chapter 35: Further description of tabernacle

Chapter 36-40: Cont.

Stories to know: Call of Moses (Chapter 3:1-15); God delivering the Hebrews from Pharaoh (Chapter 14:10-31); The ten commandments (Chapter 20:1-21)