

Exodus: Freedom from Bondage



*“7 Then the Lord told him, ‘I have certainly **seen** the oppression of my people in Egypt. I have **heard** their cries of distress because of their harsh slave drivers. Yes, I am **aware** of their suffering. 8 So I have **come down to rescue them** from the power of the Egyptians and **lead** them out of Egypt into their own fertile and spacious land.... 10 Now go, for **I am sending you** to Pharaoh. You must **lead** my people Israel out of Egypt.’” Exodus 3:7-8, 10 NLT*

- ▶ Are you controlled by annoying habits, impure thoughts, explosive emotional reactions, fear, insecurity, anger, lust, jealousy, worry?
- ▶ Do you have any addictions that you wish were out of your life—but you can’t seem to break free?
- ▶ Have you tried to make changes in your life but often find yourself falling back into the old habits?

The book of Exodus teaches us that God does not want people to live in bondage. He does not want them to be hindered from freely worshipping & living for Him. The book of Exodus is about God **freeing** the people of Israel from the oppressive enslavement of ancient Egypt & bringing them to a land of **freedom** where they could worship & live for God. **The book of Exodus teaches us about how to win over the things that would enslave us.** The book of Exodus has a message that is vital for people living in the 21st Century. **The secret to freedom from bondage is God’s redemptive power working in us.**

Central Lesson

The secret to freedom from bondage is God’s redemptive power working in us.

Title: The title “Exodus” means “*the way out*”—it records Israel’s departure from Egyptian slavery. Many people today are enslaved to things in their lives that are robbing them of the fulfillment, wholesomeness, and productivity that God originally intended. They are wishing for “*a way out*” but don’t see one. Exodus shows us that God provides a way out from bondage (cf. 1 Cor. 10:13).

In the Hebrew Bible, the book of Exodus begins with the word “*And*” because it a continuation of Genesis, although there is an interval of approximately 300+ years between where Genesis stops and Exodus starts. The name “Exodus” comes from the Greek Septuagint (Old Testament translated into Greek by 70 Hebrew scholars in the 3rd century B.C.). Exodus is a fulfillment of the prophecy made in Genesis 15:13-14 where God foretold of Israel being in slavery for 400 years.

Author: Moses (In Mark 7:10; 12:26, Jesus quotes passages from Exodus and attributes the statements to Moses.)

Theme: REDEMPTION & DELIVERANCE. God wanted His people free so they could worship & live for Him (Ex. 8:1). Israel was **redeemed** (purchased) & **delivered** from Egyptian slavery (Exodus 6:6; 15:13; Deut. 7:8). This was accomplished through **the shed blood of the Passover lamb** (Exodus 12:12-13) and by **the power of God** (Ex. 3:19-20). In the same way, God frees us from the

guilt & enslaving power of sin (Rom. 6:16) through the shed blood of “The Lamb of God”—Jesus Christ (Eph. 1:7; 1 Pet. 1:18-19; 1 Cor. 6:19-20).

Steps to Freedom

1. We must **ADMIT** that the addictions & controlling habits are sin (1 John 1:9).
2. We must **DEDICATE** our life & body to God (Rom. 6:11-14).
3. We must ask for & **SURRENDER** to the filling control of the Holy Spirit (Eph. 5:18; Gal. 5:16).
4. We must win over temptation one thought at a time—taking **CAPTIVE** our thoughts to make it obedient to Christ (2 Cor. 10:5).

Outline:

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

D.L. Moody said—Moses spent 40 years thinking he was somebody 40 years learning he was nobody 40 years discovering what God can do with a nobody. (Heb. 11:23-29.)

Major Events in Exodus:

1. **Bondage**—Israel enslaved & their babies murdered by Pharaoh (Ex. 1).
2. **The Deliverer**—Moses’ birth, call of God, excuses & appeal to Pharaoh to let Israel go free (Ex. 2-7:7).
3. **Plagues**—ten plagues from God to force Pharaoh to free Israel (Ex. 7:8—Ch.12). See chart in *Life Application Bible* (NIV), p.117
4. **Passover**—Passover & the feast of Unleavened Bread (Ex. 12:1-28).
5. **Freedom**—Pharaoh finally releases Israel (Ex. 12:29-36).
6. **The Exodus**—Israel departs from Egypt (Ex. 12:37-51).
7. **The Red Sea**—Israel saved from the pursuing Egyptians (Ex. 14).
8. **Complaints**—Israel grumbled about food & water (Ex. 15-17:7).
9. **Organization**—Moses’ father-in-law, Jethro, offers advice for organizing Israel (Ex. 18).
10. **The Law**—the Ten Commandments & the Book of the Covenant (Ex. 19-24). See chart in *Life Application Bible* (NIV), p.137
11. **The Tabernacle**—God gives instructions for building the tabernacle (Ex. 25-31) and Israel constructs the tabernacle (Ex. 35-40).
12. **The Golden Calf & the New Stone Tablets**—Israel’s sin of making & worshipping a golden calf (Ex. 32-34).

Names of God in Exodus:

- **Jehovah** or **Yahweh** —“I AM” or “to be”, “the self-existent one” or “the one who causes to be” (Exodus 3:14-15).
- **El-Shaddai**—God Almighty (Exodus 6:3).
- **Jehovah-Rapha**—the Lord that healeth (Exodus 15:22-26).
- **Jehovah-Nissi**—the Lord our Banner (Exodus 17:8-15).

Central Lesson: The secret to freedom from bondage is God’s redemptive power working in us.

- ▶ Accept Christ as your Savior.
- ▶ As a Christian, dedicate your life to Christ.
- ▶ Invite someone to next Sunday’s study.
- ▶ Attend a small group.
- ▶ Read the Bible this week & journal meaningful verses.
- ▶ Pray for friends that need Jesus.