

The Birth of the Covenant Nation

The Call of Moses **Lesson 2** **Exodus 3-4**

Trinity Bible Church Sunday School
September 13, 2020

EXODUS

Exodus · the Beginning of the Great Nation

1446-1406 BC

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39 40

history

worship

In
bondage
in
Egypt

The
contest
with
Pharaoh

The
exodus
from
Egypt

Early
days
of
travel

The
institution
of
the Law

The
tabernacle
revealed

The
gold
calf

The
tabernacle
constructed

YAHWEH · the Savior

YAHWEH · the Jealous God

YAHWEH · the Glorious Presence

1:1

13:17

24:12

Egypt · 430 years

the
wilderness
2 mos.

Mt. Sinai · 10 months

1:1

15:22

19:1

Genesis

- ▶ Centerpiece of Genesis: the Covenant with Abraham, Isaac and Jacob (Gen 12:1-3, 7)
 - Blessing
 - A Great Nation
 - Blessing for the Nations
 - A Future Seed – Descendant
- ▶ Eternal life from Zion (Psalm 133:3)
- ▶ Story line: from Ur, to Canaan, to Egypt

The Setting and the Leader

- ▶ A new king and a new status for Israel (1)
- ▶ Protected by 2 women of faith (1:21)
- ▶ Protected by parents of faith (2:1; Hebrews 11:23)
- ▶ Early years with godly parents and then in the royal family
- ▶ The presumptive leader is presumptive – rejected and expelled
- ▶ 40 years in exile as a shepherd
- ▶ God heard, remembered, saw, knew (“took notice of”)

Lesson 2: The Call of Moses

- ▶ The angel of YHWH in the burning bush (3:1-9)
- ▶ The call of Moses (3:10-22) – The Name of God (3:13-15)
- ▶ The excuses of Moses (4:1-17)
- ▶ The return to Egypt (4:18-28) – a bridegroom of blood (4:26-28)
- ▶ Moses and Aaron go before the people (4:29-31)

The Burning Bush (3:1-9)

- ▶ Horeb, the Mountain of God – Mt Sinai
- ▶ The angel of YHWH in the burning bush (3:1, 4)
- ▶ A consuming fire (Deut 4:24), but not consuming
- ▶ Pre-figures God dwelling safely with His people
- ▶ Self identification - the God of his father and the Patriarchs (3:6)
- ▶ The fear of God – suggests faith because Moses stayed
- ▶ God's mission: deliver from the power of Egypt
- ▶ Return to the Promised Land
- ▶ God sees their suffering – loving kindness (3:7, 9; Lam 3:22)

Moses Called to be the Deliverer (3:10-12)

- ▶ A surprising turn of events: “Come now, I will send you . . .”
- ▶ The inadequacy of Moses (2 Cor 12:9)
- ▶ The promise and a sign
 - The presence of God
 - “You shall worship God at this mountain”
- ▶ Moses anticipates the skepticism of the people
- ▶ What is God’s name? What to say?

The Name of God (3:13-15)

▶ I AM WHO I AM

- Eternal, unchanging, self-existent (Isa 45:6; 46:9; Joel 2:27)
- Answer: “I AM” has sent me to you – the only true God
- Mal 3:6 – “For I YHWH, do not change not; therefore you, O sons of Jacob, are not consumed.”
- He only uses this title one more time – Jesus’ claim to be God (John 8:58)

▶ YHWH

- YHWH, the God of your fathers, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob
- My name forever
- My memorial-name to all generations
- Tell them My name (3:15, 16)
- Exodus accomplished to show that I AM is YHWH
- Specific meaning in Exodus 34:5-7 – revealed in Jesus’ name

The Plan of God (3:16-22)

- ▶ Speak in the name of YHWH
- ▶ Initial success with Israel
- ▶ The king of Egypt will require compulsion
- ▶ Release by the king
- ▶ Voluntary plunder

Doubting Moses (4:1-17)

- ▶ What if they will not listen or believe
 - The serpent
 - Leprosy
 - Water to blood
- ▶ Lack of eloquence
 - YHWH made man's mouth, hearing, and seeing
 - YHWH will be with you
- ▶ Lord, send someone else!
- ▶ The anger of YHWH
 - Moses will speak through Aaron
 - Aaron will do the miracles
 - Moses to be as God to Aaron

The Return Trip (4:18-23)

- ▶ Moses obeys
- ▶ The blessing of Jethro (Reuel)
- ▶ A final promise from YHWH: “I will harden his heart . . .”
- ▶ Moses to respond to Pharaoh with warning of Passover death

A Bridegroom of Blood (4:24-26)

- ▶ A mystery passage – seemingly unnecessary
- ▶ The details of the story:
 - Context of the text – the first Passover
 - YHWH seeks to kill Moses – the main person in these chapters
 - Zipporah circumcizes their son
 - Moses is spared
 - Zipporah calls Moses a “bridegroom of blood” twice
- ▶ The significance of details
 - Death prevented by shed blood
 - Circumcision is a sign of the Abrahamic Covenant
 - Passover predicts the shed blood which saves
- ▶ A picture of the work of salvation
 - The Covenant of Abraham – eternal blessing
 - The requirement of shed blood

The Team Comes Together (4:27-31)

- ▶ The team is formed by YHWH
- ▶ The presentation of the Word and miracles of YHWH
- ▶ The faith of the people
- ▶ They worshiped

THE CALL OF MOSES

- ▶ The faithfulness of YHWH
- ▶ The coming presence of YHWH with His people
- ▶ The importance of the Name of the Everlasting God
- ▶ The promise of difficulty AND the provision of YHWH
- ▶ A short display of the essential elements of salvation