

# **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