



**ORIGINS** • A NEW START

CURRENT SERIES

The Story We Find Ourselves In.

INTRODUCTION & SUMMARY OF

## EXODUS

The Exodus is the primary event of redemption in the Old Testament. In addition to being the Creator of the entire universe, God emerges in Exodus as the Savior of the Israelites.

### EXODUS OVERVIEW

Exodus has 2 principle sections. The first section, written as a story of epic prose (chs. 1-18), portrays God as the Savior and Provider of His people. From the infant Moses to the enslaved nation of Israel, God was their Savior.

The second section is a series of detailed laws and instructions (19-40). These are no ordinary laws however. They reveal the very of character of God. They reveal God as a law giver and the Holy One.

### MAIN CHARACTERS

**Moses** - Exodus' prime personality (born in 2:2), Egypt's prince, Israel's deliverer and law-giver; a preview of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Pharaoh** - Egypt's king, Israel's slave master (1:8ff), Moses' adversary (5:1ff) who drowns in the Red Sea; a picture of Satan, the god of this world.

**Miriam, Aaron** - Moses' sister and brother-spokesman (4:14, 27-30; 15:20)

**Jethro, Zipporah, Gershom, Eliezer** - Moses' father-in-law, wife, and sons (2:21; 3:1; 4:18; 18:1ff, 2-4; 4:25, 26)

### NAMES OF GOD

**I AM** (3:14, 15) - the self-existent One; emphasizes the ineffable, indescribable nature of God. Far from being fully defined, He is what He is and will be whatever it takes to complete His eternal will for His creatures.

**LORD, or YHWH** (6:2, 3) - First seen in Genesis, this tetragrammaton (four Hebrew letters) became significant and sacred as God's personal name when He entered into covenant with Israel.

**God Almighty, or El Shaddai** (6:3; see also Gen. 17:1; 28:3; 35:11)

**LORD thy God** (20:2) - Yahweh thy Elohim

**Jealous** (34:14) - Using an attribute for a name, God might be named merciful, gracious, longsuffering, etc. (34:5-7).

### SEEING GOD

Mortal men were permitted glimpses of the glory that envelopes the Almighty. Moses and 70 elders "saw God" on the mountain (24:9-11). Moses, to whom God appeared in the bush (3:2ff), looked at God's glorious back (33:18-23). Even so, the directive that no man should see God's face and live (33:20, 23) was not changed (see John 1:18).



## APPLICATION

Three basic questions form this section.

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### What does this story tell us about God?

God reveals himself in the pages of Exodus as the liberator and Savior of His people. He is present in their lives and hears their cries for help.

In this narrative we see over and over again the patience and long-suffering love of God for His people and His desire for them to change their hard hearts. We also see again that God uses imperfect people to accomplish His mighty tasks.

God's saving acts and His desire for holiness are the center of the Exodus account; He is the main character that shapes all the events.

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### WHAT IS MY STORY? (THOUGHTS):

### What does this story tell us about humanity?

In this story we see a people who have been subjected to years of slavery. They are oppressed and downtrodden. We see a group of people who experienced miracles on a daily basis, yet still refused to take God at His word.

Yet, through all of this we see God setting apart a group of people who He invites to be a part of His story.

### How do we apply this to our lives?

Exodus reminds us that our God is a God of miracles. He is a God that we can cry out to and know that not only does He hear our cries for help, He is there to intercede on our behalf.

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