

EXODUS

THE BIRTH OF A NATION

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Author and Date

Author--As with Genesis, Mosaic authorship dates Exodus in the fifteenth century B.C.

Events--While the background information begins with the entrance of Jacob and his sons into Egypt in 1876 B.C., the majority of the events occurred in a period of eighty years, from about 1526 to 1446 B.C.

Background

Exodus begins where Genesis ends.

Jacob's family is in Egypt, under the protection of the Pharaohs. There they remained and multiplied for about four hundred years.

Purpose and theme

Genesis described the origin of Israel. It traced the beginnings of the universe, man, sin, the nations, and finally, the people of Israel. It tells how and why Israel came into existence. It also explains how Israel came to be in Egypt at the time of the Exodus.

Building on that foundation, Exodus describes **the birth of Israel as a nation.**

- * **God controls history** even in that pagan land, and uses circumstances there to make Israel into a nation.
- * **God causes their growth** from a family of seventy men, to a nation of 600,000 men, not including women and children.
- * **God strengthens them** to the point where even powerful Egyptian rulers fear them.
- * **God uses their suffering to unite them**, so that together they might take possession of the promised land and defend its borders.

Exodus describes how God brought Israel out of bondage and established them as His people.

- * God **redeemed** them and thereby made them His own.
- * God gave them a **covenant** which would govern their relationship with Him and with one another.
- * God provided them a **place where they might enjoy fellowship with Him and worship Him** for His demonstrations of love.

Purpose

- * That Israel, having become aware of where she has come from, might **realize her debt to God and need of dependence on Him.**
- * This awareness should cause them to **trust, serve, worship and obey Him.**
- * As Israel voluntarily submitted to God's authority over her, she would thereby **bring glory to God.**

What are some practical lessons God wants us to learn from Exodus?

EXODUS

The Birth of a Nation: Purchased by God

Ralph Porter

THE REDEMPTION OF GOD'S PEOPLE		THE REVELATION TO GOD'S PEOPLE	
1-18		19-40	
LIBERATION FROM EGYPT 1-13:16	JOURNEY TO SINAI 13:17-18:27	LAW OF GOD REVEALED 19-24	WAY TO GOD REVEALED 25-40
<p>Justification for liberation</p> <p style="text-align: right;">1</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Their multiplication 1:1-7</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Their oppression 1:8-14</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Their elimination 1:15-22</p> <p>Preparation for liberation</p> <p style="text-align: right;">2-7:7</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">The deliverer 2-4</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">The mission 5-7:7</p> <p>Realization of liberation</p> <p style="text-align: right;">7:8-13:16</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Pharaoh's question answered 7:8-12:51</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Israel's memorial established 13:1-16</p>	<p>Journey to the sea</p> <p style="text-align: right;">13:17-14:14</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Israel's route 13:17-22</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Pharaoh's persecution 14:1-9</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Israel's fear 14:10-14</p> <p>Journey through the sea</p> <p style="text-align: right;">14:15-15:21</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">God's promise 14:15-18</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">God's provision 14:19-22</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Persecution by Egyptians 14:23-25</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Destruction of Egyptians 14:26-28</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Israel's salvation 14:29-15:21</p> <p>Journey to Sinai</p> <p style="text-align: right;">15:22-18:27</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Four tests of faith 15:22-17:15</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Delegation of responsibility 18:1-27</p>	<p>Covenant defined</p> <p style="text-align: right;">19-20</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Basis of the covenant 19:1-6</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Response to the covenant 19:7-8</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Ratification of the covenant 19:9-25</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Summary of the covenant 20:1-17</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Fear and the covenant 20:18-21</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">Other gods and the covenant 20:22-23</p> <p style="padding-left: 20px;">The altar and the covenant 20:24-26</p> <p>Social standards established</p> <p style="text-align: right;">21-23:9</p> <p>Religious standards established</p> <p style="text-align: right;">23:10-19</p> <p>God's angel to lead them</p> <p style="text-align: right;">23:20-33</p> <p>God's covenant confirmed 24</p>	<p>The plan described</p> <p style="text-align: right;">25-31</p> <p>The plan delayed</p> <p style="text-align: right;">32-34</p> <p>The plan completed</p> <p style="text-align: right;">35-40</p>