

The Law For Life

Week 1: Exodus

God delivers His people and gives His Law

Grace BFC – Summer 2011 – by Mark Bickel

~ TEACHING ~

Course Overview

- **2 parts to course:**
 - Overview of Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers and Deuteronomy (no prior knowledge needed)
 - Closer look at the Law – 10 commandments, and 600+ others, asking why God gave them, What they teach us about God and ourselves, how they are fulfilled in Christ, and what do with them today
 - **NOTE:** Pentateuch / Law refers to first 5 books, but due to number of topics in Genesis and short length of summer we will stick to books 2-5, most likely return to Genesis next Summer

- **Order:** *(see schedule)*
 - Exodus
 - Law (Sabbath as example, then 10 commandments, then other laws)
 - Leviticus / Numbers
 - Holiness, Priests, Sacrifices and Tabernacle
 - Deuteronomy
 - Contemporary Application of Law – Theonomy, Legalism, Grace vs. Law, 3 or 4 uses of Law...

- **Materials:** *(See packet for today and first appendixes)*
 - As in other years, I want to provide a notebook to aid in your studies both now and in the future
 - Due to the fact that I am writing the course as we go, notebook will come in pieces
 - There will be a hole punch up front each week if you want to place in 3-ring binder
 - I will also have the comb binding machine here the last 2 weeks
 - My goal is to provide notes with some immediately relevant charts each week, as well as several appendixes with more in depth maps, graphs and charts for your personal study

- **Key Goals:**
 - Know Bible
 - Know God
 - Be Changed by Christ

- **Recommended Reading:**
 - How to Read Exodus
 - The Torah Story
 - The Five Books of Moses
 - Several Commentaries on Exodus

Torah Overview

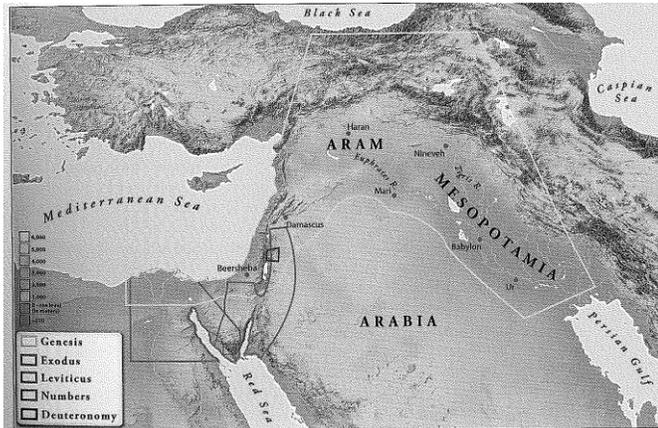
- **Torah, Pentateuch, Law** each refer to first 5 books of Bible
- **Timeline in Pentateuch**
 - Genesis : book of the ancestors
 - Exodus : Exodus
 - Exodus – Numbers : Sinai
 - Exodus : from Egypt, through dessert, to wilderness
 - Leviticus : in the wilderness
 - Numbers : From wilderness, through dessert, to promised land
 - Deuteronomy : Prepare to enter the promised land

- **Comparing books in Pentateuch**

BOOK	KEY IDEA	THE NATION	THE PEOPLE	GOD’S CHARACTER	GOD’S ROLE	GOD’S COMMAND
Genesis	Beginnings	Chosen	Prepared	Powerful Sovereign	Creator	“Let there be!”
Exodus	Redemption	Delivered	Redeemed	Merciful	Deliverer	“Let My people go!”
Leviticus	Worship	Set Apart	Taught	Holy	Sanctifier	“Be holy!”
Numbers	Wandering	Directed	Tested	Just	Sustainer	“Go in!”
Deuteronomy	Renewed Covenant	Made Ready	Retaught	Loving Lord	Rewarder	“Obey!”

- **Locations in the Pentateuch**

- See Map from “The Torah Story” by Gary Schnittjer, page 37



Exodus Overview

- **Title: Exodus**
 - Hebrew Title – from First Verse “These are the Names”
 - Current Title – from Greek / Latin translations – Exodus – “a going out”
- **Author: Moses / Anonymous**
 - Traditional – Moses
 - Modern Scholarship – Documentary Hypothesis
 - Bible – several times notes Moses spoke words for God, or wrote words to be remembered, and NT refers to Moses saying some things from Pentateuch ... Also records death of Moses which Moses could not have written
- **Primary Author: God**
 - Inspired Word of God
 - True account, true history, truly God’s perspective on that history
 - **Authority of Scripture not from Moses, or not Moses, it is from God Himself**
 - Thus point is not what human wrote it, but how to understand and obey what God wrote!
- **Date:**
 - If written during 40 years in wilderness, then date is 15th Century BD, around 1445 BC
 - Events: From Joseph’s death through the completion of the tabernacle (about 1805–1445 b.c.)
 - Note on Pharaoh and Date:
 - Traditional View: based on I Kings 6:1 and Acts 13:20 assume Exodus is 1446 and the pharaoh who oppressed Israel was Thutmose I, and his son Amenhotep II was the one whom Moses challenged.
 - Critical View: Exods 1:11 mentions “Raameses” so they must have been building new capital of Egypt with that name, thus he pharaoh of the oppression was Sethos I, and Moses challenged his son Rameses II, and thus the date was 1290.

- **Audience / Purpose:**
 - Written to **newly formed nation** to give them a proper understanding of their history, who they are, and most importantly who their God is!
 - **2nd Creation** – Genesis creation of world, all people ; Exodus creation of God’s people

- **Key Chapter / Verses:**
 - **Key Word: Redemption**
 - **Key Verse: Exodus 6:6** “Therefore say to the children of Israel: ‘I am the LORD; I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, I will rescue you from their bondage, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great judgments’ ” (6:6).
 - **Key Verse: Exodus 19:5–6** “ ‘Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, then you shall be a special treasure to Me above all people; for all the earth is Mine. And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation’ ” (19:5–6).
 - **Key Chapters: Exodus 12–14**—The climax of the entire Old Testament is recorded in chapters 12–14: the salvation of Israel through blood (the Passover) and through power (the Red Sea). The Exodus is the central event of the Old Testament as the Cross is of the New Testament.¹

- **Biblical Centrality of Exodus** – we tend to focus on Creation, much of OT & NT looks back to God who delivered – why?
 - **God not just creator** (deist), but involved, and merciful, and redeemer of sinful
 - **Passover** gives permanent remembrance, and throughout OT people told to remember and teach children about God’s deliverance
 - **Word Biblical Commentary** - In the Book of Exodus God gives Israel his special name, his special deliverance, his special guidance, his special covenant, his special worship, his special mercy and his special description of himself. In the Book of Exodus, the people Israel is born; *Torah* is born, and with it the Bible; the theology of Presence and response to Presence is born, and with it the special iconography of that large part of the Hebrew-Christian tradition which symbolizes ideas rather than beings; and priesthood and cultus in ancient Israel are born, laying the ancient sub-foundations of Temple, Synagogue and Church.²
 - **Direct foreshadow of Messiah**
 - Parallels between Moses and Jesus
 - Parallels between deliverance from Egypt and for Sin
 - Parallels of God’s people and God’s presence at Sinai and in Church
 - **Salvation of God’s people**
 - Words used of Christ / salvation - “Redeem” and “redemption,” “deliver,” “ransom,” “purchase,” “bondage,” “freedom.”
 - Also direct picture of future eternal Promised land, of God dwell with us ...

¹ Wilkinson, B., & Boa, K. (1983). *Talk thru the Bible*. Nashville: T. Nelson.

² Durham, J. I. (2002). *Vol. 3: Word Biblical Commentary : Exodus*. Word Biblical Commentary (xi). Dallas: Word, Incorporated.

- **Connecting Exodus with Genesis**
 - Start Genesis: God makes holy and righteous home for humans
 - End Exodus: God’s people make a holy home for God
 - Genesis 1 and end of Exodus both written in priestly terms, God’s big temple, the cosmos, and Gods little temple the tabernacle

- **Torah is the beginning of the Gospel**
 - Romans 3:19-20 – Torah speaks – so that every mouth may be silenced before God
 - Torah is death and life – here Paul picks up on the death, which we need for Gospel

- **Christ in Exodus:**
 - Exodus contains no direct messianic prophecies, but it is full of types and portraits of Christ. Here are seven: (1) **Moses:** In dozens of ways Moses is a type of Christ (Deut. 18:15). Both Moses and Christ are prophets, priests, and kings (although Moses was never made king, he functioned as the ruler of Israel); both are kinsman-redeemers; both are endangered in infancy; both voluntarily renounce power and wealth; both are deliverers, lawgivers, and mediators. (2) **The Passover:** John 1:29, 36 and First Corinthians 5:7 make it clear that Christ is our slain God and the Passover Lamb. (3) **The seven feasts:** Each of these feasts portrays some aspect of the ministry of Christ. (4) **The Exodus:** Paul relates baptism to the Exodus event because baptism symbolizes death to the old and identification with the new (see Rom. 6:2–3; 1 Cor. 10:1–2). (5) **The manna and water:** The New Testament applies both to Christ (see John 6:31–35, 48–63; 1 Cor. 10:3–4). (6) **The tabernacle:** In its materials, colors, furniture, and arrangement, the tabernacle clearly speaks of the person of Christ and the way of redemption. The development is progressive from suffering, blood, and death, to beauty, holiness, and the glory of God. The tabernacle is theology in a physical form. (7) **The high priest:** In several ways the high priest foreshadows the ministry of Christ, our Great High Priest (see Heb. 4:14–16; 9:11–12, 24–28).³

- **Basic Outline:** (from “An Introduction to the Old testament” by Longman & Dillard)
 - **Based on Location:**
 - Part 1: Israel in Egypt (1:1-13:16)
 - Part 2: Israel in the Wilderness (13:7-18:27)
 - Part 3: Israel at Sinai (19:1-40:38)
 - **Based on God’s Actions:**
 - I. God Saves Israel from Egyptian Bondage (1:1-8:27)
 - II. God Gives Israel His Law (8:28-24:18)
 - III. God Commands Israel to Build the Tabernacle (25:1-40:38)

³ Wilkinson, B., & Boa, K. (1983). *Talk thru the Bible*. Nashville: T. Nelson.

- **Alternate Outline:** (from “The Five books of Moses” translation by Everett Fox)
 - **Based on key themes:**
 - The Deliverance Narrative (1:1-15:21)
 - In the Wilderness (15:22-18:27)
 - Covenant and Law (19-24)
 - The Blueprints for the Tabernacle and It’s Service (25-31)
 - Infidelity and Reconciliation (32-34)
 - The Building of the Tabernacle (35-40)

STRUCTURE OF EXODUS
“The Formation of the Nations”

CONFRONTATION IN EGYPT	CONSECRATION AT SINAI	CONSTRUCTION OF TABERNACLE
Persecution chs. 1–6	Commandments	Designed chs. 25–31
Plagues chs. 7–12	Judgments	Delayed chs. 32–34
Pilgrimage chs. 13–19	Ordinances	Dedicated chs. 35–40
EXODUS 1–19	EXODUS 20–24	EXODUS 25–40
GOD’S POWER	GOD’S PRECEPTS	GOD’S PRESENCE

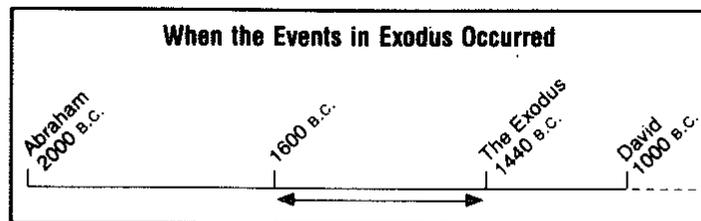
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⁴ Smith, J. E. (1993). *The Pentateuch* (2nd ed.) (Ex). Joplin, Mo.: College Press Pub. Co.

Exodus at a Glance

FOCUS	REDEMPTION FROM EGYPT				REVELATION FROM GOD	
REFERENCE	1:1 ————— 2:1 ————— 5:1 ————— 15:22 ————— 19:1 ————— 32:1 ————— 40:38					
DIVISION	THE NEED FOR REDEMPTION	THE PREPARATION FOR REDEMPTION	THE REDEMPTION OF ISRAEL	THE PRESERVATION OF ISRAEL	THE REVELATION OF THE COVENANT	THE RESPONSE OF ISRAEL TO THE COVENANT
TOPIC	NARRATION			LEGISLATION		
	SUBJECTION		REDEMPTION		INSTRUCTION	
LOCATION	EGYPT			WILDERNESS	MOUNT SINAI	
TIME	430 YEARS			2 MONTHS	10 MONTHS	

Nelson's Complete Book of Bible Maps and Charts © 1993 by Thomas Nelson, Inc.



The Story of Exodus

- **Quote from Philip Ryken** intro to Exodus (commentary on Exodus, chapter 1, opening page)

Exodus is an epic tale of fire, sand, wind, and water. The adventure takes place under the hot desert sun, just beyond the shadow of the Great Pyramids. There are two mighty nations — Israel and Egypt — led by two great men — Moses the liberating hero and Pharaoh the enslaving villain. Almost every scene is a masterpiece: the baby in the basket; the burning bush; the river of blood and the other plagues; the angel of death; the crossing of the Red Sea; the manna in the wilderness; the water from the rock; the thunder and lightning on the mountain; the Ten Commandments; the pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night; the golden calf; the glory in the tabernacle.

Once heard, the story is never forgotten. For Jews it is the story that defines their very existence, the rescue that made them God's people. For Christians it is the gospel of the Old Testament, God's first great act of redemption. We return to the exodus again and again, sensing that somehow it holds significance for the entire human race. It is the story that gives every captive the hope of freedom. Thus it was only natural for African-American slaves — many of whom were Christians — to understand their captivity as a bondage in Egypt and to long for the day when they would be "free at last." The exodus shows that there is a God who saves, who delivers his people from bondage.

1. The Deliverance Narrative (1:1-15:21)

Exodus 1

Israel Increases Greatly in Egypt

1 *These are the names of the sons of Israel who came to Egypt with Jacob, each with his household...*
7 *But the people of Israel were fruitful and increased greatly; **they multiplied and grew exceedingly strong**, so that the land was filled with them.*

Pharaoh Oppresses Israel

8 *Now there **arose a new king over Egypt**, who did not know Joseph. **9** And he said to his people, "Behold, the people of Israel are too many and too mighty for us. **10** Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, lest they multiply, and, if war breaks out, they join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land."*

11 *Therefore they **set taskmasters over them** to afflict them with heavy burdens.*

15 *Then the king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, **16** "When you serve as midwife to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, **if it is a son, you shall kill him**, but if it is a daughter, she shall live."*

17 *But **the midwives feared God** and did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but let the male children live.*

20 *So God dealt well with the midwives. And the people multiplied and grew very strong. **21** And **because the midwives feared God, he gave them families.***

22 *Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, "**Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall cast into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live.**"*

- **Note on Justice of God** – first plague is Nile turned to blood, last is kill first born of Egypt including Pharaoh, end of Pharaoh is drown in Red Sea
- **Note on Christ** – Harod also tries to wipe out Christ by kill first-born, God sends to Egypt so that he can again bring his son out of Egypt!

Exodus 2

The Birth of Moses

3 *When she could hide him no longer, she took for him **a basket made of bulrushes** and daubed it with bitumen and pitch. She put the child in it and placed it among the reeds by the river bank*

5 *Now the **daughter of Pharaoh** came down to bathe at the river, while her young women walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her servant woman, and she took it. **6** When she opened it, she saw the child, and behold, the baby was crying. She took pity on him and said, "This is one of the Hebrews' children."*

7 *Then his sister said to Pharaoh's daughter, "**Shall I go and call you a nurse** from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?" **8** And Pharaoh's daughter said to her, "Go." So the girl went and called the child's mother.*

Moses Flees to Midian

11One day, when Moses had grown up, he went out to his people and looked on their burdens, and he saw an Egyptian beating a Hebrew, one of his people **12**He looked this way and that, and seeing no one, **he struck down the Egyptian** and hid him in the sand.

13When he went out the next day, behold, **two Hebrews were struggling together**. And he said to the man in the wrong, "Why do you strike your companion?" **14**He answered, "Who made you a prince and a judge over us? Do you mean to kill me as you killed the Egyptian?" Then Moses was afraid, and thought, "Surely the thing is known." **15**When Pharaoh heard of it, he sought to kill Moses. But Moses fled from Pharaoh and stayed in the land of Midian.

God Hears Israel's Groaning

23 During those many days the **king of Egypt died**, and **the people of Israel groaned** because of their slavery and cried out for help. Their cry for rescue from slavery came up to God. **24**And **God heard their groaning, and God remembered his covenant with Abraham**, with Isaac, and with Jacob. **25**God saw the people of Israel—and God knew.

Exodus 3

The Burning Bush

1Now Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law, Jethro, the priest of Midian, and he led his flock to the west side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. **2** And the angel of the LORD appeared to him in **a flame of fire out of the midst of a bush**. He looked, and behold, the bush was burning, yet it was not consumed. **3**And Moses said, "I will turn aside to see this great sight, why the bush is not burned." **4**When the LORD saw that he turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" And he said, "Here I am." **5**Then he said, "Do not come near; take your sandals off your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground." **6**And he said, "**I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.**" And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

7Then the LORD said, "**I have surely seen the affliction of my people who are in Egypt** and have heard their cry because of their taskmasters. I know their sufferings, **8**and I have come down to deliver them out of the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land to a good and broad land, a land flowing with milk and honey

10 Come, **I will send you to Pharaoh that you may bring my people, the children of Israel, out of Egypt.**" **11**But Moses said to God, "Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the children of Israel out of Egypt?" **12**He said, "But I will be with you, and this shall be the sign for you, that I have sent you: when you have brought the people out of Egypt, you shall serve God on this mountain."

13Then Moses said to God, "If I come to the people of Israel and say to them, 'The God of your fathers has sent me to you,' and they ask me, 'What is his name?' what shall I say to them?" **14**God said to Moses, "**I AM WHO I AM.**" And he said, "Say this to the people of Israel, '**I AM has sent me to you.**'"

16Go and gather the elders of Israel together and say to them, "**The LORD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, of Isaac, and of Jacob, has appeared to me, saying, 'I have observed you and what has been done to you in Egypt, 17and I promise that I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites, a land flowing with milk and honey.'**"

Exodus 4

Moses Given Powerful Signs

1Then Moses answered, "But behold, they will not believe me or listen to my voice, for they will say, 'The LORD did not appear to you.'" **2**The LORD said to him, "What is that in your hand?" He said, "A staff." **3**And he said, "Throw it on the ground." So he threw it on the ground, and it became a serpent, and Moses ran from it. **4**But the LORD said to Moses, "Put out your hand and catch it by the tail"—so he put out his hand and caught it, and it became a staff in his hand—

5"that they may believe that the LORD, the God of their fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has appeared to you."

Moses Returns to Egypt

21And the LORD said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the miracles that I have put in your power. **But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go.** **22**Then you shall say to Pharaoh, '**Thus says the LORD, Israel is my firstborn son,** **23**and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son.'"

Exodus 5

Making Bricks Without Straw

1Afterward Moses and Aaron went and said to Pharaoh, "**Thus says the LORD, the God of Israel,** 'Let my people go, that they may hold a feast to me in the wilderness.'"

2But Pharaoh said, "Who is the LORD, that I should obey his voice and let Israel go? **I do not know the LORD, and moreover, I will not let Israel go**

" **6**The same day Pharaoh commanded the taskmasters of the people and their foremen, **7**"**You shall no longer give the people straw to make bricks, as in the past; let them go and gather straw for themselves.** **8**But the number of bricks that they made in the past you shall impose on them, you shall by no means reduce it, for they are idle. Therefore they cry, 'Let us go and offer sacrifice to our God.' **9**Let heavier work be laid on the men that they may labor at it and pay no regard to lying words."

20They met Moses and Aaron, who were waiting for them, as they came out from Pharaoh; **21**and they said to them, "**The LORD look on you and judge, because you have made us stink in the sight of Pharaoh** and his servants, and have put a sword in their hand to kill us."

Exodus 6

God Promises Deliverance

*1*But the LORD said to Moses, "Now you shall see what I will do to Pharaoh; for with a strong hand he will send them out, and with a strong hand he will drive them out of his land."

*2*God spoke to Moses and said to him, "I am the LORD. *3*I appeared to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, as God Almighty, but by my name the LORD I did not make myself known to them. *4*I also established my covenant with them to give them the land of Canaan, the land in which they lived as sojourners. *5*Moreover, I have heard the groaning of the people of Israel whom the Egyptians hold as slaves, and I have remembered my covenant. *6*Say therefore to the people of Israel, 'I am the LORD, and I will bring you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians, and I will deliver you from slavery to them, and I will redeem you with an outstretched arm and with great acts of judgment. *7*I will take you to be my people, and I will be your God, and you shall know that I am the LORD your God, who has brought you out from under the burdens of the Egyptians. *8*I will bring you into the land that I swore to give to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob. I will give it to you for a possession. I am the LORD.'"

*9*Moses spoke thus to the people of Israel, but they did not listen to Moses, because of their broken spirit and harsh slavery.

The Genealogy of Moses and Aaron

Exodus 7

Moses and Aaron Before Pharaoh

*1*And the LORD said to Moses, "See, I have made you like God to Pharaoh, and your brother Aaron shall be your prophet. *2*You shall speak all that I command you, and your brother Aaron shall tell Pharaoh to let the people of Israel go out of his land. *3*But I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and though I multiply my signs and wonders in the land of Egypt, *4*Pharaoh will not listen to you. Then I will lay my hand on Egypt and bring my hosts, my people the children of Israel, out of the land of Egypt by great acts of judgment. *5*The Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out my hand against Egypt and bring out the people of Israel from among them."

The First Plague: Water Turned to Blood

*14*Then the LORD said to Moses, "Pharaoh's heart is hardened; he refuses to let the people go. *15*Go to Pharaoh in the morning, as he is going out to the water. Stand on the bank of the Nile to meet him, and take in your hand the staff that turned into a serpent. *16*And you shall say to him, 'The LORD, the God of the Hebrews, sent me to you, saying, "Let my people go, that they may serve me in the wilderness. But so far, you have not obeyed." *17*Thus says the LORD, "**By this you shall know that I am the LORD: behold, with the staff that is in my hand I will strike the water that is in the Nile, and it shall turn into blood.**"

Exodus 8

The Second Plague: Frogs

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, "Let my people go, that they may serve me. **2** But if you refuse to let them go, behold, **I will plague all your country with frogs.**

The Third Plague: Gnats

16 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Say to Aaron, 'Stretch out your staff **and strike the dust of the earth, so that it may become gnats in all the land of Egypt.**'"

18 The magicians tried by their secret arts to produce gnats, but they could not. So there were gnats on man and beast. **19** Then the magicians said to Pharaoh, "**This is the finger of God.**" But Pharaoh's heart was hardened, and he would not listen to them, as the LORD had said.

The Fourth Plague: Flies

21 Or else, if you will not let my people go, behold, **I will send swarms of flies on you and your servants and your people, and into your houses.** And the houses of the Egyptians shall be filled with swarms of flies, and also the ground on which they stand.

22 But on that day I will set apart the land of Goshen, where my people dwell, so that no swarms of flies shall be there, that you may know that I am the LORD in the midst of the earth. **23** Thus I will put a division between my people and your people. **Tomorrow this sign shall happen.**"

28 So Pharaoh said, "I will let you go to sacrifice to the LORD your God in the wilderness; only you must not go very far away. Plead for me."

32 But Pharaoh hardened his heart this time also, and did not let the people go.

Exodus 9

The Fifth Plague: Egyptian Livestock Die

1 Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh and say to him, 'Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, "Let my people go, that they may serve me. **2** For if you refuse to let them go and still hold them, **3** behold, the hand of the LORD will fall with a very severe plague upon your livestock that are in the field, the horses, the donkeys, the camels, the herds, and the flocks.

4 But the LORD will make a distinction between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt, so that nothing of all that belongs to the people of Israel shall die."

The Sixth Plague: Boils

8 And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "Take handfuls of soot from the kiln, and let Moses throw them in the air in the sight of Pharaoh. **9** It shall become fine dust over all the land of Egypt, and become **boils breaking out in sores on man and beast throughout all the land of Egypt.**"

The Seventh Plague: Hail

13Then the LORD said to Moses, "Rise up early in the morning and present yourself before Pharaoh and say to him, "Thus says the LORD, the God of the Hebrews, "Let my people go, that they may serve me. **14**For this time I will send all my plagues on you yourself, and on your servants and your people, so that you may know that there is none like me in all the earth. **15**For by now I could have put out my hand and struck you and your people with pestilence, and you would have been cut off from the earth. **16**But for this purpose I have raised you up, to show you my power, so that my name may be proclaimed in all the earth. **17** You are still exalting yourself against my people and will not let them go. **18**Behold, about this time tomorrow I will cause very heavy hail to fall, such as never has been in Egypt from the day it was founded until now. **19**Now therefore send, get your livestock and all that you have in the field into safe shelter, for every man and beast that is in the field and is not brought home will die when the hail falls on them."''

20Then whoever feared the word of the LORD among the servants of Pharaoh hurried his slaves and his livestock into the houses, **21**but whoever did not pay attention to the word of the LORD left his slaves and his livestock in the field.

27Then Pharaoh sent and called Moses and Aaron and said to them, "This time I have sinned; the LORD is in the right, and I and my people are in the wrong. **28** Plead with the LORD, for there has been enough of God's thunder and hail. I will let you go, and you shall stay no longer."

34But when Pharaoh saw that the rain and the hail and the thunder had ceased, he sinned yet again and hardened his heart, he and his servants. **35**So the heart of Pharaoh was hardened, and he did not let the people of Israel go, just as the LORD had spoken through Moses.

Exodus 10

The Eighth Plague: Locusts

1Then the LORD said to Moses, "Go in to Pharaoh, for I have hardened his heart and the heart of his servants, that I may show these signs of mine among them, **2**and that you may tell in the hearing of your son and of your grandson how I have dealt harshly with the Egyptians and what signs I have done among them, that you may know that I am the LORD."

12Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the land of Egypt for the locusts, so that they may come upon the land of Egypt and eat every plant in the land, all that the hail has left." **13**So Moses stretched out his staff over the land of Egypt, and the LORD brought an east wind upon the land all that day and all that night. When it was morning, the east wind had brought the locusts. **14** The locusts came up over all the land of Egypt and settled on the whole country of Egypt, such a dense swarm of locusts as had never been before, nor ever will be again. **15**They covered the face of the whole land, so that the land was darkened, and they ate all the plants in the land and all the fruit of the trees that the hail had left. Not a green thing remained, neither tree nor plant of the field, through all the land of Egypt.

16Then Pharaoh hastily called Moses and Aaron and said, "I have sinned against the LORD your God, and against you. **17**Now therefore, forgive my sin, please, only this once, and plead with the LORD your God only to remove this death from me." **18**So he went out from Pharaoh and pleaded with the LORD. **19**And the LORD turned the wind into a very strong west wind, which lifted the locusts and drove them into the Red Sea. Not a single locust was left in all the country of Egypt. **20**But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he did not let the people of Israel go.

The Ninth Plague: Darkness

21Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand toward heaven, **that there may be darkness over the land of Egypt, a darkness to be felt.**" **22**So Moses stretched out his hand toward heaven, and there was pitch darkness in all the land of Egypt three days. **23**They did not see one another, nor did anyone rise from his place for three days, **but all the people of Israel had light where they lived.**

24Then Pharaoh called Moses and said, "Go, serve the LORD; your little ones also may go with you; only let your flocks and your herds remain behind." **25**But Moses said, "You must also let us have sacrifices and burnt offerings, that we may sacrifice to the LORD our God. **26**Our livestock also must go with us; not a hoof shall be left behind, for we must take of them to serve the LORD our God, and we do not know with what we must serve the LORD until we arrive there." **27**But the LORD hardened Pharaoh's heart, and he would not let them go. **28**Then Pharaoh said to him, "**Get away from me; take care never to see my face again, for on the day you see my face you shall die.**" **29**Moses said, "As you say! I will not see your face again."

Exodus 11

A Final Plague Threatened

1The LORD said to Moses, "**Yet one plague more I will bring upon Pharaoh and upon Egypt. Afterward he will let you go from here. When he lets you go, he will drive you away completely.**" **2**Speak now in the hearing of the people, **that they ask, every man of his neighbor and every woman of her neighbor, for silver and gold jewelry.**" **3** And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians. Moreover, the man Moses was very great in the land of Egypt, in the sight of Pharaoh's servants and in the sight of the people.

4So Moses said, "**Thus says the LORD: About midnight I will go out in the midst of Egypt, 5and every firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die, from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sits on his throne, even to the firstborn of the slave girl who is behind the handmill, and all the firstborn of the cattle.**" **6** There shall be a great cry throughout all the land of Egypt, such as there has never been, nor ever will be again.

7But not a dog shall growl against any of the people of Israel, either man or beast, that you may know that the LORD makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel.

<i>Nile to blood</i>	Hapi (also called Apis), the bull god, god of the Nile; Isis, goddess of the Nile; Khnum, ram god, guardian of the Nile; others
<i>Frogs</i>	Heqet, goddess of birth, with a frog head
<i>Gnats</i>	Set, god of the desert storms
<i>Flies</i>	Re, a sun god; Uatchit, possibly represented by the fly
<i>Death of livestock</i>	Hathor, goddess with a cow head; Apis, the bull god, symbol of fertility
<i>Bolls</i>	Sekhmet, goddess with power over disease; Sunu, the pestilence god; Isis, healing goddess
<i>Hail</i>	Nut, the sky goddess; Osiris, god of the crops and fertility; Set, god of the desert storms
<i>Locusts</i>	Nut, the sky goddess; Osiris, god of the crops and fertility
<i>Darkness</i>	Re, the sun god; Horus, a sun god; Nut, a sky goddess; Hathor, a sky goddess
<i>Death of firstborn</i>	Min, god of reproduction; Heqet, goddess who attended women at childbirth; Isis, goddess who protected children; Pharaoh's firstborn son considered a god

○ **Why Ten Plagues?**

- Ex 4:21 – since Pharaoh not let go of God’s son, God will kill Pharaoh’s son – thus tenth plague needs to happen
- Ex. 6 - so Moses and people see God’s power, confront gods of the peoples, see deliverance
- Ex 7 – so Egypt know he is God
 - When they die in the Sea the Egyptians confess he is God – but die
 - Maybe so that God’s people know who God is
- Moses argues with God to save the people
 - Because Egypt will hear and condemn God
 - Because it goes against promise to Abraham
- Ex. 9 - To demonstrate uniqueness of God
 - God knew what it would take to get people out of Egypt, but he did not start there, instead he stretched it out
 - God choose to harden Pharaohs heart – narrator says it 14 times, and Paul reiterates it – so narrator not embarrassed by this like we sometimes are!
 - These terrors will become fuel for Prophets in describing God’s wrath

○ **Purpose of Plagues**

- One of the purposes expressed in the design of the plagues which the Lord brought on Egypt was so that “you will know that the Lord makes a distinction between Egypt and Israel” (Ex. 11:7). Anyone looking at the two peoples would have made a distinction between them. But not the distinction the Lord made!
- The Israelites themselves were conditioned to evaluate ... and to bow in shame, before the culture and power of Egypt. Everything that men tend to value ... the evidences of accomplishment, all the wealth, the education ... were there in a high degree in Egypt. Archeologists still wonder at the mechanical feats of that people. Mathematicians and astronomers are amazed at the precise measurements that allowed great pyramids to mark with various architectural features the exact time of summer and winter solstices.
- The Israelites were slaves. Mere tools to be used by the master race, then tossed aside when they had served their purpose. Worthless. Poor. Subhuman. The Jews were beneath the notice of men.
- But God made His own distinction between Egyptian and Jew! And God’s value system is different than man’s! God affirmed the worth and value of the slave people. In doing so, God not only kept the covenant He had made with Abraham, but God also shouted out for all to hear that no man is “nothing” to Him.

- We value what men *do*.
- God values what men *are*.

- The Prophet Hosea beautifully revealed God’s attitude and helps us see that the distinction God drew between Egypt and Israel was no mere legal act, performed to honor a previous contract. It was that. But God also acted in compassion, expressing deep love and concern for the suffering.

When Israel was a child, I loved him, and out of Egypt I called My son.... It was I who taught Ephraim to walk, taking them by the arms; but they did not realize it was I who healed them. I led them with cords of human kindness, with ties of love, I lifted the yoke from their neck and bent down to feed them.

Hosea 11:1, 3-4⁵

Exodus 12

The Passover

1The LORD said to Moses and Aaron in the land of Egypt, **2** **"This month shall be for you the beginning of months.** It shall be the first month of the year for you. **3**Tell all the congregation of Israel that on the tenth day of this month **every man shall take a lamb** ... **6**and you shall keep it until the fourteenth day of this month, when the whole assembly of the congregation of Israel shall kill their lambs at twilight.

7"Then they shall **take some of the blood and put it on the two doorposts and the lintel of the houses in which they eat it.** **8**They shall eat the flesh that night, roasted on the fire; with unleavened bread and bitter herbs they shall eat it. ... **11**In this manner you shall eat it: with your belt fastened, your sandals on your feet, and your staff in your hand. **And you shall eat it in haste. It is the LORD's Passover.**

12For I will pass through the land of Egypt that night, **and I will strike all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, both man and beast; and on all the gods of Egypt I will execute judgments: I am the LORD.**

13 **The blood shall be a sign for you, on the houses where you are. And when I see the blood, I will pass over you, and no plague will befall you to destroy you, when I strike the land of Egypt.**

14"**This day shall be for you a memorial day, and you shall keep it as a feast to the LORD; throughout your generations, as a statute forever, you shall keep it as a feast.**

24You shall observe this rite as a statute for you and for your sons forever. **25**And when you come to the land that the LORD will give you, as he has promised, you shall keep this service. **26**And **when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?'** **27**you shall say, **'It is the sacrifice of the LORD's Passover, for he passed over the houses of the people of Israel in Egypt, when he struck the Egyptians but spared our houses.'** **And the people bowed their heads and worshiped.**

The Tenth Plague: Death of the Firstborn

29 At midnight the **LORD struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt,** from the firstborn of Pharaoh who sat on his throne to the firstborn of the captive who was in the dungeon, and all the firstborn of the livestock. **30**And **Pharaoh rose up in the night, he and all his servants and all the Egyptians. And there was a great cry in Egypt, for there was not a house where someone was not dead.** **31**Then he summoned Moses and Aaron by night and said, **"Up, go out from among my people, both you and the people of Israel; and go, serve the LORD, as you have said. 32** Take your flocks and your herds, as you have said, and be gone, and bless me also!"

⁵ Richards, L., & Richards, L. O. (1987). *The teacher's commentary* (82). Wheaton, Ill.: Victor Books.

The Exodus

33 *The Egyptians were urgent with the people to send them out of the land in haste. For they said, "We shall all be dead."* **34** *So the people took their dough before it was leavened, their kneading bowls being bound up in their cloaks on their shoulders.* **35** *The people of Israel had also done as Moses told them, for they had asked the Egyptians for silver and gold jewelry and for clothing.* **36** *And the LORD had given the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians, so that they let them have what they asked. Thus they plundered the Egyptians.*

37 *And the people of Israel journeyed from Rameses to Succoth, about six hundred thousand men on foot, besides women and children.* **38** *A mixed multitude also went up with them, and very much livestock, both flocks and herds.*

40 *The time that the people of Israel lived in Egypt was 430 years.* **41** *At the end of 430 years, on that very day, all the hosts of the LORD went out from the land of Egypt.*

Institution of the Passover

43 *And the LORD said to Moses and Aaron, "This is the statute of the Passover..."*

50 *All the people of Israel did just as the LORD commanded Moses and Aaron.* **51** *And on that very day the LORD brought the people of Israel out of the land of Egypt by their hosts.*

Exodus 13

Consecration of the Firstborn

1 *The LORD said to Moses, 2 "Consecrate to me all the firstborn. Whatever is the first to open the womb among the people of Israel, both of man and of beast, is mine."*

The Feast of Unleavened Bread

3 *Then Moses said to the people, "Remember this day in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of slavery, for by a strong hand the LORD brought you out from this place. ..."*

11 *"When the LORD brings you into the land of the Canaanites, as he swore to you and your fathers, and shall give it to you, 12 you shall set apart to the LORD all that first opens the womb. All the firstborn of your animals that are males shall be the LORD's."*

Pillars of Cloud and Fire

17 *When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, "Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt." 18* *But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt equipped for battle. 19* **Moses took the bones of Joseph with him,** *for Joseph had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones with you from here."*

20 *And they moved on from Succoth and encamped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. 21* **And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night.** **22** *The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.*

Exodus 14

Crossing the Red Sea

1Then the LORD said to Moses, **2**"Tell the people of Israel to turn back and encamp in front of Pi-hahiroth, between Migdol and the sea, in front of Baal-zephon; you shall encamp facing it, by the sea. **3**For Pharaoh will say of the people of Israel, 'They are wandering in the land; the wilderness has shut them in.' **4****And I will harden Pharaoh's heart, and he will pursue them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, and the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD.**" And they did so.

5When the king of Egypt was told that the people had fled, the mind of Pharaoh and his servants was changed toward the people, and they said, "**What is this we have done, that we have let Israel go from serving us?**" **6**So he made ready his chariot and took his army with him, **7**and took **six hundred chosen chariots and all the other chariots of Egypt with officers over all of them.** **8**And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the people of Israel while the people of Israel were going out defiantly. **9**The Egyptians pursued them, all Pharaoh's horses and chariots and his horsemen and his army, and overtook them encamped at the sea, by Pi-hahiroth, in front of Baal-zephon.

10When Pharaoh drew near, the people **of Israel lifted up their eyes, and behold, the Egyptians were marching after them, and they feared greatly.** And the people of Israel cried out to the LORD. **11**They said to Moses, "**Is it because there are no graves in Egypt that you have taken us away to die in the wilderness?** What have you done to us in bringing us out of Egypt? **12**Is not this what we said to you in Egypt: 'Leave us alone that we may serve the Egyptians'? For it would have been better for us to serve the Egyptians than to die in the wilderness."

13And Moses said to the people, "**Fear not, stand firm, and see the salvation of the LORD, which he will work for you today. For the Egyptians whom you see today, you shall never see again. 14** **The LORD will fight for you, and you have only to be silent.**"

15The LORD said to Moses, "Why do you cry to me? Tell the people of Israel to go forward. **16** **Lift up your staff, and stretch out your hand over the sea and divide it, that the people of Israel may go through the sea on dry ground.** **17**And I will harden the hearts of the Egyptians so that they shall go in after them, and I will get glory over Pharaoh and all his host, his chariots, and his horsemen. **18**And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I have gotten glory over Pharaoh, his chariots, and his horsemen."

19 Then the angel of God who was going before the host of Israel moved and went behind them, and the pillar of cloud moved from before them and stood behind them, **20**coming between the host of Egypt and the host of Israel. And there was the cloud and the darkness. And it lit up the night without one coming near the other all night.

21Then Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the LORD drove the sea back by a **strong east wind all night and made the sea dry land, and the waters were divided.** **22**And the people of Israel went into the midst of the sea on dry ground, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

23The **Egyptians pursued** and went in after them into the midst of the sea, all Pharaoh's horses, his chariots, and his horsemen. **24**And in the morning watch the LORD in the pillar of fire and of cloud looked down on the Egyptian forces and threw the Egyptian forces into a panic, **25**clogging their chariot wheels so that they drove heavily. And the Egyptians said, "**Let us flee from before Israel, for the LORD fights for them against the Egyptians.**"

26Then the LORD said to Moses, "Stretch out your hand over the sea, that the water may come back upon the Egyptians, upon their chariots, and upon their horsemen." **27** So Moses stretched out his hand over the sea, and the sea returned to its normal course when the morning appeared. And as the Egyptians fled into it, **the LORD threw the Egyptians into the midst of the sea.** **28**The waters returned and covered the chariots and the horsemen; of all the host of Pharaoh that had followed them into the sea, not one of them remained. **29**But the people of Israel walked on dry ground through the sea, the waters being a wall to them on their right hand and on their left.

30Thus the LORD saved Israel that day from the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore. **31 Israel saw the great power that the LORD used against the Egyptians, so the people feared the LORD, and they believed in the LORD and in his servant Moses.**

Exodus 15

The Song of Moses

1Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the LORD, saying,

"I will sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.

2 The LORD is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.

3The LORD is a man of war; the LORD is his name.

4 "Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea. **5**The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone. **6** Your right hand, O LORD, glorious in power, your right hand, O LORD, shatters the enemy. **7**In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries; you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble. **8**At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up; the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea. **9**The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.' **10**You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.

11 "Who is like you, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders? 12You stretched out your right hand; the earth swallowed them.

13"You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode. **14** The peoples have heard; they tremble; pangs have seized the inhabitants of Philistia. **15**Now are the chiefs of Edom dismayed; trembling seizes the leaders of Moab; all the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away. **16**Terror and dread fall upon them; because of the greatness of your arm, they are still as a stone, till your people, O LORD, pass by, till the people pass by whom you have purchased. **17**You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain, the place, O LORD, which you have made for your abode, the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established. **18** The LORD will reign forever and ever."

19For when the horses of Pharaoh with his chariots and his horsemen went into the sea, the LORD brought back the waters of the sea upon them, but the people of Israel walked on dry ground in the midst of the sea. **20**Then Miriam the prophetess, the sister of Aaron, took a tambourine in her hand, and all the women went out after her with tambourines and dancing. **21**And Miriam sang to them: **"Sing to the LORD, for he has triumphed gloriously; the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea."**

2. In the Wilderness (15:22-18:27)

Bitter Water Made Sweet

22Then Moses made Israel set out from the Red Sea, and they went into the wilderness of Shur. They went three days in the wilderness and found no water. **23**When they came to Marah, they could not drink the water of Marah because it was bitter; therefore it was named Marah. **24**And the people grumbled against Moses, saying, "What shall we drink?" **25**And he cried to the LORD, and the LORD showed him a log, and he threw it into the water, and the water became sweet.

There the **LORD** made for them a statute and a rule, and there he tested them, **26**saying, "If you will diligently listen to the voice of the LORD your God, and do that which is right in his eyes, and give ear to his commandments and keep all his statutes, I will put none of the diseases on you that I put on the Egyptians, for I am the LORD, your healer."

27Then they came to Elim, where there were twelve springs of water and seventy palm trees, and they encamped there by the water.

Exodus 16

Bread from Heaven

1They set out from Elim, and all the congregation of the people of Israel came to the wilderness of Sin, which is between Elim and Sinai, on the fifteenth day of the second month after they had departed from the land of Egypt. **2**And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness, **3**and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

4Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not. **5**On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather daily." **6**So Moses and Aaron said to all the people of Israel, "At evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, **7**and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your grumbling against the LORD. For what are we, that you grumble against us?"

11And the LORD said to Moses, **12**"I have heard the grumbling of the people of Israel. Say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall be filled with bread. Then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

13In the evening quail came up and covered the camp, and in the morning dew lay around the camp. **14**And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground. **15**When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

31Now the house of Israel called its name manna. It was like coriander seed, white, and the taste of it was like wafers made with honey.

Exodus 17

Water from the Rock

1 All the congregation of the people of Israel moved on from the wilderness of Sin by stages, according to the commandment of the LORD, and camped at Rephidim, but there **was no water** for the people to drink. **2** Therefore the people quarreled with Moses and said, **"Give us water to drink."**

And Moses said to them, "Why do you quarrel with me? **Why do you test the LORD?**" **3** But the people thirsted there for water, and the people grumbled against Moses and said, **"Why did you bring us up out of Egypt, to kill us and our children and our livestock with thirst?"**

4 So Moses cried to the LORD, **"What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me."** **5** And the LORD said to Moses, "Pass on before the people, taking with you some of the elders of Israel, and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. **6 Behold, I will stand before you there on the rock at Horeb, and you shall strike the rock, and water shall come out of it, and the people will drink."**

Israel Defeats Amalek

8 Then Amalek came and fought with Israel at Rephidim. **9** So Moses said to Joshua, "Choose for us men, and go out and fight with Amalek. Tomorrow I will stand on the top of the hill with the staff of God in my hand." **10** So Joshua did as Moses told him, and fought with Amalek, while Moses, Aaron, and Hur went up to the top of the hill. **11 Whenever Moses held up his hand, Israel prevailed, and whenever he lowered his hand, Amalek prevailed.** **12** But Moses' hands grew weary, so they took a stone and put it under him, and he sat on it, while **Aaron and Hur held up his hands, one on one side, and the other on the other side. So his hands were steady until the going down of the sun.** **13** And Joshua overwhelmed Amalek and his people with the sword.

Exodus 18

Jethro's Advice

10 Jethro said, **"Blessed be the LORD, who has delivered you out of the hand of the Egyptians and out of the hand of Pharaoh and has delivered the people from under the hand of the Egyptians. 11 Now I know that the LORD is greater than all gods, because in this affair they dealt arrogantly with the people."** **12** And Jethro, Moses' father-in-law, brought a burnt offering and sacrifices to God; and Aaron came with all the elders of Israel to eat bread with Moses' father-in-law before God.

13 The next day **Moses sat to judge the people, and the people stood around Moses from morning till evening. ... 17** Moses' father-in-law said to him, "What you are doing is not good. **18** You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone. **21** Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. **22** And let them judge the people at all times. Every great matter they shall bring to you, but any small matter they shall decide themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. **23** If you do this, God will direct you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace."

- **Note:** This short time in the wilderness sets the themes that we will see play out more vividly in the time in the Wilderness after Sinai as recorded in Leviticus and Numbers ... We will talk more about grumbling and God's provision when we get to those books

3. Covenant and Law (19-24)

- **LAW NOTE:** In coming weeks we will look in detail at the laws, including the 10 commandments, the tabernacle, the priests, and other laws. So we will not look at those today.
- **TODAY:** We do want to see how God comes to the people, and how they respond

Exodus 19

Israel at Mount Sinai

1On the third new moon after the people of Israel had gone out of the land of Egypt, on that day they came into the wilderness of Sinai. **2**They set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, **3**while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: **4** **You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself.** **5**Now therefore, if you will indeed obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; **6**and you shall be to me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. **These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel."**

7So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. **8** **All the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do."** And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

9And the LORD said to Moses, "**Behold, I am coming to you in a thick cloud, that the people may hear when I speak with you, and may also believe you forever."**

When Moses told the words of the people to the LORD, **10**the LORD said to Moses, "**Go to the people and consecrate them today and tomorrow, and let them wash their garments** **11**and be ready for the third day. For on the third day the LORD will come down on Mount Sinai in the sight of all the people. **12**And you shall set limits for the people all around, saying, 'Take care not to go up into the mountain or touch the edge of it. Whoever touches the mountain shall be put to death. **13**No hand shall touch him, but he shall be stoned or shot; whether beast or man, he shall not live.' When the trumpet sounds a long blast, they shall come up to the mountain." **14**So Moses went down from the mountain to the people and consecrated the people; and they washed their garments. **15**And he said to the people, "Be ready for the third day; do not go near a woman."

16On the morning of the third day there were thunders and lightnings and a thick cloud on the mountain and a very loud trumpet blast, so that all the people in the camp trembled. **17**Then Moses brought the people out of the camp to meet God, and they took their stand at the foot of the mountain. **18**Now Mount Sinai was wrapped in smoke because the LORD had descended on it in fire. The smoke of it went up like the smoke of a kiln, and the whole mountain trembled greatly. **19**And as the sound of the trumpet grew louder and louder, Moses spoke, and God answered him in thunder. **20**The LORD came down on Mount Sinai, to the top of the mountain. And the LORD called Moses to the top of the mountain, and Moses went up.

Exodus 20

The Ten Commandments

1 And God spoke all these words, saying,

2 **"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.**

- **NOTE:** Ten Commandments predicated on the LORD being the God who delivered them – it is that God you are to worship, and that God who tells Israel how to live

3 "You shall have no other gods before me.

4 "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. **5** You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, **6** but showing steadfast love to thousands[c] of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

8 "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. **9** Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, **10** but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. **11** For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12 "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

13 "You shall not murder.[d]

14 "You shall not commit adultery.

15 "You shall not steal.

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17 "You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's."

18 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off **19** and said to Moses, "You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die." **20** Moses said to the people, "Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin." **21** The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

Laws About Altars

Exodus 21

Laws About Slaves

Laws About Restitution

Exodus 22

Laws About Social Justice

Exodus 23

Laws About the Sabbath and Festivals

Conquest of Canaan Promised

20 "Behold, I send an angel before you to guard you on the way and to bring you to the place that I have prepared. **21** Pay careful attention to him and obey his voice; do not rebel against him, for he will not pardon your transgression, for my name is in him.

22 "But if you carefully obey his voice and do all that I say, then I will be an enemy to your enemies and an adversary to your adversaries.

23 "When my angel goes before you and brings you to the Amorites and the Hittites and the Perizzites and the Canaanites, the Hivites and the Jebusites, and I blot them out, **24** you shall not bow down to their gods nor serve them, nor do as they do, but you shall utterly overthrow them and break their pillars in pieces. **25** You shall serve the LORD your God, and he will bless your bread and your water, and I will take sickness away from among you. **26** None shall miscarry or be barren in your land; I will fulfill the number of your days. **27** I will send my terror before you and will throw into confusion all the people against whom you shall come, and I will make all your enemies turn their backs to you. **28** And I will send hornets before you, which shall drive out the Hivites, the Canaanites, and the Hittites from before you. **29** I will not drive them out from before you in one year, lest the land become desolate and the wild beasts multiply against you. **30** Little by little I will drive them out from before you, until you have increased and possess the land. **31** And I will set your border from the Red Sea to the Sea of the Philistines, and from the wilderness to the Euphrates, for I will give the inhabitants of the land into your hand, and you shall drive them out before you. **32** You shall make no covenant with them and their gods. **33** They shall not dwell in your land, lest they make you sin against me; for if you serve their gods, it will surely be a snare to you."

Exodus 24

The Covenant Confirmed

7 Then he took the Book of the Covenant and read it in the hearing of the people. And they said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do, and we will be obedient." **8** And Moses took the blood and threw it on the people and said, "Behold the blood of the covenant that the LORD has made with you in accordance with all these words."

9 Then Moses and Aaron, Nadab, and Abihu, and seventy of the elders of Israel went up, **10** and they saw the God of Israel. There was under his feet as it were a pavement of sapphire stone, like the very heaven for clearness. **11** And he did not lay his hand on the chief men of the people of Israel; they beheld God, and ate and drank.

12 The LORD said to Moses, "Come up to me on the mountain and wait there, that I may give you the tablets of stone, with the law and the commandment, which I have written for their instruction

15 Then Moses went up on the mountain, and the cloud covered the mountain. **16** The glory of the LORD dwelt on Mount Sinai, and the cloud covered it six days. And on the seventh day he called to Moses out of the midst of the cloud. **17** Now the appearance of the glory of the LORD was like a devouring fire on the top of the mountain in the sight of the people of Israel. **18** Moses entered the cloud and went up on the mountain. And Moses was on the mountain forty days and forty nights.

4. The Blueprints for the Tabernacle and It's Service (25-31)

Exodus 25

Contributions for the Sanctuary

The Ark of the Covenant

The Table for Bread

The Golden Lampstand

Exodus 26

The Tabernacle

Exodus 27

The Bronze Altar

The Court of the Tabernacle

Oil for the Lamp

Exodus 28

The Priests' Garments

Exodus 29

Consecration of the Priests

Exodus 30

The Altar of Incense

The Census Tax

The Bronze Basin

The Anointing Oil and Incense

Exodus 31

Oholiab and Bezalel

The Sabbath

5. Infidelity and Reconciliation (32-34)

Exodus 32

The Golden Calf

1When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, "**Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.**" **2**So Aaron said to them, "Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." **3**So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. **4** **And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!"** **5**When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD." **6**And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

7And the LORD said to Moses, "**Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. 8**They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'" **9**And the LORD said to Moses, "**I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. 10**Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you."

11But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? **12** Why should the Egyptians say, 'With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth'? Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. **13**Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.'"

14And the LORD relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

15Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets that were written on both sides; on the front and on the back they were written. **16** The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets. **17**When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There is a noise of war in the camp." **18**But he said, "It is not the sound of shouting for victory, or the sound of the cry of defeat, but the sound of singing that I hear." **19**And as soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. **20**He took the calf that they had made and burned it with fire and ground it to powder and scattered it on the water and made the people of Israel drink it.

21And Moses said to Aaron, "What did this people do to you that you have brought such a great sin upon them?" **22**And Aaron said, "Let not the anger of my lord burn hot. You know the people, that they are set on evil. **23**For they said to me, 'Make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him.' **24**So I said to them, 'Let any who have gold take it off.' **So they gave it to me, and I threw it into the fire, and out came this calf.**"

*25*And when Moses saw that the people had broken loose (for Aaron had let them break loose, to the derision of their enemies), *26*then Moses stood in the gate of the camp and said, "**Who is on the LORD's side? Come to me.**" And all the sons of Levi gathered around him. *27*And he said to them, "Thus says the LORD God of Israel, 'Put your sword on your side each of you, and go to and fro from gate to gate throughout the camp, and each of you kill his brother and his companion and his neighbor.'" *28*And the sons of Levi did according to the word of Moses. And that day about three thousand men of the people fell. *29*And Moses said, "Today you have been ordained for the service of the LORD, each one at the cost of his son and of his brother, so that he might bestow a blessing upon you this day."

*30*The next day Moses said to the people, "**You have sinned a great sin. And now I will go up to the LORD; perhaps I can make atonement for your sin.**" *31*So Moses returned to the LORD and said, "Alas, this people has sinned a great sin. They have made for themselves gods of gold. *32*But now, if you will forgive their sin—but if not, please blot me out of your book that you have written." *33*But the LORD said to Moses, "Whoever has sinned against me, I will blot out of my book. *34* But now go, lead the people to the place about which I have spoken to you; behold, my angel shall go before you. Nevertheless, in the day when I visit, I will visit their sin upon them."

*35*Then the **LORD sent a plague on the people**, because they made the calf, the one that Aaron made.

- **Why did Golden Calf Happen?**
 - People were stiff-necked
 - **Difference between hard-heart and stiff-neck? Nothing!**
 - **Difference between Pharaoh and Israel? Nothing!**
 - It is only God's orientation toward them
 - God's covenant with Abraham is only difference

- **We Need a Mediator**
 - To speak for God
 - To Interceded
 - **Christ our Mediator – I Timothy 2:5-6**

For there is one God, and there is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all, which is the testimony given at the proper time.

Exodus 33

The Command to Leave Sinai

*1*The LORD said to Moses, "**Depart; go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, 'To your offspring I will give it.'** *2*I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. *3* Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; **but I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people.**"

4When the people heard this disastrous word, they mourned, and no one put on his ornaments. **5**For the LORD had said to Moses, "Say to the people of Israel, 'You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, that I may know what to do with you.'" **6**Therefore the people of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward.

The Tent of Meeting

7Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And **everyone who sought the LORD would go out to the tent of meeting**, which was outside the camp. **8**Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise up, and each would stand at his tent door, and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. **9**When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the LORD would speak with Moses. **10**And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise up and worship, each at his tent door. **11**Thus the LORD used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent.

Moses' Intercession

12Moses said to the LORD, "See, you say to me, 'Bring up this people,' but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' **13**Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." **14**And he said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." **15**And he said to him, "**If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here.** **16**For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?"

17And the LORD said to Moses, "This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." **18**Moses said, "**Please show me your glory.**"

19And he said, "**I will make all my goodness pass before you and will proclaim before you my name 'The LORD.'** And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. **20**But," he said, "you cannot see my face, for man shall not see me and live." **21**And the LORD said, "**Behold, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock, 22and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. 23**Then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back, but my face shall not be seen."

Exodus 34

Moses Makes New Tablets

1The LORD said to Moses, "**Cut for yourself two tablets of stone like the first, and I will write on the tablets the words that were on the first tablets, which you broke.** **2**Be ready by the morning, and come up in the morning to Mount Sinai, and present yourself there to me on the top of the mountain. **3**No one shall come up with you, and let no one be seen throughout all the mountain. Let no flocks or herds graze opposite that mountain." **4**So Moses cut two tablets of stone like the first. And he rose early in the morning and went up on Mount Sinai, as the LORD had commanded him, and took in his hand two tablets of stone.

5The LORD descended in the cloud and stood with him there, and proclaimed the name of the LORD. **6**The LORD passed before him and proclaimed,

"The LORD, the LORD, a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness, **7 keeping steadfast love for thousands,[q] forgiving iniquity and transgression and sin, but who will by no means clear the guilty, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children and the children's children, to the third and the fourth generation."**

8And Moses quickly bowed his head toward the earth and worshiped. **9**And he said, "If now I have found favor in your sight, O Lord, **please let the Lord go in the midst of us, for it is a stiff-necked people, and pardon our iniquity and our sin, and take us for your inheritance."**

The Covenant Renewed

10And he said, "**Behold, I am making a covenant. Before all your people I will do marvels, such as have not been created in all the earth or in any nation. And all the people among whom you are shall see the work of the LORD, for it is an awesome thing that I will do with you.**

- **God Shows Himself & Declares His Name** (key verses: Exodus 34:5-10)
 - Judges Sin
 - Speaks Face to Face
 - Answers Prayer
 - Glory Passes By
 - Declares His Name (Exodus 34:5-10)
 - Moses – A Face That Shone
 - **Today – Veil Removed (II Cor. 3:12-18)**

Since we have such a hope, we are very bold, not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end. But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away. Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts. But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

- **NOTE Presence of God through Exodus**
 - Hear cry
 - Speak to Moses
 - Show Power (and protection for Israel)
 - Guide in cloud and fire
 - Descend on Mountain
 - then – after sin and threatening to kill people, or let them go on without him – God passes by Moses
 - Comes to live in the camp!

- **NOTE on God's Presence in Mountain / Tabernacle**
 - **Mountain:** People at bottom, elders in middle, God meet Moses and in a once in a lifetime experience pass by Him ... Moses also serve as mediator for people
 - **Tabernacle:** Court for people, Holy Place for priest, Holy of Holies for presence of God and high priest once a year ... High Priest serve as mediator for the people

6. The Building of the Tabernacle (35-40)

Exodus 35

Sabbath Regulations

Contributions for the Tabernacle

Construction of the Tabernacle

Exodus 36

Exodus 37

Making the Ark

Making the Table

Making the Lampstand

Making the Altar of Incense

Exodus 38

Making the Altar of Burnt Offering

Making the Bronze Basin

Making the Court

Materials for the Tabernacle

Exodus 39

Making the Priestly Garments

Exodus 40

The Tabernacle Erected

16This Moses did; according to all that the LORD commanded him, so he did. 17In the first month in the second year, on the first day of the month, the tabernacle was erected.

The Glory of the LORD

34Then the cloud covered the tent of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 35And Moses was not able to enter the tent of meeting because the cloud settled on it, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle. 36Throughout all their journeys, whenever the cloud was taken up from over the tabernacle, the people of Israel would set out. 37But if the cloud was not taken up, then they did not set out till the day that it was taken up. 38For the cloud of the LORD was on the tabernacle by day, and fire was in it by night, in the sight of all the house of Israel throughout all their journeys.

The Central Themes of Exodus

- God's Power
- God's Mercy
- God's Deliverance
- God's Law
- God's Presence
- Man's Sinfulness (parallels between Egyptians and Israelites!)
- God's Grace
 - All above attributes of God exercised in spite of knowing Israel would rebel
 - God's presence comes closer and Israel moves further away!
- Salvation by Grace Alone
 - Rescue from God's hand alone
 - Redemption not based on obedience to law – first deliverance comes before law, and later redemption comes when Israel breaks first command as it is given!
 - Something greater needed – all miracles and laws of Exodus not enough to change hearts!

Exodus for Life

- How do we apply these themes?

Application from Exodus:

- Do you cry out to God in distress? Do you trust God to hear your cry?
- **Who is this God** you come to – just father, friend – or the God of the universe, the God of all power, the God of fire, the Holy God who can't be in presence of sin?
- What **idols** have we set up? Where are we **stiff-necked**?
- Do you **intercede** with God for his name and his people?
- Would you ever **ask God to show you His glory**? And expect Him to do it!
- Do you **talk with God** face to face?

Application through Christ

- **How does God show his power?** In creation, and most of all in his incarnation in Christ!
 - **Who will intercede** for us as Moses did for the people? Christ lives to intercede for us
 - **How is our sin atoned for?** Christ's once for all Sacrifice
 - Can we **come into God's presence** like Moses / High Priest? Yes, Heb. Says come boldly because of Christ ... veil is torn, sin is atoned for
 - **Where is God now?** He now dwells in us with the Holy Spirit
- We often want to see miracles of Exodus and see / speak to God as Moses – we have it better!
 - ***If time, close with Video: A Face That Shone (song by Michael Card, lyrics on next page)***

He ate the bread of heaven
Drank water from the rock
And the grumbling children followed
Like a misbegotten flock
He climbed up on a mountain
They couldn't even touch
Who'd have known that one
encounter
Could have ever meant so much

And up upon that high place
In a cleft of solid stone
His face was set on fire
As the God of Glory shone
He alone had seen it
And had lived to tell the tale
But because they feared the fire
He had to hide behind a veil

A face that shone with the radiance of
the Father
Though it had known and endured
dark desert days
A face that shone with the glory of
Another
So the prophet would discover
As the glory was fading away

He was the Bread from Heaven
He would be the smitten Rock
He had twelve confused disciples
They were his bewildered flock
When he climbed upon the mountain
He took Peter, James and John
In the face of pending glory
They soon began to yawn

As he prayed while they were sleeping
He was transfigured into Light
His face a flash of lightning
His clothes so burning bright
So Moses finally saw the face
Before he'd hidden from
Then came a voice from heaven
This is my beloved Son

The face that shone is the Glory of the
Father
And he had known from the start that
it was so
The face that shone had let the light
shine out of darkness
And we're changed into His likeness
As we gaze upon the Son

But you and me we tend to flee from
shining faces
We see the glow and then we know
that we're undone
They shine His light into our emptiest
of spaces
With their bright and shining faces
Reflect the radiance of the Son

The face that shone is the Glory of the
Father
And he had known from the start that
it was so
The face that shone had let the light
shine out of darkness
And we're changed into His likeness
As we gaze upon the Son