

KEY FACTS

Author:	Moses
Recipients:	Israelites
Date:	1445 BC
Key Word:	Passover (Hb pesach)
Key Verse:	"God replied to Moses, "I AM WHO I AM. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: I AM has sent me to you." (Exod 3:14)

FOCUS: MOSES' LIFE

Birth – life as a prince of Egypt



Life as leader of the people in the exodus journey

Life as leader of the people in journey



The book is foundational to Jewish and Christian theology.

GOD REVEALS HIMSELF

I AM is the first-person form of the Hebrew verb hayah "to be"

It implies that God is the Self-Existent One

The name is written as YHWH and is generally vocalized as Yahweh (Jehovah)

WHO GOD IS NOT

WHO GOD IS

Aloof

He hears

Inactive

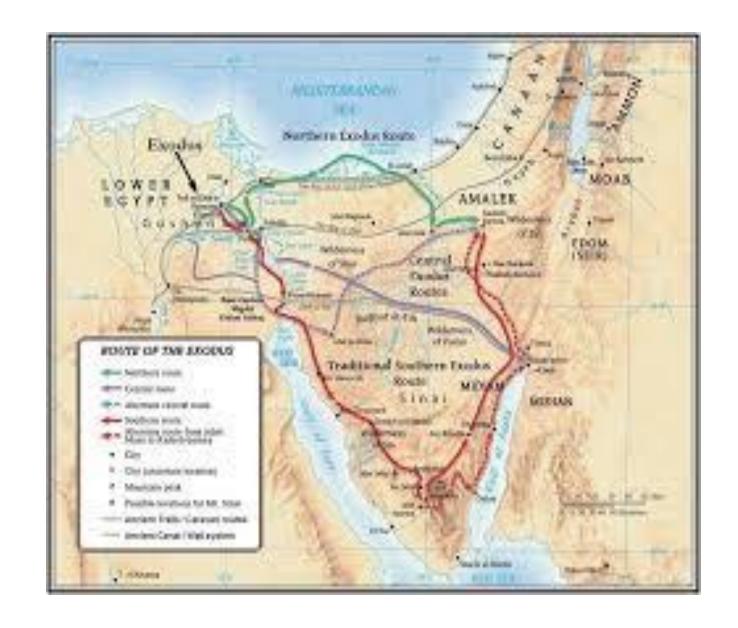
He observes

Functionless

He cares for his people

Route of the Exodus

There are three theories set forth by scholars.



REDEMPTION (1:1-12:30)

SECTION 1

- Numerical growth as promised by the Abrahamic covenant (1:1-7)
- Rise of godless Pharaohs following Joseph's death (1:8-22)

SECTION 2

- God uses Moses to accomplish Israel's redemption:
- By divine plan, Moses was raised and educated in Pharaoh's household (2:1-10)
- Moses' spiritual immaturity leads him to kill an Egyptian
- Moses flees to Midian

SECTION 3

- Moses encounters God at the burning bush (3:1-10)
- God reveals Himself as "I AM WHO I AM" (3:14)
- - God redeems Israel by demonstrating his sovereignty over the Egyptian pantheon (collection of Egyptian Gods) through the 10 plagues.

THE TEN PLAGUES OF EGYPT

- Frogs: Frogs came out of the Nile and into people's homes, food, and clothing.
- Boils: Boils broke out on Egyptians and their livestock after Moses and Aaron threw ashes into the air.
- Gnats and flies: Flies swarmed Egypt after Pharaoh refused to let God's people go free.
- Hail: A severe weather event that may have been caused by volcanic ash mixing with thunderstorms.
- Darkness: Days of darkness.
- Cattle: A plague that may have been similar to rinderpest, a viral disease that killed cattle in Europe and Africa in the 18th and 19th centuries.
- **Death of the firstborn**: The Angel of Death passed over Israelites who marked their doors with lamb's blood, but killed the firstborn sons of Egyptians.
- Blood: Blood flowed into the Nile.
- Locusts: Gnats plagued Egypt.

The "death angel" passed over Egypt

The firstborn of every family was killed including Pharaoh's son

The Tenth Plague: the Passover

The Israelites were spared by smearing the blood of an unblemished lamb on their doorposts

They eat the sacrifice along with unleavened bread and bitter herbs

This is known as the Passover feast

Their faith became the basis of the nation's redemption

Jesus shed His blood for our redemption at the time of Passover, fulfilling John the Baptist's statement: "Behold, the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world".

Pharaoh finally gave the Israelites permission to leave Egypt

- Israelites traveled from Rameses to Succoth (12:37-42)

This came after 430 years of bondage in Egypt

- Liberation was not easy as Pharoah's army pursued

- Miracle of the parting of the Red Sea

- Pharaoh's army perished in the sea

- The nation of Israel celebrated its liberation by singing the Song of the Sea (15:1-21)

LIBERATION (Exodus 12:31-15:21)

PRESERVATION (15:22-18:27)

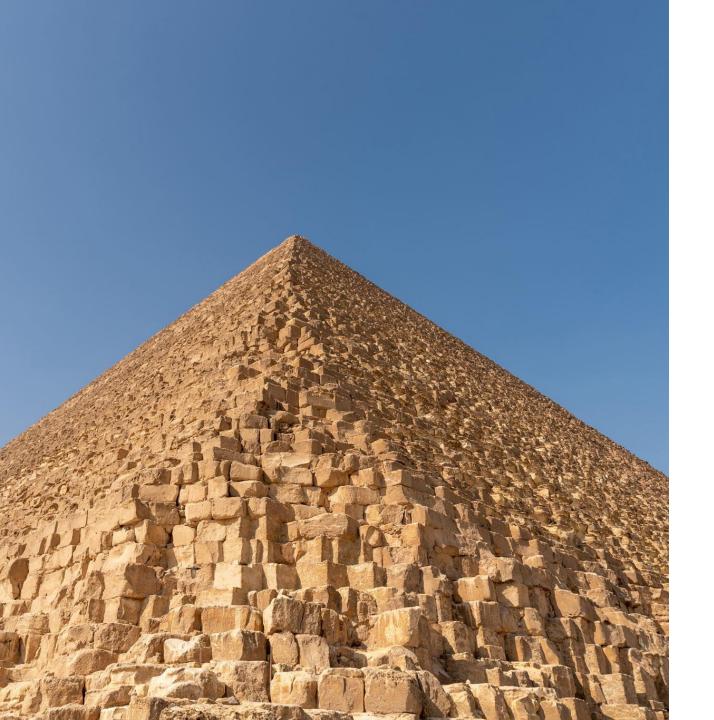
- The Israelites faced difficulties after liberation
- They were in the wilderness for decades and needed provision
- God provided miraculously to feed His chosen people
- The people still grumbled, doubted God and were disobedient
- They needed guidance on how to live the sanctified life
- This needed was met by the Mosaic covenant (Chap 19-40)

Instruction for the Redeemed Nation (Exodus 19:1-40:38)



The Mosaic covenant - an agreement between God and the Israelites that established the laws that would govern the Israelites in the Promised Land.

- Offer of the Covenant (Exodus 19:1-25)
- Covenant Text (Exodus 20:1-23:33)



Offer of the Covenant (Exodus 19:1-25)

- At Mount Sinai God revealed His plan that Israel would become a holy nation and a kingdom of priests if they accepted the covenant and kept the terms
- Through the Mosaic covenant, Israel would be used by God to redeem the rest of mankind - After accepting the offer, the Israelites consecrated itself to God (19:9-15)
- God manifested Himself to Moses on Mount Sinai before giving Him the covenant on the tablets of stone

Covenant Text (Exodus 20:1-23:33)

- Clearly states the obligations of the Israelites
- It is called the Ten Commandments, the Decalogue, the book of the covenant
- The first four commandments dictate our responsibilities to God
- The remaining six commandments dictate our responsibilities to people



Covenant Ratification Ceremony (Exodus 24:1-18)



This ceremony involved:



Duplicate copies of the covenant text



Israel's verbal commitment to the terms



Moses sprinkling blood on the altar and the people



Meal between God and the leaders of the people

Tabernacle of Worship (Exodus 25:1-40:38)

- A tabernacle or "ten of meeting" was constructed
- - Represents God's presence among His people
- This is where God would fellowship with His people
- It was created to exact divine specifications from instructions given to Moses (35:1-39:31)
- God's glory (a cloud) represented His personal presence with the people
- The instructions and construction explained to the redeemed nation how they were to worship God



The Tabernacle Explained

- Ark of the covenant and mercy seat His presence
- Table of bread His provision
- Lamp stand His guidance
- Veil barrier between holy God and sinful man
- Bronze altar atonement through sacrifice
- Single doorway one way into God's presence
- · Laver need for physical and spiritual cleansing
- Altar of incense importance of worship and prayer

