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THE GOD WHO RESCUES

EXODUS

- **BIBLE PROJECT – EXODUS CH 1-18**

https://youtu.be/jH_aojNJM3E

- **BIBLE PROJECT – GENESIS**

<https://youtu.be/oNpTha80yyE>

Exodus: God saves His people from Egypt

Exodus is the story of God rescuing the children of Israel from Egypt and forging a special relationship with them.

EXODUS

- **EXODUS** - we find the stories of the Ten Plagues, the first Passover, the parting of the Red Sea, and the Ten Commandments
- The name comes from the nation of Israel's mass emigration from Egypt
- The book follows Israel out of Egypt into the desert, where the nation is specifically aligned with God
- God first lays out his expectations for the people of Israel—the 10 Commandments.

EXODUS-Important characters

- **God (Yahweh)**

- **The creator of heaven and earth and the divine being who chooses the nation of Israel to represent him on earth.**
- **God goes to war against the gods of Egypt, frees Israel from their tyranny, and then makes a pact with the new nation.**
- **While the rest of the nations serve lesser gods, Yahweh selects the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob as the people group that will serve him and him alone.**

EXODUS-Important characters

- **Moses**

- **The greatest of the Old Testament prophets who serves as a go-between for God and the other humans in the book of Exodus.**
- **Moses negotiates with Pharaoh for Israel's freedom, passes God's laws on to the people of Israel, and even pleads for mercy on Israel's behalf when they anger God.**

EXODUS-Important characters

- **Aaron**

- **Moses' brother and right hand.**

- **Aaron assists Moses as a spokesperson, and eventually is made the high priest of the nation of Israel**

EXODUS-Important characters

- **Pharaoh**

- **The chief antagonist in the Exodus story**
- **Pharaoh enslaves the nation of Israel, commits genocide**
- **Pharaoh is worshiped as part of the Egyptian pantheon: a lesser god laying an illegitimate claim to God's people**
- **God defeats Pharaoh and the gods of Egypt by sending a series of ten devastating plagues, and finally destroying Pharaoh's army in the Red Sea**

EXODUS-Key Themes

- **Exodus is all about God making Israel his own. God rescues the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob**
- **Then, he gives them his expectations**
- **God sets up camp in the midst of the new nation: they are his people, and he is their God.**
- **This verse sums up the themes of Exodus: *“I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.”* (Ex 20:2)**

I AM LORD YOUR GOD



WHO BROUGHT YOU OUT

OF THE LAND OF EGYPT



out
of the
land
of
SLAVERY



EXODUS-Key Themes

- **Redemption**
- **It's hard to miss this one! The entire book is about God hearing Israel's cries for help, rescuing them from their oppressors, and making them his own.**

EXODUS-Key Themes

• **Covenant**

- **God makes a solemn, binding agreement with the people of Israel, establishing himself as their god and them as his people**
- **This relationship comes with certain expectations, with benefits for the Israelites if they uphold their end of the agreement, and consequences if they do not.**

EXODUS-Key Themes

- **God's presence**

- **The cries of Israel rise up to God, who hears them and remembers his promises to Abraham**
- **God meets Israel in the wilderness: he is high atop a mountain, and they are on the plain below.**
- **God is dwelling in the middle of Israel's camp in the wilderness. it is God's presence among the people that sets Israel apart from every other nation in the world (Exod 33:16).**

EXODUS-Key Themes

- **Law**

- **This is related to the theme of covenant—specifically, the expectations God has for the people of Israel.**
- **From chapter 20 onward, we start seeing more and more directives for the people on how to live as the people of God.**

EXODUS- Exodus in Context

- **In Genesis we see God working through a family, in Exodus we see God working with an entire nation**
- **God is faithful, and keeps His promise to Abraham (Gn 15:13–21) by judging the Egyptians and liberating Israel.**
- **The Lord also gives Israel the first iteration of the Law, and begins to dwell among His people in the tabernacle.**

EXODUS- Exodus in Context

- **God's liberation of Israel from slavery foreshadows His work to redeem the nations (Ro 6:17 – 18), just as His judgment on His people serves as an example for Christians now (1 Co 10:6 – 13)**
- **Exodus is also where God reveals His memorial name: YHWH, or LORD (Ex 3:14; 6:3).**

EXODUS-Act 1: God hears Israel

- **(Exodus 1 – 6)**
- **Exodus picks up where Genesis leaves off: the young nation of Israel is in Egypt (they were invited by Joseph**
- **A new Pharaoh notices the Israelites multiplying, and enslaves them. Afraid of an uprising, he orders that all Hebrew sons should be cast into the Nile at birth.**

EXODUS-Act 2: God saves Israel

- **(Exodus 7 – 18)**

- **Moses, with the help of his brother Aaron, confronts Pharaoh on God's behalf: "Let My people go" (Ex 5: 1).**
- **Pharaoh refuses, and so God sends those famous 10 plagues upon the Egyptians. When the last plague kills Pharaoh's son, he finally allows Israel to leave.**

Act 3: God's Covenant with Israel

- **(Exodus 19-34)**

- **The Israelites leave Egypt and make their way to Mount Sinai, where God gives His laws to Moses.**
- **God makes a covenant with the nation of Israel and the generations to come: because He rescued them from Egypt, Israel is to observe His rules.**
- **God speaks the Ten Commandments directly to the whole nation of Israel, and He relays specific ordinances to Moses on the mountain.**

Act 3: God's Covenant with Israel

- **(Exodus 19-34)**

- **But already things aren't going as planned. While God is giving Moses laws for the people, the people start worshiping a golden calf ...**
- **Moses pleads with God on Israel's behalf, and the nation is given another go at keeping God's commands.**

Act 4: God dwells with Israel

- **(Exodus 19-34)**

- **God does not stop with a list of rules, however. He gives Moses instructions for a tabernacle, a special tent of worship.**
- **The book of Exodus ends with the glory of the LORD filling the tabernacle: God is now dwelling among His chosen people, Israel.**