

Tapes For Growing Christians

Study Guide for
EXODUS

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Lesson 1

The Founding and Forging of the Nation of Israel in the Midst of Oppression in the Land of Egypt Exodus 1

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. The nation of Israel was formed in Egypt.

2. The nation of Israel was forged in Egypt.

practical application

Don't think God is against you when the going gets tough!

questions

1 What is the theme of the book of Exodus?

2 What does the title "Exodus" mean?

3 Who was the author of Exodus? What other books did he write?

4 When did the Children of Israel make their Exodus from Egypt?

5 Who was the "new king" spoken of in Exodus 1:8?

6 How many Israelites went to Egypt? How many left during the Exodus?

answers

1. Deliverance or Redemption
2. “Exodus” means “exit,” “depart from,” or “way out.”
3. Moses wrote Exodus along with the other books in the Pentateuch – the first five books of the Old Testament.
4. There are two evangelical views. The Late Date view puts the Exodus at about 1290 B.C. The more conservative (and stronger) view, based on 1 Kings 6:1, dates the Exodus at 1446 B.C.
5. A dynasty of Semitic pharaohs, known as the Hyksos, ruled Egypt from 1730-1570 B.C. In verse 13, the true Egyptian pharaohs regained control and increased the oppression of the Jews.
6. About 70 Jews fled to Egypt during the famine of Joseph’s day. At least 2 million Jews left Egypt 430 years later under the guidance of Moses.

discuss\ consider

1. Consider the oppression and slavery the Hebrews suffered in Egypt. How did God use this time to forge the nation of Israel? Are you going through a difficult time right now? Consider how God could be using this time to forge you.
2. Were the Hebrew midwives justified in their disobedience of Pharaoh’s command to kill all male babies? Where do we draw the line and decide to disobey authority? Refer to Acts 5:29.

challenge

We believe the Bible is true and accurate in its historical account, because it is God’s Word. But isn’t it neat to see His Word confirmed by history and archeology? Praise God that He was working in the dynasties of Egypt to work out His plan for His chosen people.

memorize

“Now there arose a new king over Egypt, who did not know Joseph.” Exodus 1:8

“So the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor.” Exodus 1:13

“So Pharaoh commanded all his people, saying, ‘Every son who is born you shall cast into the river.’” Exodus 1:22

Lesson 2

The Birth and Preparation of Moses to be God's Chosen Leader to Deliver His People out from their Slavery in Egypt Exodus 2

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. God prepared Moses forty years in Egypt.
2. God prepared Moses forty years in Midian.

practical application

Remember, God is in charge of circumstances.

questions

1. What did Pharaoh's edict declare in Exodus 1:22?
2. What does history tell us about Pharaoh's daughter that is relevant to this story?
3. What New Testament passages address the early years of Moses' life?
4. What event prompted Moses to flee Egypt for Midian?
5. How old was Moses when he led the Children of Israel out of Egypt?
6. How was "faith" defined in this lesson?

answers

1. That all the Hebrew male children that were born were to be thrown into the Nile River and drowned
2. Queen Hatshepsut, daughter of Thutmose I, did not have children of her own. She probably wanted to raise Moses as her own son to eventually be king over Egypt.
3. Acts 7:20-23 and Hebrews 11:23-26
4. He had been seen killing an Egyptian who had beaten a Hebrew.
5. He was eighty years old.
6. Faith is acting on what God has revealed.

discuss\ consider

1. Moses had all of the power and privileges of the Egyptian empire at his feet, and yet he rejected all of this, because Hebrews 11 says he “looked to the reward.” Discuss Moses’ incredible choice and his motivation for making it. Read Hebrews 11:24-26.
2. How did Moses’ forty years in the royal courts of Egypt prepare him for his task ahead? How did Moses’ forty years in Midian prepare him for his task of leading the Israelites?

challenge

It was not a coincidence that Pharaoh’s daughter found Moses and raised him as Egyptian royalty. God arranged these circumstances to prepare Moses for his unique role in Israel’s history. God is in charge of the circumstances in your life as well!

memorize

“And Moses was learned in all the wisdom of the Egyptians, and was mighty in words and deeds.” Acts 7:22

“By faith Moses, when he became of age, refused to be called the son of Pharaoh’s daughter.” Hebrews 11:24

“But Moses fled from the face of Pharaoh and dwelt in the land of Midian.” Exodus 2:15

Lesson 3

The Call of Moses and God's Revelation of Himself to Moses Exodus 3

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. God is aware of the sufferings of His people.
2. God is active in the salvation of His people.

practical application

Be a burning bush for God.

questions

1. How long had Moses been in training to lead God's people out of Egypt?
2. Where is Mount Horeb?
3. Why did Moses need to remove his sandals when he stood before the burning bush?
4. How long had the Israelites been in Egypt? How long had they been enslaved?
5. Give two reasons God had left His people in Egypt for so long.
6. In verses 8 and 17, God told Moses His plan for Israel, what was it?

answers

- 1 80 years – 40 years in Egypt and 40 years in Midian
2. Mount Horeb is another name for Mount Sinai. The exact location of Mount Sinai is debated.
3. Because God's presence meant that place was holy ground. Taking off your sandals in that culture was a sign of honor for the higher authority.
4. The Israelites had been in Egypt for more than 400 years and they had been enslaved for over 275 years.
5.
 - 1) God was showing patience to the pagan peoples in the land of Canaan.
 - 2) God was forming and forging His people into a nation.
6. God would deliver His people out of Egypt and bring them to the good and productive land of Canaan.

discuss\ consider

1. When Moses was before God's presence in the burning bush, he took off his sandals as a sign of honor. When you come into God's presence, how can you be certain you are showing proper honor and reverence?
2. Review and discuss applications for these spiritual lessons from the burning bush.
 - Do people pause to see what makes us unique?
 - Are we on fire for the Lord?
 - Can God speak through our lives?

challenge

When God spoke to Moses from the midst of the burning bush, He called Himself, "I AM." The name for God, Yahweh, comes from this title, and is translated LORD in our English Bibles. This name of God emphasizes His active existence as the Redeemer of His people and as the God who keeps His covenant with His people. This is the kind of God we serve!

memorize

"Take your sandals off your feet, for the place where you stand is holy ground." Exodus 3:5

"I will bring you up out of the affliction of Egypt to the land of the Canaanites... to a land flowing with milk and honey." Exodus 3:17

"And God said to Moses, 'I AM WHO I AM.' And He said, 'Thus you shall say to the children of Israel, 'I AM has sent me to you.''" Exodus 3:14

Lesson 4

The Reluctance of Moses to Respond to God's Call and the Lord's Gracious Response to the Objections of Moses Exodus 4:1-17

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. The Lord provides confirmation for His chosen servants.
2. The Lord provides assistance for His chosen servants.

practical application

Use whatever you have to serve the Lord!

questions

1. Where was Moses when God called him? How did God call him?
2. How did Moses respond to God's call?
3. How did the Lord respond to Moses' reluctance?
4. List the three confirming signs God gave Moses.
5. Did Moses respond well after God had shown him these signs?
6. How did the Lord give Moses assistance in this matter?

answers

1. Moses was living in Midian, after he fled from Egypt. God called to him from a burning bush when he was out feeding his flocks.

2. with reluctance and doubting

3. The Lord patiently and graciously gave Moses three miraculous signs in order to give him confidence and confirmation.

4.

1) God turned his staff into a snake, and back again.

2) Moses' hand became leprous and then was restored.

3) Moses would be able to turn water from the Nile River into blood.

5. No, he again showed reluctance and doubting by asking God to choose another leader!

6. God provided Aaron, Moses' brother, to be his spokesman before the people. Moses would perform the signs and give the Word of the Lord to Aaron, and Aaron would do the speaking.

discuss\ consider

1. Review the three signs God used to confirm the divine commission of Moses. How did each sign show God's power? What was the spiritual symbolism of these signs?

2. Read Exodus 4:11 where God responds to Moses claim that he was not an eloquent speaker. How should this verse affect our view on abortion and the treatment of handicapped people?

challenge

What is in your hand? How can these things be used to serve the Lord?

memorize

"So the LORD said to him, 'What is that in your hand?' He said, 'A rod.'... 'And you shall take this rod in your hand, with which you shall do the signs.'" Exodus 4:2, 17

"So the LORD said to him, 'Who has made man's mouth? Or who makes the mute, the deaf, the seeing, or the blind? Have not I, the LORD?'" Exodus 4:11

Lesson 5

The Return of Moses to Egypt after Forty Years in the Land of Midian Exodus 4:18-31

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. Obedience should follow God's commission to serve.
2. Worship should follow God's message of salvation.

practical application

Are you willing to return to an unpleasant situation to serve the Lord?

questions

1. How can the life of Moses be divided?
2. Who was pharaoh when Moses returned to Egypt?
3. Why would Pharaoh not let the Children of Israel leave Egypt?
4. What is the "mountain of God"?
5. What did Moses and Aaron do once they arrived in Egypt?
6. What was the people's response to the Lord's pronouncement?

answers

1.

- 40 years being raised and educated in Egypt
- 40 years being trained in the school of God in Midian
- 40 years being God's leader for the Children of Israel

2. Likely Amenhotep II

3. Because the Israelites were Egypt's slave labor force, and because God had hardened Pharaoh's heart.

4. It is Mount Sinai.

5. They assembled the Children of Israel together and showed them the miraculous signs, and told them all that the Lord had promised.

6. They believed and worshipped the Lord.

discuss\ consider

1. Review the events of Exodus 4:24-26. Refer to Genesis 17:10 where circumcision is given as a sign of the Abrahamic covenant. God expects His servants to obey. Do you have disobedience in your life, which is keeping you from following God's commission to serve?

2. Is worship your response to God's salvation? Do you have a specific time in your week when you purposefully worship the Lord? The busyness of life can often interfere with worship. Make a point to make time to worship Him!

challenge

Are you willing to serve the Lord wherever He asks you to go?

memorize

"Then Moses took his wife and his sons and set them on a donkey, and he returned to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the rod of God in his hand." Exodus 4:20

"So the people believed; and when they heard that the LORD had visited the children of Israel and that He had looked on their affliction, then they bowed their heads and worshiped." Exodus 4:31

Lesson 6

The Results of Moses' First Encounter with Pharaoh Exodus 5

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. Physical abuse does not mean that God has lost control.
2. Personal attack does not mean that God doesn't care.

practical application

Take it to the Lord in prayer.

questions

1. What was the Israelites' response when Moses told them all that God was going to do?
2. What was Pharaoh's response when Moses and Aaron asked permission for the Israelites to go into the wilderness to worship the Lord?
3. What verse reminds us that every person is under God's control, even a pagan king?
4. How did Pharaoh punish the people after Moses and Aaron went to him?
5. How did the Israelites respond to this increased harshness?
6. How did Moses respond to the personal attack of the Israelites?

answers

1. At first they believed and worshipped the Lord.
2. He refused and said he did not have to obey the Lord. He told the Israelites to get back to work.
3. Proverbs 21:1, “The king’s heart is in the hand of the LORD, like the rivers of water; He turns it wherever He wishes.”
4. He made their slave labor even more severe by forcing them to gather their own straw to make bricks. The physical abuse of the Israelites also increased.
5. They blamed Moses and Aaron, saying it was their fault and God should judge them.
6. He took it to the Lord in prayer.

discuss\ consider

1. Proverbs 21:1 can be a very comforting verse in a season of political turmoil or partisan unrest. How does this verse affect your attitude about the political situation in our country and others?
2. Have you ever felt like the Israelites in this passage? You were under abuse and felt like God wasn’t in control. Or you were personally attacked and felt like God didn’t care. How does this lesson bring you assurance that God is in control and He does care?

challenge

In this lesson we see Moses taking his problems to the Lord in prayer. He honestly lays out the whole situation. Did you know you can come to the Lord like this? Have a humble and honest attitude and take your concerns to the Lord in prayer.

memorize

“And Pharaoh said, ‘Who is the LORD, that I should obey His voice to let Israel go? I do not know the LORD, nor will I let Israel go.’” Exodus 5:2

“You shall no longer give the people straw to make brick as before. Let them go and gather straw for themselves.” Exodus 5:7

“So Moses returned to the LORD and said, ‘Lord, why have You brought trouble on this people? Why is it You have sent me?’” Exodus 5:22

Lesson 7

The Lord's Reassurance to Moses Concerning the Promised Exodus, even though the Conditions of Slavery have Worsened and the People will not Listen to Moses Exodus 6

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. God revealed Himself as Lord to His people in the Exodus.

2. God revealed Himself as Redeemer to His people in the Exodus.

practical application

Let's experience God's outstretched arm and uplifted hand.

questions

1. Why is the genealogy of Moses and Aaron included here?

2. Moses and Aaron were in the line of which of Jacob's sons?

3. Review the events of the two previous chapters.

4. What name did God use for Himself with the patriarchs, Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob?

5. How do we reconcile Exodus 6:3 with the accounts of the patriarchs calling God "Lord" (Yahweh)?

6. List the seven "I wills" of Exodus 6:6-8.

answers

- 1, To show the lineage of the two prominent leaders God chose to represent His people
- 2, Levi, the third son of Jacob
- 3, Moses returned to Egypt, and the people were encouraged when they he told them God's promises. But after Moses first encountered Pharaoh, the Israelites' situation became worse. They had to produce the same quota of bricks for the Egyptians, although they were no longer supplied with straw. The Israelites responded by blaming Moses and refusing to listen to him.
- 4, "God Almighty," which in Hebrew is El Shaddai.
- 5, Apparently believers before the time of Moses knew the name of the Lord, but had not experienced the full meaning of this name. Through the Exodus, the people would come to know God as a personal God who keeps His covenants with His people.
6.
 - I will bring you out
 - I will rescue you
 - I will redeem you
 - I will take you as My people
 - I will be your God
 - I will bring you into the land
 - I will give the land to you

discuss\ consider

1. Maybe you have known the Lord for years. Have you come to know Him as the Lord, a personal, covenant-keeping God?
2. Review the seven "I wills" of Exodus 6:6-8. These promises show God's great plan of redemption of the Children of Israel. But this redemption came with a cost – the life of a spotless lamb (Exodus 12). Discuss this wonderful picture of our redemption. Refer to 1 Corinthians 5:7 and 1 Peter 1:18-19.

challenge

God is powerful for His people and He keeps His promises to His people. Have you experienced God's outstretched arm and uplifted hand?

memorize

"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.'" Exodus 6:6

"So Moses spoke thus to the children of Israel; but they did not heed Moses, because of anguish of spirit and cruel bondage." Exodus 6:9

Lesson 8

Moses' Second Encounter with Pharaoh and the First Plague: The Nile River Turned into Blood Exodus 7

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. Satanic power is directed against God's program.
2. Satan's power is limited under God's authority.

practical application

Don't think you're over the hill when you're eighty!

questions

1. How did the plagues of judgment upon Egypt bring glory to God?
2. What sign did Moses and Aaron show when they confronted Pharaoh the second time?
3. What was the first plague God sent upon Egypt?
4. How were the sorcerers of Egypt able to turn their staffs into snakes and containers of water into blood?
5. How does 2 Timothy 3:8-9 relate to this passage?
6. What event in Pharaoh's court showed God's supremacy over the gods of Egypt?

answers

1. They showed God's supremacy and victory over the gods of Egypt.
2. Aaron threw down his staff and it became a snake.
3. The Nile and its tributaries and reservoirs of water were all turned to blood.
4. The Egyptian magicians used their "enchancements," actually demonic powers, to do these miracles.
5. It compares the Egyptian magicians of Moses' day to the false teachers of Timothy's day who opposed the truth.
6. When the Egyptian sorcerers' rods became serpents, Aaron's rod swallowed them up.

discuss\ consider

1. Discuss God's program and Satan's opposition to it. God's program was to preserve the descendants of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, through whose line the Redeemer would come. Relate this to Genesis 3:15 and 12:3.
2. Praise the Lord that Satan cannot operate with unlimited power. Satanic power is certainly real, but it is under God's authority. How could this truth be freeing to you as a believer? Refer to 1 John 5:18 and James 4:7.

challenge

God used Moses and Aaron to accomplish incredible achievements for the Israelites when they were in their eighties. Is your age preventing you from serving the Lord? Don't let it – God can use you at any age.

memorize

"And the Egyptians shall know that I am the LORD, when I stretch out My hand on Egypt and bring out the children of Israel from among them." Exodus 7:5

"For every man threw down his rod, and they became serpents. But Aaron's rod swallowed up their rods." Exodus 7:12

"And all the waters that were in the river were turned to blood." Exodus 7:20

Lesson 9

The Second, Third, and Fourth Plagues on the Land of Egypt Exodus 8

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. God makes a distinction between powers with His judgments.
2. God makes a distinction between peoples with His judgments.

practical application

Don't incite needless riots.

questions

1. What was the religion of the Egyptians?
2. How was the plague of frogs directed against the gods of Egypt?
3. What was the difference between the third and fourth plague?
4. Why were the Egyptian sorcerers able to duplicate some of the miraculous plagues, but not others?
5. Who was affected by the fourth plague?
6. Why did Moses refuse Pharaoh's suggestion for the Israelites to offer sacrifices in the land of Egypt?

answers

1. They were polytheistic; they worshipped many gods.
2. One of the Egyptian gods was a goddess of birth and fertility. The image of this god had a frog's head.
3. The third plague was lice or gnats, and could have included flees and mosquitoes. The fourth plague of flies or swarms of insects could have included all kinds of insects, including the sacred beetle of Egypt.
4. Because God showed a distinction between His power and the demonic powers used by the Egyptians
5. Only the Egyptians; not God's people, the Israelites.
6. The Israelites' sacrifices would have been offensive to the Egyptians because they considered certain animals sacred.

discuss\ consider

1. Recall Pharaoh's willingness to let the Children of Israel go when he was suffering from the plagues. But when the plague was lifted he again hardened his heart. Too often, people cry out to God when they are in a crisis, but as soon as the heat is off they do their own thing. Discuss this human tendency. What is the solution?
2. The Children of Israel were spared from some of the plagues upon Egypt – but not all of them. Likewise, Christians are not always delivered from the hardships of the Lord's judgment upon this world – whether it be natural disasters or other forms of judgment. Yet many times God does draw a distinction between those who are His people and those who are not. Can you give an example of this?

challenge

Moses refused to intentionally offend the Egyptians. This principle is taught in 1 Corinthians 10:32. Be sensitive with your approach to evangelism. Don't incite needless riots.

memorize

"But when Pharaoh saw that there was relief, he hardened his heart and did not heed them, as the LORD had said." Exodus 8:15

"Now the magicians so worked with their enchantments to bring forth Lice, but they could not." Exodus 8:18

"I will make a difference between My people and your people." Exodus 8:23

Lesson 10

The Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Plagues of God's Judgment on Egypt Exodus 9

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The plagues on Egypt revealed the eternal attributes of God.
2. The plagues on Egypt foreshadowed the future judgments of God.

practical application

Are you more of a believer than Pharaoh?

questions

1. If "all" the Egyptian livestock were killed in the fifth plague, how were there some left for the seventh and ninth plagues?
2. Describe the sixth plague, for which no warning was given.
3. List the attributes of God that are revealed in the plagues on Egypt.
4. When else will we see plagues of judgment upon mankind?
5. Does Pharaoh's confession in Exodus 9:27 mean he became a believer?

answers

1. Possibly the Egyptians acquired more livestock between the plagues by stealing from the Israelites, whose livestock were not harmed.
2. Moses and Aaron took handfuls of ashes and threw them up into the air. The wind scattered the ashes throughout the land and caused boils and sores to break out on the Egyptians and their animals.
3.
 - omnipotence
 - sovereignty
 - holiness
 - justice
 - patience
 - longsuffering
 - mercy
4. During the great Tribulation in the end times.
5. No. We know from the rest of the Biblical record that he did not. Saving faith is more than acknowledging that God is righteous and you are a sinner.

discuss\ consider

1. Discuss how the plagues on Egypt revealed the eternal attributes of God.
2. Discuss how the plagues on Egypt foreshadow the judgments of the Tribulation Period.

challenge

God's attributes are displayed by His interactions with people. Are you watching to see His attributes in your life?

memorize

"And the LORD will make a difference between the livestock of Israel and the livestock of Egypt. So nothing shall die of all that belongs to the children of Israel." Exodus 9:4

"And the magicians could not stand before Moses because of the boils." Exodus 9:11

"Thus says the LORD God of the Hebrews: 'Let My people go, that they may serve Me.'" Exodus 9:13

Lesson 11

The Eight and Ninth Plagues on Egypt – the Plague of Locusts and the Plague of Darkness Exodus 10

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. Compromise in the area of family is a tactic of the enemy.
2. Compromise in the area of possessions is a tactic of the enemy.

practical application

Don't forget to tell your grandchildren.

questions

1. Did the Lord take away Pharaoh's free will by hardening his heart?
2. What was the result of the eighth plague?
3. What tactic did Pharaoh use to try to get the Israelites to compromise their request?
4. What does Exodus 10:21 mean that the "darkness may even be felt"?
5. How do we know this darkness was a miracle and not a natural phenomenon?

answers

1. No, the Lord simply confirmed what Pharaoh had already chosen to do in his own heart.
2. Every remnant of vegetation which was left after the hailstorm was now totally consumed.
3. He said the men were allowed to go, if they left their wives and families behind. Later he said everyone could go if they would leave their livestock behind.
4. This was either incredible darkness, or perhaps darkness combined with a terrible sandstorm.
5. Because the Children of Israel had light in their dwellings (verse 23).

discuss\ consider

1. Review the tactics Pharaoh used to dissuade the Israelites from going to offer sacrifices. How do these illustrate the tactics our enemy, Satan, uses to keep us from being living sacrifices?
2. The children of Israel were to testify to their children and grandchildren that God overpowered the Egyptians and their pagan gods, in order to deliver His people. Do you have a testimony about God overpowering the enemy and delivering His people? How can you pass this on to your children and your children's children?

challenge

The ninth plague of darkness was specifically targeted against the Egyptian's sun-god Ra. Take a moment to praise our Creator God who made the sun and moon and controls them even today.

memorize

"That you may tell in the hearing of your son and your son's son the mighty things I have done in Egypt." Exodus 10:2

*"There was thick darkness in all the land of Egypt three days... but all the children of Israel had light in their dwellings."
Exodus 10:22-23*

"Go, serve the LORD; only let your flocks and your herds be kept back." Exodus 10:24

Lesson 12

The Tenth and Final Plague of Egypt Announced – The Death of the Firstborn Exodus 11

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. God does not show favoritism when it comes to His judgment of the unbeliever.
2. God does show favoritism when it comes to His care of the believer.

practical application

Let's follow God's example of showing favoritism.

questions

1. How does Exodus 11 fit into the chronology of the book?
2. Why was it fair for the Hebrews to ask for gold and silver from their Egyptian neighbors?
3. Exodus 11:3 tells us that Moses was well respected by the Israelites and the Egyptians. Why was this?
4. Explain the tenth plague.
5. How did God show care for His chosen people in this passage?

answers

1. This chapter is a continuation of the parting words between Pharaoh and Moses.
2. Because the Egyptians certainly owed them much more than this for their years of slave labor.
3. Remember that Moses was highly educated and familiar with the culture of Egypt. He had been a prince in Egypt, and after the plagues his supremacy was obvious.
4. The final plague of God's judgment on Egypt was the death of the firstborn of every family in the Land of Egypt.
5. He told them the way to be spared from the tenth plague. He provided for their material needs and gave them favor in the sight of the Egyptians.

discuss\ consider

1. God showed no favoritism when carrying out the tenth plague on Egypt. Likewise, God does not show favoritism when it comes to His judgment of the unbeliever today. Discuss the ways people try to win favoritism with God. Refer to Romans 3:22-23 and John 3:36.
2. Look up the following verses and discuss what they teach us about God's care for His people: 1 Peter 5:7, Deuteronomy 33:12, Psalm 91:4, and Matthew 6:33.

challenge

As Christians we have the responsibility to care for the needs of those around us. But we are to especially focus on the needs of fellow believers. Are you showing favoritism as God does?

memorize

"And the LORD gave the people favor in the sight of the Egyptians." Exodus 11:3

"All the firstborn in the land of Egypt shall die." Exodus 11:5

"...that you may know that the LORD does make a difference between the Egyptians and Israel." Exodus 11:7

Lesson 13

The Institution of the Passover and the Feast of Unleavened Bread Exodus 12:1-36

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The Passover Lamb is a spiritual picture of God's Lamb of Sacrifice.
2. The Passover Feast is a spiritual picture of God's plan of salvation.

practical application

Don't carry types too far.

questions

1. What prompted Pharaoh to finally let the Children of Israel go?
2. Why were the Children of Israel protected from the plague?
3. What Jewish festival was instituted the night of the Israelites' Exodus?
4. In the Bible, leaven is a symbol of what? Why did the Israelites rid their homes of leaven?
5. What qualifications did the Passover lamb have to meet?
6. What is a "type"?

answers

1. After the tenth plague, the death of the firstborn, the Egyptians actually urged the Israelites to leave.
2. Because they followed God's instructions to apply the blood of a slain lamb to the doors of their homes.
3. The Feast of Passover. The Feast of Unleavened Bread was also instituted at this time.
4. It is symbolic of corruption and evil. By sweeping the leaven out of their homes, the Israelites were making a spiritual picture of the life that believers should live in separation from evil.
5. It had to be a lamb from either the sheep or the goats. It had to be without blemish, a male in its first year. The lamb would be on display for four days to confirm it met the requirements.
6. A type is an Old Testament person, place, thing, or event, which illustrates a New Testament truth.

discuss\ consider

1. The Passover lamb is a beautiful symbol of God's sacrificial Lamb, the Lord Jesus. Discuss the ways the lamb pointed forward to Christ. Refer to John 1:29, 1 Corinthians 5:7, and Hebrews 9:22.
2. The Passover Feast commemorated and celebrated Israel's redemption from their bondage and slavery in Egypt. We can see parallels between this and our salvation as believers. Discuss the spiritual picture here.

challenge

Read 1 Peter 1:18-19 and praise the Lord that, "you were not redeemed with corruptible things, like silver or gold... but with the precious blood of Christ, as of a lamb without blemish and without spot"!

memorize

"And when I see the blood, I will pass over you." Exodus 12:13

"And it shall be, when your children say to you, 'What do you mean by this service?' that you shall say, 'It is the Passover sacrifice of the LORD.'" Exodus 12:26-27

"And the Egyptians urged the people, that they might send them out of the land in haste." Exodus 12:33

Lesson 14

The Exodus of the Children of Israel from Egypt and Further Instructions Concerning the Passover Exodus 12:37-51

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. There is a spiritual lesson associated with the mixed multitude.
2. There is a spiritual lesson associated with the roast lamb and unleavened bread.
3. There is a spiritual lesson associated with the ritual of circumcision.

practical application

Remember, the Lord keeps His promises!

questions

1. Approximately how many people left Egypt at the Exodus?
2. What is the conservative date for the Exodus?
3. Did only Israelites leave Egypt at the Exodus?
4. Why did the Israelites eat unleavened bread on their journey?
5. Could uncircumcised servants or strangers participate in the Passover?
6. List some of the promises the Lord has given us as believers.

answers

1. Based on the round number of 600,000 men (verse 37), there would have been at least 2 million people that left Egypt.
2. 1446 B.C.
3. No, Exodus 12:38 says a “mixed multitude” accompanied the Children of Israel. These non-Jews would have included Egyptians, foreigners who had settled in the Nile region, and probably other slaves from the land of Canaan.
4. Because they left Egypt in such haste, there was no time for yeast to act and raise the bread.
5. Only if they came and were circumcised first.
6. The list could go on and on!

discuss\ consider

1. Review the spiritual lesson associated with the mixed multitude. Read 1 Corinthians 5:7-8.
2. Expand the spiritual picture of the roast lamb and the unleavened bread.
3. Review the spiritual lesson associated with the ritual of circumcision. See Colossians 2:11.

challenge

The Lord kept His promise to bring the Children of Israel out of Egypt. Our Lord has given us believers so many promises! Praise Him that He will keep them all!

memorize

“For no uncircumcised person shall eat [the Passover].” Exodus 12:48

“And it came to pass, on that very same day, that the LORD brought the children of Israel out of the land of Egypt.” Exodus 12:51

Lesson 15

The Dedication of the Firstborn to the Lord and the Guidance of the People by God's Pillar of Cloud and Fire Exodus 13

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. God's people should dedicate their children to the Lord.
2. God's people should follow the direction of the Lord.

practical application

Remember the shortest way is not always the best way.

questions

1. Were the Feasts of Passover and Unleavened Bread one-time events?
2. What is a phylactery?
3. Why did God request that the firstborn of children and animals be given to Him?
4. What was actually done with these firstborn?
5. How are the unclean animals a picture of us as sinners?
6. How did the Lord lead His people through the wilderness?

answers

1. No, they were to be kept every year once the Children of Israel were brought into the Promised Land.
2. A phylactery is a small, hard leather pouch containing Scripture, particularly Deuteronomy 6:4. Some Jews wear phylacteries on their foreheads and forearms to this day based on this chapter and chapters in Deuteronomy.
3. Because He had saved the firstborn of the Children of Israel from death in Egypt.
4. The firstborn animals were sacrificed to the Lord. The firstborn children were redeemed or bought back by giving 5 shekels of silver to the Lord's work (Numbers 18). The firstborn of unclean animals, such as the donkey, were either redeemed or put to death.
5. As sinners we are unclean people. We must either be redeemed or put to death – eternal death.
6. with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night

discuss\ consider

1. Discuss how this lesson lays the foundation for the conflict in the Middle East today. Who has the right to the land? When will there be peace in the Middle East?
2. Parents have the incredible privilege of explaining God's plan of redemption to their children. Discuss how you can start a conversation with your children about Christmas, Easter, or the Lord's Supper. Did someone tell you about the Lord when you were a child?

challenge

The Lord did not lead His people in a straight line from Goshen to Canaan. Does He seem to be doing this in your life too? Perhaps God has valuable lessons to teach you about Himself and about life. Remember, the shortest way is not always the best way.

memorize

"Consecrate to Me all the firstborn." Exodus 13:2

"When your son asks you in time to come, saying, 'What is this?' that you shall say to him, 'By strength of hand the LORD brought us out of Egypt, out of the house of bondage.'" Exodus 13:14

"And the LORD went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, so as to go by day and night." Exodus 13:21

Lesson 16

The Children of Israel Trapped Between the Red Sea and Pharaoh's Army Exodus 14:1-20

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. Sometimes the Lord tells His people to turn back.
2. Sometimes the Lord tells His people to stand still.
3. Sometimes the Lord tells His people to stop pleading.

practical application

Be quiet when you feel trapped!

questions

1. It seemed to Pharaoh that the Children of Israel were wandering aimlessly in the wilderness. Was this the case?
2. What else did the pillar of cloud and fire do?
3. Why did God lead His people to turn back and get trapped between Migdol and the Red Sea?
4. What was the Israelites' response to the threat of the Egyptian army?
5. What did the Lord have Moses tell the Children of Israel?
6. Explain the doctrinal point, "Sometimes the Lord tells His people to stop pleading."

answers

1. No, God was guiding them specifically with a pillar of cloud by day and a pillar of fire by night.
2. It protected the Israelites by guarding them from the enemy (verses 19-20).
3. God allowed the Israelites to appear trapped to Pharaoh and the Egyptians. God intended to show His power in the great miracle of the parting of the Red Sea. He would deliver His people and defeat the enemy at the same time.
4. They were afraid and cried out to the Lord. They also complained to Moses that he had brought them out to the wilderness to die.
5. "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord."
6. There is a place for pleading our case to the Lord and crying out to Him, but when the Lord opens the doors or tells us what to do, He expects us to act.

discuss\ consider

1. Do you have an example of a time when the Lord turned you back from where He had already led you? Did you understand why at the time? God was still leading and guiding you.
2. There are times when we feel threatened like the Israelites and we fear, cry out, and complain. Perhaps we get anxious that the Lord has lost His power, or doesn't care about us. We need to hear the same message Moses gave the Children of Israel, "Stand still and see the salvation of the Lord." Sometimes the Lord wants us to wait and see how He will act on our behalf. Can you give an example of this from your life?

challenge

When you feel trapped this week, remember the lesson to the Israelites. Be quiet. Hold your peace. Watch for the Lord's salvation.

memorize

"And the LORD hardened the heart of Pharaoh king of Egypt, and he pursued the children of Israel." Exodus 14:8

"And Moses said to the people, 'Do not be afraid. Stand still, and see the salvation of the LORD.'" Exodus 14:13

"The LORD will fight for you, and you shall hold your peace." Exodus 14:14

Lesson 17

The Great Miracle of the Parting of the Red Sea Exodus 14:21-31

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. Divine miracles may sometimes involve unusual events of nature.
2. Divine miracles will always involve the supernatural power of God.

practical application

Let God open up the way.

questions

1. How do skeptics try to lessen the great miracle of the parting of the Red Sea?
2. Cite some facts from the passage that would refute the idea that the Israelites only crossed a shallow lake or marshy area.
3. Define a divine miracle.
4. Give other examples in the Bible where God used natural events to accomplish His divine purposes.
5. Give a few examples of miracles in the Bible that can only be explained by God's supernatural power.

answers

1 They say the Children of Israel only crossed some shallow lake or marshy area, because the Hebrew term “Red Sea” could be translated “Reed Sea.”

2

- The water was like a wall on either side of the Israelites (verses 22 and 29).
- The water rushed back and covered the Egyptians and their chariots (verse 28).
- Dead bodies don’t wash up on the seashore of a swamp (verse 30).
- Although the Hebrew term “Red Sea” could be translated “Reed Sea,” this term is used wherever the Red Sea is referenced in the Old Testament. See 1 Kings 9:26.

3 A divine miracle is “a deviation from God’s normal way of operation in which God temporarily interrupts or changes the ordinary course of events.”

4. When God brought down the walls of Jericho, He may have used an earthquake. When the children of Israel crossed the Jordan River before conquering Jericho, the Lord probably used a landslide to cut off the water of the Jordan.

5.

- The ninth plague of darkness in Exodus 10, in which thick darkness covered Egypt for three days, but the Israelites had light in Goshen.
- Joshua’s longest day in Joshua 10
- Daniel’s three friends preserved in the fiery furnace
- The feeding of the five thousand
- Peter walking on water
- The list could go on and on!

discuss\ consider

Discuss what you have learned about miracles from this lesson. While the parting of the Red Sea may or may not have involved an unusual event of nature, it certainly involved the supernatural power of God. Can you accept this miracle as it is?

challenge

God opened up a way for the Children of Israel to cross the Red Sea. In our walk of faith, the Lord will always open up the way for us to do His will. No obstacle can stand between us and God’s will if we let God open up the way.

memorize

“So the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea on the dry ground.” Exodus 14:22

“So the LORD saved Israel that day out of the hand of the Egyptians, and Israel saw the Egyptians dead on the seashore.” Exodus 14:30

Lesson 18

The Song of Moses that Israel Sang after they Crossed the Red Sea Exodus 15:1-21

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The Song of Moses is prophetic of the joy in the future for Israel.
2. The Song of Moses is typical of the joy in the present for Christians.

practical application

Let singing be a part of your Christian lifestyle.

questions

1. What “first” is recorded in this chapter?
2. Why do we think we might sing this song in heaven?
3. Who was Miriam?
4. What is the song of Moses about?
5. Why can we as Christians be joyful?
6. Define a “type.”

answers

1. The song of Moses is the first song sung by humans recorded in the Bible.
2. Revelation 15:3 speaks of the saints singing the Song of Moses, which may be the song here in Exodus 15.
3. She was the sister of Moses and Aaron, and a prophetess in Israel.
4. The song of Moses is a celebration of God's great victory over Pharaoh and the Egyptian army, and a celebration of God's great deliverance of His people, Israel.
5. Because we have been redeemed, Satan has been conquered, and the power of sin has been broken!
6. A type is an Old Testament person, place, thing, or event that illustrates a New Testament truth.

discuss\ consider

1. When Israel returns to the Lord, the Lord will fight for Israel and they will joyfully sing of God's triumph over their enemies and His great and loving deliverance and redemption. Look at Psalms 98 and 149. When will Israel sing this new song?
2. Review the extended type we have in these chapters in Exodus.
 - Chapter 12: Salvation from sin
 - Chapter 13: Separation unto the Lord
 - Chapter 14: Deliverance from the power of sin
 - Chapter 15: The Song of the Redeemed

challenge

As Israel sang with joy to the Lord, so we too should sing with joy to the Lord. Sing out this week!

memorize

"I will sing to the LORD, For He has triumphed gloriously! The horse and its rider He has thrown into the sea! The LORD is my strength and song, and He has become my salvation; He is my God, and I will praise Him; My father's God, and I will exalt Him." Exodus 15:1-2

"Who is like You, O LORD, among the gods? Who is like You, glorious in holiness, fearful in praises, doing wonders?" Exodus 15:11

Lesson 19

Israel's Experiences at Marah and Elim, the First Two Stops in Their Wilderness Travels Exodus 15:22-27

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. God allows the bitter waters of Marah to test His people.
2. God provides the pure waters of Elim to refresh His people.

practical application

Don't take this promise of healing too far.

questions

1. Review the events of the last two chapters.
2. How did God's law protect the Israelites' physical health?
3. What problem did the Israelites encounter at their first stop?
4. How did God address this problem?
5. What does God's name Jehovah-Raphe mean?
6. Can believers claim physical healing based on Exodus 15:26?

answers

1. Exodus 14 recorded the great miracle of the parting of the Red Sea. In the first half of Exodus 15 we read the Song of Moses, which the Children of Israel sang in celebration of God's great victory and deliverance. Now we have the first two stops of the Israelites' travels in the wilderness.
2. If the people kept the laws regarding what was clean and unclean, and the laws concerning purification and defilement, they would be kept from germs, contamination, and other unsanitary situations.
3. They traveled three days without water, when they arrived at Marah, the water there was too bitter to drink.
4. He instructed Moses to cast a tree into the waters, which miraculously sweetened them.
5. The Lord who heals
6. No, that would be pulling the Scripture out of context.

discuss\ consider

1. The entire journey of the Children of Israel from Egypt to Canaan is a spiritual picture of the Christian life. 1 Corinthians 10:11. The bitter waters of Marah represent the bitter experiences of life that God allows us to go through. What is the purpose of these trials? 1 Peter 1:7. How do we "sweeten" the bitter waters of life? Philippians 3:10 and Galatians 2:20.
2. Praise the Lord, God not only allows the Marahs in our life, but He provides the Elims. Recall some of the Elim experiences in your Christian life, which God has used to refresh you.

challenge

Have you applied the cross of Christ and died to self?

memorize

"And they went three days in the wilderness and found no water... and there He tested them." Exodus 15:22,25

"...that the genuineness of your faith, being much more precious than gold that perishes, though it is tested by fire, may be found to praise, honor, and glory at the revelation of Jesus Christ." 1 Peter 1:7

Lesson 20

God's Provision of Manna for the Children of Israel and the First Mention of the Sabbath Exodus 16

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The manna was given to provide for God's people.
2. The manna was given to test God's people.

practical application

Tell your children about the manna.

questions

1. After the Children of Israel left lush Elim, they began to grumble again. What did they wish for?
2. How did God provide for the Israelites' hunger?
3. What does the word "manna" mean?
4. What "first" occurs in this chapter?
5. How was God's provision of manna a test for the people? Did they pass the test?

answers

1. They wished not to return to Elim, but to Egypt!
2. He gave them quail for meat and sent manna every day.
3. Manna means “what is it?” This is all the Israelites could say when they saw this bread from heaven.
4. At the end of Exodus 16 we see the first mention of the Sabbath in the Bible. The Israelites were to follow God’s pattern of working for six days and resting on the seventh.
5. The people were tested as to whether they would obey God’s rules for gathering the manna, and whether they would be satisfied with what God provided. The Israelites failed this test.

discuss\ consider

1. Manna, this bread from heaven, was a type of Jesus Christ. As the manna was given to provide for the physical needs of God’s people, so Christ, who is the true bread from heaven was given by God to provide for the spiritual needs of His people. John 6:48-51. Discuss how Christ is not only God’s provision for our salvation, but for our spiritual sustenance as well.
2. God has provided you with His Word to meet your spiritual needs. Discuss how you can develop the habit of turning to God’s Word when you need these needs met.

challenge

How can you spiritually nourish your children this week?

memorize

“Then the LORD said to Moses, ‘Behold, I will rain bread from heaven for you. And the people shall go out and gather a certain quota every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in My law or not.’” Exodus 16:4

“So the people rested on the seventh day.” Exodus 16:30

“I am the living bread which came down from heaven.” John 6:51

Lesson 21

The Miracle of Water from the Rock and the Defeat of Amalek Exodus 17

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The water from the rock is a spiritual picture of the Water of the Holy Spirit.
2. The war with Amalek is a spiritual picture of the war with the flesh.

practical application

You can at least be a Hur!

questions

1. Review the miracles we have seen in the recent chapters of Exodus.
2. Moses named the stopping place in this chapter “Massah and Meribah.” What do these names mean?
3. How does 1 Corinthians 10:1-4 relate to this passage?
4. Who were the Amalekites?
5. Give some keys to victory in the war with the flesh.

answers

1. After the miraculous plagues on Egypt, God led the people out and miraculously parted the Red Sea. In the wilderness He turned the bitter waters sweet, and provided them with quail for meat and manna every day.
2. They mean “testing and quarreling.” The people were once again complaining about the Lord’s provision.
3. It tells us that the event of the water from the rock was a spiritual picture of the life-giving water available in Christ.
4. They were a fierce nomadic tribe that lived in the region of the Dead Sea. They were descendants of Esau, deeply-rooted enemies of Israel.
5.
 - Recognize that Christ is making intercession for us
 - Realize the importance of prayer
 - Fight with the Sword of the Spirit

discuss\ consider

1. As believers we come to Christ, the Solid Rock. Christ was smitten by God, struck, that we may receive the living water. What is this water, specifically? See John 7:37-39.
2. Discuss how the war with Amalek is a spiritual picture of the war with the flesh. The “flesh” is the sinful nature we still possess as believers. We are involved in a constant battle between the flesh and the spirit. Read Galatians 5:16-17 and Romans 7:14-25.

challenge

Hur played an important role in the defeat of the Amalekites, by helping Aaron support Moses’ upraised arms. How can you support the spiritual leaders of your church or help them shoulder some responsibility?

memorize

“And the people thirsted there for water, and the people complained against Moses.” Exodus 17:3

“You shall strike the rock, and water will come out of it, that the people may drink.” Exodus 17:6

“So Joshua defeated Amalek and his people with the edge of the sword.” Exodus 17:13

**The Counsel of Jethro to Moses Concerning the Heavy Workload that Moses was
Carrying
Exodus 18**

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. God provides His people with proof to remove doubt.
2. God provides His people with help to avoid burnout.

practical application

Share the good news of what God is doing with your relatives.

questions

1. What is “the mountain of God”?
2. Who was Jethro? Whom did he serve as a priest?
3. Why was Jethro afraid his son-in-law would burn out?
4. What did Jethro suggest Moses do?
5. Is it wrong to feel you are stretched to the limit and at risk of burning out?

answers

1. This is another name for Mount Sinai, also known as Mount Horeb.
2. Jethro, a Midianite, was the father-in-law of Moses. He was a priest of the one true God.
3. Because Moses was handling all the disputes among the people, great and small
4. He should delegate some of his authority to good men who could help him govern the people.
5. No, feeling this way does not mean you are refusing to depend on the Lord. It may mean you are truly overburdened, and need to learn to delegate some of your responsibilities to others.

discuss\ consider

1. When Moses shared the miraculous events of the Lord in bringing the Children of Israel out of Egypt, this confirmed his father-in-law Jethro's faith in the one true God. As a believer, what sort of doubts have you had about the Christian faith? What has God used to remove this doubt?
2. Jethro encouraged Moses to delegate some of his responsibility so he would not burnout. Is this a lesson you need to learn? Evaluate the demands on your time and ask whether these are responsibilities you truly need to handle or things that can be delegated to others.

challenge

Want some advice on how to get along better with your relatives? Follow Moses' example – share with them the good news about what God is doing in your life.

memorize

“And Moses told his father-in-law all that the LORD had... Then Jethro rejoiced for all the good which the LORD had done for Israel.” Exodus 18:8-9

“Both you and these people who are with you will surely wear yourselves out. For this thing is too much for you; you are not able to perform it by yourself.” Exodus 18:18

“And Moses chose able men out of all Israel, and made them heads over the people.” Exodus 18:25

The Covenant and the Law Proposed and Accepted by the People Exodus 19

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. Under the Law Israel was to be a Kingdom of Priests.
2. Under the Law Israel was to be a Holy Nation.

practical application

Have you experienced the blessing of eagles' wings?

questions

1. Where did the Israelites arrive in this chapter? How long did it take them to get there?
2. Give arguments in favor of Jebel Musa in the Sinai Peninsula being the site of Mount Sinai.
3. How long did the Children of Israel camp at Mount Sinai?
4. What does it mean that the Mosaic Covenant was a "conditional" covenant?
5. Is the Mosaic Covenant in effect today?
6. What was the purpose of the fire and lightning on the mountain and the boundaries around it?

answers

1. Exactly three months after the Exodus, the Children of Israel arrived at the base of Mount Sinai.
2.
 - There is a desert plain at the base of Jebel Musa large enough for a few million people to camp.
 - The granite rocks of Jebel Musa rise abruptly and steeply from the desert plain, so it could be easily roped off (verse 12).
3. Almost a year, during which time the Ten Commandments and the rest of the Mosaic Law was given.
4. This means there were certain requirements that the people must keep, or the covenant between God and His people would be broken.
5. No, because the Law was a conditional covenant and Israel broke that covenant. Romans 10:4 says that the time of the Mosaic Covenant ended with the coming of Christ. Christ fulfilled the Law, so we are no longer under it.
6. These dramatic elements emphasized the holiness of God and the sinfulness of the people. The people could not just approach God in any way they chose or at any time they chose. We must approach God His way.

discuss\ consider

1. God intended for Israel to be a kingdom of priests, mediating God's grace to the other nations of the world. But because of Israel's sin and disobedience, the nation failed this purpose. As believers we are called priest of God. See 1 Peter 2:5. As priests, we offer our spiritual sacrifice of praise to the Lord. Are you fulfilling this purpose?
2. Does God still have plans for the nation of Israel? Yes, based on the unconditional Abrahamic Covenant. Discuss the difference between the Mosaic and Abrahamic Covenant. Discuss the error of saying the Church has replaced Israel in the plan of God.

challenge

Our culture wants us to believe we can approach God in any way we choose at any time we choose. Yet for the Israelites at Mount Sinai and for us today, we must approach God His way. Jesus says, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me" John 14:6.

memorize

"You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself." Exodus 19:4

"And you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation." Exodus 19:6

"Then the LORD came down upon Mount Sinai." Exodus 19:20

The Ten Commandments Exodus 20

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. The Ten Commandments give us God's moral standards.
2. The Ten Commandments show us our duties to God and man.

practical application

Let's not take away from the pure worship of God.

questions

1. Where were the Children of Israel when the Ten Commandments were given?
2. How did the Ten Commandments come to the people?
3. Were the Ten Commandments given as a way of salvation?
4. What was the primary purpose of the Law?
5. Which commandment is not repeated in the New Testament? Why is this commandment not part of the Law of Christ?

6. Should the sixth commandment be used as an argument against capital punishment?

answers

1. They were camped around the base of Mt. Sinai.
2. The Lord came down upon the mountain in the midst of thunder, lightning, smoke, and the sound of a loud trumpet. Amidst these awesome conditions, the voice of God began speaking to the people.
3. No. No one can perfectly keep these laws.
4. To show us God's moral standards
5. The only commandment not repeated in the New Testament is the commandment regarding the Sabbath, because it is not a moral commandment.
6. No. The best translation of this commandment is "Thou shalt not murder," rather than "kill." Capital punishment has its biblical basis in the Noahic covenant.

discuss\ consider

1. If the Law was not given as a way of salvation or a rule for Christian life, why was it given? Galatians 3:19 teaches that the Law was given to show our transgressions of God's moral standards. Discuss where this realization should lead us. Refer to Romans 6:14, 8:4 and Galatians 3:24.
2. Many people consider themselves "good people," because they've "kept the Ten Commandments." But none of us can honestly say we have kept each of these commandments! Discuss the tenth commandment, which applies to the thought-life. Are you sinning in your mind, even if you do not commit the sinful act?

challenge

You don't need elaborate man-made buildings or man-made rituals to worship the Lord. John 4:24 says God is seeking those who will worship Him in spirit and in truth. How are you worshiping the Lord?

memorize

"I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. You shall have no other gods before Me." Exodus 20:2-3

"And Moses said to the people, 'Do not fear; for God has come to test you, and that His fear may be before you, so that you may not sin.'" Exodus 20:20

Lesson 25

Further Laws Given to the Children of Israel for the Protection and Regulation of Their Society Exodus 21

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal point

1. The Mosaic Law was given for the protection and regulation of society.
 - a. Under the Law, slaves were given their freedom
 - b. Under the Law, certain crimes were capital offenses.
 - c. Under the Law, the unborn had human status.
 - d. Under the Law, owners were responsible for their property.

practical application

Don't miss the spiritual picture of the pierced ear.

questions

1. Why were these detailed laws given to the Children of Israel?
2. Is God condoning slavery with the laws in Exodus 21?
3. What happened to Hebrew male slaves after six years of service?
4. List some of the crimes which were capital offenses under the Mosaic Law.
5. Discuss the implications of Exodus 21:22-25 whether this refers to a miscarriage or a premature birth.
6. Why would a slave choose to give up his freedom? How would his decision be shown?

answers

1. For the protection and regulation of their society
2. No, these laws were given to regulate an existing practice in that society.
3. They were set free without having to buy their freedom. Deuteronomy 15 teaches that when a slave was released, his master had to provide him with provisions – including livestock – to begin his new life.

4

- Murder
 - Striking your parents
 - Kidnapping
 - Cursing your parents, thus rebelling against God's line of authority
5. Either way, this passage clearly shows that an unborn child was to be treated as a human being, and thus this passage along with the rest of the Bible is against abortion.
 6. If a slave was given his freedom, but his wife and children still belonged to the master, he might choose to give up his freedom for love of his family. In that case, his ear would be pierced with an awl as a permanent sign of his decision.

discuss\ consider

1. Discuss the spiritual picture of the pierced ear. This could be a beautiful picture of what the Lord has done for us. Our Savior, Christ, was voluntarily pierced because of His love for His Bride, the Church.

This could also be a picture of our willingness to permanently serve the Lord. This is what H.C.G. Moule pictured when he wrote the following hymn:

My glorious Victor, Prince divine
Clasp these surrendered hands in Thine
At length my will is all Thine own
Glad vassal of a Saviour's throne
My Master, lead me to Thy door
Pierce this now willing ear once more
Thy bonds are freedom, let me stay
With Thee, to toil, endure, obey
Yes, ear and hand, and thought and will
Use all in Thy dear slav'ry still!
Self's weary liberties I cast
Beneath Thy feet, there keep them fast
Tread them still down; and then I know
These hands shall with Thy gifts o'erflow
And pierced ears shall hear the tone
Which tells me Thou and I are one

**Further Laws Given to the Children of Israel for the Protection and
Regulation of Their Society
Exodus 22**

background notes

- 1.

- 2.

- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The Mosaic Law was given for the protection and regulation of society.
 - a. Under the Law, full restitution was required.
 - b. Under the Law, a dowry was required.
 - c. Under the Law, the death penalty was required.
 - d. Under the Law, kindness was required.
 - e. Under the Law, giving to the Lord was required.

practical application

Don't delay your giving.

questions

1. Which laws were included in the Mosaic Law?
2. How can these laws be subdivided?
3. How was a thief to repay his wrong?
4. Was it justified for an Israelite to kill a thief in self defense?
5. How does this chapter show us how seriously God disapproves of pre-marital sex?
6. Are Christians required to give to the Lord?

answers

1. The Mosaic Law included all the laws given to the Children of Israel, not only the Ten Commandments.
2. Moral laws, civil laws, and ceremonial laws
3. He had to pay the owner five oxen for one stolen ox, and 4 sheep for one stolen sheep. If the stolen animal was found alive and well, the thief only had to pay double. If a thief could not make restitution he had to sell himself into slavery until the debt was paid.
4. If a thief was killed at night, it was considered self defense, because the owner was not aware of the intruder's motive. But if the thief was killed during the day, it was not considered justified homicide and the owner might have to flee to the nearest City of Refuge from the revenge of the thief's nearest relative.
5. In verses 16-17, in the case of consensual sex between an unmarried young man and woman, the man had to pay the required dowry and marry the woman, and under the Law he could never divorce her.
6. Since we are not under the Law, giving to the Lord is not a requirement. But we should certainly be determined to give to the Lord, in view of what the Lord has done for us.

discuss\ consider

1. We can draw practical biblical principles from these detailed laws. From this lesson: What do you do if you borrow something and it breaks or gets lost or damaged in some way? You make full restitution. Can you give an example of this principle from your life?
2. "You shall neither mistreat a stranger nor oppress him, for you were strangers in the land of Egypt." Exodus 22:21
Can you see which biblical principle could be drawn from this law?

challenge

The Children of Israel were expected to give to the Lord regularly and proportionately. What about you?

memorize

"And if a man borrows anything from his neighbor, and it becomes injured or dies... he shall surely make it good." Exodus 22:14

"You shall not afflict any widow or fatherless child." Exodus 22:22

"You shall not delay to offer the first of your ripe produce and your juices." Exodus 22:29

**Further Laws Under the Mosaic Covenant for the Protection and Regulation of Israel's
Society and Laws Relating to Israel's Conquest of the Land of Canaan
Exodus 23**

background notes

- 1.

- 2.

- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The Mosaic Law was given for the protection and regulation of society.
 - a. Under the Law, the courts were to be just.
 - b. Under the Law, the Sabbaths were to be kept.
 - c. Under the Law, the feasts were to be celebrated.
2. The Mosaic Law was given for the direction and caution of conquest.

practical application

Let's practice the "little by little" principle.

questions

1. While many of the laws under the Mosaic Covenant are self-explanatory, others need some explanation. Explain the law in Exodus 23:19, "You shall not boil a young goat in its mother's milk."
2. If a rich man and a poor man came before a court for judgment, which should be treated better?
3. Give a modern application for the laws in Exodus 23:4-5.
4. Why were the Children of Israel to let the land rest every seventh year?
5. How many religious feasts were in the Jewish calendar?
6. For which feasts did the Jewish men have to appear before the Lord at the tabernacle?

answers

1. This law was to keep the Children of Israel from using a common Canaanite occult fertility practice.
2. Neither. Exodus 23 teaches that a rich man should not be shown partiality over a poor man, nor a poor man over a rich man.
3. Don't refuse to help your neighbor with a problem even if he's taking you to court in a property dispute.
4. The practice of a sabbatical year reminded the Children of Israel that God owned the land and they were just sojourners, entrusted with the land.
5. There were seven feasts in a Jewish year.
6. The Feast of Unleavened Bread, the Feast of Harvest (Pentecost), and the Feast of Ingathering (Tabernacles).

discuss\ consider

1. The idea of a "Sabbath" is not common in our culture. Oftentimes people work hard at their jobs five days a week, and then wear themselves out with "recreation" on the weekends. Discuss the value of taking a day of rest. Remember, this was God's example in the Creation Week.
2. God warned the Children of Israel about the danger of allowing other gods in their land. They were to be ruthless and thorough about eliminating these false gods. Yet we know that they were not, and we know the consequences. List some of the things that become false "gods" to people today. How should these gods be dealt with, so they do not become a snare?

challenge

When we become a Christian, we don't become spiritually mature overnight. It is a "little by little" process. Can you say that God is working on you in this way? Are you more Christ-like today than you were a year ago?

memorize

"Six days you shall do your work, and on the seventh day you shall rest." Exodus 23:12

"Three times in the year all your males shall appear before the Lord GOD." Exodus 23:17

"You shall make no covenant with them, nor with their gods. 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 23:32-33

**The Covenant of the Law Ratified By the People and The Glory of the
Lord Revealed To the People
Exodus 24:1-18**

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. The Covenant of the Law was ratified by the people.
2. The Glory of the Lord was revealed to the people.

practical application

Remember the lesson of Nadab and Abihu.

questions

1. Why were so many laws included in the Mosaic Law?
2. How did the coming of Christ affect the law?
3. How did the people ratify or approve God's covenant?
4. What did the sprinkling of blood mean?
5. Did Aaron, his sons, and the seventy elders really see God?
6. Who were Nadab and Abihu? What happened to them?

answers

1. For the protection and regulation of the Jewish society
2. With the coming of Christ the law was terminated as the means of approach to God. The law could not provide righteousness because no one could keep the Law. Romans 10:4
3. The people agreed to the terms of God's laws and offered burnt offerings. Moses took the blood from the offerings and sprinkled it on the altar and on the people.
4. It meant that if the people broke the covenant and did not keep their word, it was at the price of blood. The penalty was death.
5. No one has ever seen the essence of Deity, but God has at times revealed Himself in various forms with varying degrees of glory, as here in Exodus 24.
6. Nadab and Abihu were sons of Aaron, and priests of Israel. Leviticus 10 records them offering "strange fire" to the Lord, and they died.

discuss\ consider

1. The Children of Israel were not allowed to go on the mountain where God was. Aaron and his sons and seventy elders of Israel were permitted to go up a ways with Moses and worship God from afar. Only Moses was allowed to go further up the mountain and come near to the Lord to worship. Contrast this with the way believers now are to approach God in worship. Hebrews 10:19, 22.
2. Clouds play an important role in the Children of Israel's history. God lead the people through the wilderness with a pillar of cloud. Here the glory cloud of the Lord appeared as a consuming fire at the top of Mount Sinai. Later this glory cloud would rest on the tabernacle. Can you think of some passages involving clouds in the New Testament?

challenge

Being a Christian with great privileges and position does not keep you free from failure. Remember the lesson of Nadab and Abihu.

memorize

"All the words which the LORD has said we will do." Exodus 24:3

"And Moses took the blood, sprinkled it on the people." Exodus 24:8

"The sight of the glory of the LORD was like a consuming fire on the top of the mountain in the eyes of the children of Israel." Exodus 24:17

Lesson 29

God's Instructions to Moses for the Construction of the Ark of the Covenant, the Table of Showbread, and the Lampstand, which would All go into the Tabernacle Exodus 25

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The Ark of the Covenant portrays Christ as the only Mediator.
2. The Table of Bread portrays Christ as the Bread of Life.
3. The Golden Lampstand portrays Christ as the Light of the World.

practical application

Let's follow the divine pattern.

questions

1. What did God communicate to Moses during his 40 days and 40 nights on Mount Sinai?
2. What pattern is set here for giving to the Lord's work?
3. What was inside the Ark of the Covenant?
4. What was on top of the Ark of the Covenant? Describe the significance of the name of this piece.
5. How did the Table of Showbread function in the Tabernacle?
6. Were there any windows in the Tabernacle?

answers

1. the details of the design and construction of the tabernacle and its furnishings
2. Giving should be voluntary and without manipulation (verse 2).
3. The two stone tablets containing the Ten Commandments, a jar of manna, and Aaron's rod that budded
4. The Mercy Seat sat atop the Ark. Also referred to as the "place of atonement," the name of this piece comes from the Hebrew word meaning "to cover." Here the Israelites' sins were covered before God.
5. Twelve loaves of bread, one for each tribe of Israel, were placed on this golden Table, in God's presence. This bread was also food for the priests.
6. No, all the light came from lamps on the Golden Lampstand.

discuss\ consider

1. Discuss the Ark of the Covenant and the Mercy Seat. Every instrument in the Tabernacle points towards God's ultimate sacrifice, His Son. The Ark of the Covenant portrays Christ as the true Mediator.
2. The twelve loaves on the Table of Showbread carry the idea of representation and nourishment. How does this point us to the Lord Jesus as the true Bread from heaven? See 1 Peter 2:5 and John 6:35. It is easy to see how the Lampstand in the Tabernacle points to Christ as the Light of the World. Discuss this and refer to John 8:12.

challenge

For this lesson on the Tabernacle and its furnishings, it would be very helpful to find a book on the Tabernacle or reference a website, so you can clearly picture these items.

memorize

"And let them make Me a sanctuary, that I may dwell among them." Exodus 25:8

"According to all that I show you, that is, the pattern of the tabernacle and the pattern of all its furnishings, just so you shall make it." Exodus 25:9

"You shall put the mercy seat on top of the ark... and there I will meet with you." Exodus 25:21-22

Lesson 30

God's Directions to Moses for the Construction of the Tabernacle Exodus 26

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The Tabernacle is a type of the sanctuary of heaven.
2. The Tabernacle is a type of the Son of God.

practical application

Start with the inside and work outward.

questions

1. The Tabernacle is actually smaller than you might imagine it, about 45 feet long and 15 feet wide and high. Give one reason for its size.
2. Describe the rooms of the Tabernacle.
3. Which furnishings were in which rooms of the Tabernacle?
4. What is a "type"?
5. How do even the colors of the Tabernacle point forward to Christ?

answers

1. The Tabernacle needed to be a portable structure, designed primarily for the wilderness travels of the Children of Israel.
2. The Tabernacle was divided into two sections. The outer sanctuary, called the Holy Place, took up two-thirds of the Tabernacle. The inner sanctuary, called the Holy of Holies, took up the remainder.
3. The Holy Place contained the Lampstand, the Table of Showbread, and the Altar of Incense. The Holy of Holies contained the Ark of the Covenant with the Mercy Seat.
4. A type is an Old Testament person, place, event, or item which illustrates New Testament truth.
5.
 - Blue – the heavenly color emphasizes that He was the eternal Son of God come from heaven
 - Purple – the color of royalty emphasizes the fact that He was the true king
 - Red – the color of blood emphasizes that He was the Redeemer

discuss\ consider

1. Read Hebrews 8:1-5 and 9:22-24. Discuss how an understanding of the Old Testament and the Jewish sacrificial system, can bring to life your reading of the New Testament.
2. The details of the Tabernacle and each instrument in it point forward to Jesus Christ. Discuss some of these types and the beautiful picture they give us of the Son of God.

challenge

In describing the structure of the Tabernacle, the Lord started with the inside and worked outside. How can you apply this inside/out principle to your decisions and family?

memorize

“You shall make a veil woven of blue, purple, and scarlet thread, and fine woven linen.” Exodus 26:31

“Then you shall bring the ark of the Testimony in there, behind the veil. The veil shall be a divider for you between the holy place and the Most Holy.” Exodus 26:33

Lesson 31

**Moses is Given Instructions for the Construction of the Bronze Altar of Sacrifice and the Courtyard of the Tabernacle & Instructions for the Preparation of the Oil to be Used for the Lamps of the Lampstand
Exodus 27**

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. The Bronze Altar pictures the Cross of Christ.
2. The Tabernacle courtyard pictures the way of worship.

practical application

Let's keep our lamps trim.

questions

1. Where did Moses receive these instructions concerning the Tabernacle?
2. Review the instructions given for the Tabernacle in Exodus 25-27.
3. What is the difference between brass and bronze?
4. Why was the Altar so large?
5. How does the layout of the Tabernacle with its courtyard picture the way of approach to worship God?

answers

1. Moses was on Mount Sinai for forty days and forty nights receiving the Ten Commandments and other instructions from God, including the details of the Tabernacle.
2.
 - Exodus 25- Furnishings of the Tabernacle
 - Exodus 26- Construction of the Tabernacle
 - Exodus 27- Courtyard around the Tabernacle
3. Brass and bronze are both copper alloys. Most likely the Altar was of bronze, since it was continually hot with fire.
4. Because some large animals, such as oxen, were sacrificed on the Altar.
5. There was only one opening into the courtyard by which to approach the Tabernacle. This opening represents Christ, who is the only divinely appointed way to God. Coming into the courtyard, one had to pass by the Bronze Altar (which represents the Cross of Christ) and the Bronze Laver (which represents cleansing from sin), before coming to the Holy of Holies into God's presence.

discuss\ consider

1. All of the animal sacrifices pointed forward to the one great sacrifice to come. Jesus Christ is the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world (John 1:29). Discuss what you know about the sacrifices, and how they teach us about the Person and Work of Christ.
2. Review the spiritual picture of the Tabernacle courtyard and the way of worship. The world tells us that there are many ways to God. Is this mindset compatible with what is taught in Scripture?

challenge

The priests had to continually trim the lamps of the Lampstand so the lamps would burn brightly. We are the light of the world (Matthew 5:14-16) are you keeping your light shining brightly?

memorize

“And you shall command the children of Israel that they bring you pure oil of pressed olives for the light, to cause the lamp to burn continually. In the tabernacle of meeting, outside the veil which is before the Testimony, Aaron and his sons shall tend it from evening until morning before the LORD. It shall be a statute forever to their generations on behalf of the children of Israel.” Exodus 27:20-21

**Instructions Concerning the Priesthood – The Garments of the Priests and the
Consecration of the Priests
Exodus 28-29**

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. The clothing of the priests is filled with meaning.
2. The consecration of the priests is filled with meaning.

practical application

Don't forget the continual burnt offering.

questions

1. How do we know that Aaron the High Priest of Israel is a type (spiritual picture) of Christ, our High Priest?
2. Who do Aaron's sons and descendants, the other priests in the Old Testament typify?
3. What was the purpose of Aaron's garments?
4. Name the pieces of the High Priests garments.
5. What were the Urim and Thummim?
6. Why did the priests lay their hands on the animal that was about to be sacrificed?

answers

1. This comparison is drawn in Hebrews 4 and 5.
2. Us as believers (see 1 Peter 2:5)
3. For glory and beauty (verse 2)
4. Breastplate, ephod, robe, tunic, sash, and turban
5. These items called “lights and perfections” were probably precious stones used by the High Priest to receive answers from the Lord in decision making.
6. This communicated their identification with the sacrifice that was given as a substitute.

discuss\ consider

1. Discuss the symbolism in the High Priest’s garments. The twelve stones worn close to the Priest’s heart on his breastplate represent the tribes of Israel. Similarly, the Lord carries His people in His strength and in His love. What a blessed place of security.
2. The consecration of the priests in Exodus 2 portrays the salvation and sanctification necessary for all believer priests today. Discuss how these events were portrayed and the process for us as believers.

challenge

Every morning and evening there was a lamb offered as a burnt offering, so that the Lord would meet and fellowship with His people. Take time this week, every morning and evening, to meet with the Lord in worship.

memorize

“And you shall make holy garments for Aaron your brother, for glory and for beauty.” Exodus 28:1-2

“The priesthood shall be theirs for a perpetual statute. So you shall consecrate Aaron and his sons.” Exodus 29:9

“This shall be a continual burnt offering throughout your generations at the door of the tabernacle of meeting before the LORD, where I will meet you to speak with you.” Exodus 29:42

Instructions Concerning Several Items Associated with the Tabernacle Exodus 30

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The Incense Altar emphasizes continual praise in the worship of the Lord.
2. The Atonement Money emphasizes continual support for the work of the Lord.
3. The Bronze Laver emphasizes continual cleansing by the Word of the Lord.

practical application

Don't get involved with strange oil or strange incense.

questions

1. Where was the Altar of Incense located? What was offered on this Altar?
2. What does the Altar of Incense picture about Christ?
3. How was the work of the Lord supported in Old Testament times?
4. Why was every Jewish male 20 years or older required to give a ransom for himself to the Lord?
5. Where was the Bronze Laver located and how was it used in the work of the Tabernacle?

answers

1. The Altar of Incense was positioned inside the first room of the Tabernacle. Only incense was offered on this Altar.
2. He is the basis of our acceptable worship of God.
3. By the tithes, offerings, and atonement money described in Exodus 30.
4. Because he had been redeemed out of Egypt, and thus belonged to the Lord.
5. The Laver was positioned outside in the Tabernacle courtyard, between the Bronze Altar and the Tabernacle itself. Before they entered the Tabernacle each time the priests had to wash their hands and feet with the water of the Laver.

discuss\ consider

1. The Altar of Incense represents Christ as the basis of our acceptable worship of the Lord. Repeatedly in the Bible the prayers and worship of believers is compared to incense, a sweet smelling aroma to the Lord. How can you ensure that your worship is Christ-centered and therefore pleasing to the Lord?
2. Without the continual cleansing at the Laver, the priests could not enter the Tabernacle and could not offer incense on the Golden Altar in the Holy Place. Discuss this spiritual picture of the continual process of sanctification for us as believers. See 1 John 1:9 and Ephesians 5:26.

challenge

Do you continually support the work of the Lord? This is an important responsibility for every believer. Commit yourself to giving regularly, proportionately, and cheerfully.

memorize

“You also, as living stones, are being built up a spiritual house, a holy priesthood, to offer up spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.” 1 Peter 2:5

“When they go into the tabernacle of meeting, or when they come near the altar to minister, to burn an offering made by fire to the LORD, they shall wash with water, lest they die.” Exodus 30:20

“And you shall anoint Aaron and his sons, and consecrate them, that they may minister to Me as priests.” Exodus 30:30

Lesson 34

God's Appointment of the Skilled Craftsman for the Construction of the Tabernacle and its Furnishings & The Designation of the Sabbath as the Sign of the Mosaic Covenant Exodus 31

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The sign of the Spirit's filling was special skill.
2. The sign of the Mosaic Covenant was the Sabbath.

practical application

Don't make Sunday the new Sabbath.

questions

1. Who were Bezalel and Aholiab?
2. What was unique about the way the Ten Commandments were written?
3. What does it mean to be filled with the Holy Spirit?
4. How are spiritual gifts different from natural talents?
5. What was the sign of the Noahic Covenant? The Abrahamic Covenant? The Mosaic Covenant?
6. What was the penalty for Israelites breaking the Sabbath?

answers

1. They were skilled craftsmen appointed by God to oversee the construction of the Tabernacle.
2. They were written on tablets of stone by the finger of God. The rest of the Law Moses wrote down.
3. To be under the control of the Spirit
4. Everyone is born with natural talents which can be developed into skills and dedicated to the Lord. You are given spiritual gifts when you become a believer. These too must be developed and put under the Lord's control.
5. The signs of the covenants:
 - Noahic Covenant – rainbow
 - Abrahamic Covenant – circumcision
 - Mosaic Covenant – Sabbath
6. Death

discuss\ consider

1. Discuss the filling of the Spirit as it related to Exodus 31. What do many modern churches say the filling of the Spirit must look like? How can you demonstrate that you have been filled with the Spirit?
2. Many Christians with good intentions take the Sabbath laws of the Old Testament and apply them to Sunday today. Discuss why this is bad hermeneutics. Sunday is a special day, because it celebrates our Lord's resurrection. But we must not become legalistic in our regulation of Sunday. Because Sunday is the Lord's day – not the Sabbath.

challenge

Whatever the Lord directs you to do in His Word, He enables you to do it in obedience to Him. He will not ask you to accomplish a task He will not equip you for!

memorize

“And I have filled [Bezalel] with the Spirit of God, in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all manner of workmanship.” Exodus 31:3

“Speak also to the children of Israel, saying: ‘Surely My Sabbaths you shall keep, for it is a sign between Me and you throughout your generations.’” Exodus 31:13

“And when He had made an end of speaking with him on Mount Sinai, He gave Moses two tablets of the Testimony, tablets of stone, written with the finger of God.” Exodus 31:18

The Incident of the Golden Calf and the Results that Followed Exodus 32

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The incident of the golden calf exposed the idolatry and immorality of the people.
2. The incident of the golden calf exhibited the intercession and wrath of Moses.
3. The incident of the golden calf exacted the discipline and judgment of God.

practical application

Use your gold for the glory of God.

questions

1. Where was Moses when the Children of Israel constructed the golden calf?
2. What Law did the construction of the golden calf directly violate?
3. What other sin is often linked with idolatry?
4. Moses interceded for the people on the basis of three considerations. Review them.
5. Moses ground the golden calf to powder, threw it into the brook, and made the people drink it?
What was this about?

answers

1. He was on top of Mount Sinai, receiving the Law from the Lord.
- 2 This act was a direct violation of the second commandment in Exodus 20, “You shall not make for yourself a carved image,”
3. Sexual immorality (see Romans 1:22-24)
- 4
 - 1) The Israelites were God’s chosen people
 - 2) What would the Egyptians say now about the God of Israel?
 - 3) The promises of the Abrahamic Covenant
5. Moses’ actions not only got rid of the calf, but certainly symbolized the truth that you will reap the bitter results of what you sow.

discuss\ consider

1. God does answer prayer. Exodus 32 says God “changed His mind.” This is from the human perspective and does not contradict the sovereignty of God. Discuss the purpose of prayer and its results.
2. God’s discipline and judgment on the people was carried out by the sword and by plague, and killed over 3,000 people. Reading about such discipline is not pleasant, but it emphasizes God’s righteousness and holiness. The doctrine of Hell is also unpleasant, but it also upholds Gods righteousness. Why are people often eager to trade God’s character traits of righteousness and holiness for His love and mercy?

challenge

Some of the gold the Israelites plundered from Egypt was used in the Tabernacle for the glory of God. But some of the gold was used for the golden calf, which took away from the glory of God. Where is your gold going?

memorize

“They have made themselves a molded calf, and worshiped it and sacrificed to it, and said, ‘This is your god, O Israel, that brought you out of the land of Egypt!’” Exodus 32:8

“Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, Your servants, to whom You swore by Your own self, and said to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants as the stars of heaven; and all this land that I have spoken of I give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’”

**The Repentance of the People for Their Sin and the Request of Moses
to See the Glory of the Lord
Exodus 33**

background notes

- 1.

- 2.

- 3.

doctrinal points

1. There are different degrees of guidance from the Lord.
2. There are different degrees of fellowship with the Lord.

practical application

If the Lord will not go, then don't go!

questions

1. What is the context of Exodus 33?
2. Why did the Children of Israel take off their ornaments and jewelry (verse 6)?
3. Is the tent of meeting different from the Tabernacle?
4. Why did the Lord promise His personal guidance to the people?
5. What does it mean that the Lord spoke to Moses "face to face" (verse 11)?
6. How do we harmonize Exodus 33:22-23, John 1:18, and 1 Timothy 6:16?

answers

1. This chapter follows the sad incident of the golden calf. There we saw the idolatry and immorality of the people, Moses' intercession, and God's discipline and judgment.
2. The people were mourning and showing their repentance. God had told Moses that He would not go on to the land of Canaan in their midst, but would send an angel to lead the way.
3. The tent of meeting was a temporary tent where the Lord would meet with Moses before the Tabernacle was constructed.
4. Because of the people's repentance and Moses' prayer
5. The idea is that Moses had direct, unhindered fellowship with God.
6. No one has seen the essence of Deity, but some have seen a visible appearance of God when God has chosen to assume an outward form.

discuss\ consider

1. There were degrees of guidance from the Lord not based on the Lord's ability, but on the people's commitment. The Lord promises to give us guidance today. Are you willing to follow wherever the Lord might guide you?
2. Moses enjoyed a greater degree of fellowship with the Lord than the average Israelite. Likewise today our degree of fellowship is not limited by the Lord but by us. How can you "open the door" to deeper fellowship with the Lord? Revelation 3:20.

challenge

Moses' example in this chapter is great! Ask yourself this week, "Would the Lord go where I'm going?" If the Lord will not go, then don't go!

memorize

"Your Presence does not go with us, do not bring us up from here." Exodus 33:15

"Please, show me Your glory." Exodus 33:18

"So it shall be, while My glory passes by, that I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and will cover you with My hand while I pass by." Exodus 33:22

Lesson 37

God's Gracious Renewal of the Mosaic Covenant Exodus 34

background notes

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

doctrinal points

1. The Mosaic Covenant was renewed with special promises.
2. The Mosaic Covenant was renewed with stern reminders.

practical application

Let your life radiate Christ!

questions

1. Why did Moses cut two new tablets of stone?
2. How is God's grace seen in this chapter?
3. What miracles had the Lord already performed for His people?
4. Why are these laws repeated here?
5. Explain the promise in Exodus 34:24.
6. Why did Moses wear a veil when he spoke with the people?

answers

1. Because he had broken the original tablets which the Lord had given him with the Ten Commandments.
2. God answered Moses' prayer by forgiving the people, renewing His covenant with them, and promising to continue in the midst of His special people.
3. The plagues in Egypt, the parting of the Red Sea, the manna, the pillar of cloud and fire leading them, and many more to come!
4. God was reminding the people of the importance of these laws as the covenant was renewed.
5. When the males left their fields to go to Jerusalem, God promised that He would protect their homes and land from looting and stealing.
6. Moses' face literally shone after he had been in close fellowship with the Lord. This frightened the people, so he covered his face with a veil.

discuss\ consider

1. Exodus 34:7 and Ezekiel 18:20 both speak about the consequences of sin on generations to come. Exodus addresses the effects of sin, while Ezekiel involves the guilt and penalty of sin. Discuss the consequences for sin that can ripple down for generations. Has this happened in your own family?
2. Can you imagine seeing Moses' shining face whenever he came out from speaking with the Lord? The Apostle Paul draws a parallel to our lives in 2 Corinthians 3:18. Is your life radiating Christ?

challenge

The Lord promised that He would drive out all of the enemies before Israel, if Israel would follow Him. Do you have enemies in your life that you need the Lord to drive out? He will if you're willing to follow Him.

memorize

"And the LORD said to Moses, 'Cut two tablets of stone like the first ones, and I will write on these tablets the words that were on the first tablets which you broke.'" Exodus 34:1

"Take heed to yourself, lest you make a covenant with the inhabitants of the land where you are going, lest it be a snare in your midst." Exodus 34:12

"Moses did not know that the skin of his face shone while he talked with Him." Exodus 34:29

Lesson 38

The People Make a Willing Contribution for the Tabernacle Project and the Work Begins Exodus 35-36

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. The Lord's House should be supported by the Lord's people.
2. The Lord's House should follow the Lord's pattern.

practical application

Even you can design a tent peg!

questions

1. Where are the instructions for the construction of the Tabernacle recorded?
2. What two important matters were addressed before construction began?
3. How were the materials for the Tabernacle collected?
4. Did the people give enough materials?
5. Exodus 36 seems repetitive of Exodus 26. How are they different?

answers

1. Exodus 25-31
2. A reminder to keep the Sabbath and a collection of goods and services for the construction
3. They were collected voluntarily from the people.
4. Yes, in fact they gave too much, and Moses had to restrain them from giving more.
5. The detailed instructions for the construction were given in chapter 26. In this chapter the construction is carried out, according to the detailed instructions.

discuss\ consider

1. How is the work of the Lord supported in your local church? Do you fulfill your responsibility to support the work of the Lord and the house of the Lord? Remember that the Children of Israel gave both goods and services. How are you using what the Lord has given you?
2. When the skilled craftsmen of Israel constructed the Tabernacle, they followed God's detailed instructions. They did not add to their patterns with their own ideas or take away from it because they thought certain details were unnecessary. God has given details in the New Testament for how the House of the Lord, the church, should function today. Review these patterns and evaluate how your church is following them.

challenge

Worship comes before work. Even when you are doing the work of the Lord, you should take time to rest and worship the Lord. It is as we worship the Lord that we desire to do His work. Without worship, Christian service may only be for self-glory.

memorize

"Work shall be done for six days, but the seventh day shall be a holy day for you, a Sabbath of rest to the LORD." Exodus 35:2

"Take from among you an offering to the LORD. Whoever is of a willing heart, let him bring it as an offering to the LORD." Exodus 35:5

"And Bezalel and Aholiab, and every gifted artisan in whom the LORD has put wisdom and understanding, to know how to do all manner of work for the service of the sanctuary, shall do according to all that the LORD has commanded." Exodus 36:1

The Construction of the Ark of the Covenant with the Mercy Seat, the Table for the Bread, the Lampstand, the Altar of Incense, the Bronze Altar, the Laver and the Hangings of the Courtyard & a Record of the Amount of Various Metals Used in the Construction of the Tabernacle and its Furnishings
Exodus 37-38

background notes

- 1.

- 2.

- 3.

doctrinal points

1. Records should be kept of the ministry accomplished.
2. Records should be kept of money spent.

practical application

Use your mirrors for the Lord.

questions

1. Draw a diagram of the layout of the Tabernacle and its furnishings.
2. How did the Ark of the Covenant with the Mercy Seat function in the Tabernacle?
3. What is the basic meaning of the word “atonement”?
4. How can it be helpful to keep a record of accomplished ministries?
5. How much gold, silver, and bronze was used in the construction of the Tabernacle?

answers

1

2. God's glory dwelt between the cherubim on the Mercy Seat. Here the blood of the atoning sacrifice was sprinkled once a year on the Day of Atonement in the Holy of Holies to cover the sins of the nation before God.
3. To cover
4. By reviewing these records you can ensure the teaching of God's truth is balanced. You could also see which ministry programs have worked and which have not.
5. As much as 2800 pounds of gold, 9600 pounds of silver, and 6700 pounds of bronze

discuss\ consider

1. Review the furnishings of the Tabernacle. Each of these pieces pointed forward to Christ, our High Priest, and God's perfect lamb. What do they teach us about Christ?
2. Review the doctrinal point "Records should be kept of money spent." Records of money spent in the work of the Lord are important for accountability and honesty.

challenge

The Israelite women donated their bronze mirrors to the work of the Lord. How can you take whatever enhances your personal glorification and give it to the Lord for His glory?

memorize

"This is the inventory of the tabernacle, the tabernacle of the Testimony, which was counted according to the commandment of Moses." Exodus 38:21

Lesson 40

The Work of the Tabernacle Completed, the Inspection of the Work by Moses, the Erection of the Tabernacle, and Finally the Glory of the Lord Filling the Tabernacle Exodus 39-40

background notes

1.

2.

3.

doctrinal points

1. The Tabernacle was completed.

2. The Tabernacle was inspected.

3. The Tabernacle was erected.

4. The Tabernacle was indwelt.

practical application

Let's not forget to acknowledge a job well done.

questions

1. Why did God want all these details recorded in Scripture?

2. What did the precious stones on the ephod and the breastplate of the high priest represent?

3. Review what the colors of the high priest's garments teach us about Christ, as paralleled in the gospels.

4. How long was the time between the Exodus and when the Tabernacle was constructed?

5. How did God show His approval of the completed Tabernacle?

answers

1. God paid attention to details both then and now. We also know that the Tabernacle and its furnishings typify the Person and Work of Christ, so the details certainly enhance these spiritual pictures.
2. They represented the twelve tribes of Israel on the shoulders and over the heart of the high priest.
3.
 - Matthew – Christ as King, purple
 - Mark – The Suffering Servant, red
 - Luke – Christ the Perfect, Sinless Son of Man, white
 - John – Christ as the Son of God, blue and gold
4. About one year after the Exodus, eight and a half months after the Children of Israel camped at Mt. Sinai
5. The cloud of God's glory and presence filled the Tabernacle.

discuss\ consider

1. When Moses looked over the work of the Tabernacle, everything was in order – just as the Lord commanded. If a fellow believer were to inspect your life as a Christian, would he be able to say that everything is just as the Lord commanded?
2. Well done! We have come to the end of our study on Exodus. How have you benefited from this study? What is the most significant thing you have learned?

challenge

Are you thankful that we have a God of details? He knows every sparrow which falls and every hair on your head. This truth is both encouraging and challenging.

memorize

“Then Moses looked over all the work, and indeed they had done it; as the LORD had commanded, just so they had done it. And Moses blessed them.” Exodus 39:43

“Then the cloud covered the tabernacle of meeting, and the glory of the LORD filled the tabernacle.” Exodus 40:34