

Exodus preliminary notes to aid in the understanding of the entire book:

## **Freedom to worship the true God is the central theme.**

- † The book begins with a situation driven by fear – Israel coming under bondage.
- † God had grown His people to a sizable population, a force to reckon with.
- † God does everything in decency and in order. God grew His people to prepare them for possession of the Promised Land.
- † God permitted oppression and the hardening of Pharaoh’s heart so that His people would know it was Him who delivered them.
- † There was division of the people from Egypt. The land of Goshen did not experience the plagues.
- † In the wilderness, again there was distinction from those who wanted to worship Him and those who lived according to their lust and pride.
- † Freedom is about the separation in our hearts unto Him alone and away from sin.
- † The minds of the adult Israelites who came out of Egypt were still in bondage. They all died in the wilderness, except Joshua and Caleb, men who lived by faith, not sight and senses.
- † 2:24 – God remembered His covenant. When God “remembers”, deliverance is on the way.
- † 3:8 - ...so I have come down to rescue...from the Egyptians. RESCUE FROM EGYTIANS (What might the Egyptians represent)?
  
- † FREEDOM: In Deuteronomy 6, we find the greatest commandment, “Love the Lord your God with all your heart, soul, mind, and strength” this commandment was immediately followed by impressing God’s commandments on one’s children; God and the things of God were to be a natural part of the family’s everyday life.
  
- † 3:12 – ...you will worship on this mountain.
  
- † Freedom to stand on holy ground, to walk in the Spirit AND THUS LIVE IN HOLY LOVE AND RIGHTEOUSNESS. This is worshipping in spirit and truth. (check out Romans 12 and consider the entire chapter’s contents, especially how it ends).
  
- † Freedom protects us from the plagues of things which cause fear (idols).
  
- † Only way to get to freedom is staying in the Word. Hiding the Word in your heart so that it becomes your core-identity. What do the eyes of your heart

consistently look at in setting priorities, making decisions, and responding to all of life? Things of the world or the Word of God?

### **Oppression in Egypt – FEAR DRIVEN (chs.1-2)**

- 1:9 fear drove Pharaoh to kill baby boys; did not see the preciousness of life.
- 1:17 fear of the midwives
- 2:8, 9 fear of God returns your family to you.
- 2:14, 15 fear from doing things his way made Moses flee
- Chs.3-5 repentance from fear of man to fear of God
  - o God's call is the beginning of freedom.

### **10 Plagues – DELIVERANCE FROM FEAR (chs.6-12)**

- ROOT ISSUE: worshipping idols
- only the true God protects and gives security
- Passover: IDENTITY OF FREEDOM
  - a new beginning

### **Freedom begins with a journey through the wilderness. (Chs.13-18)**

- God is teaching His people His power over persecution and hardship.
- God disciplines those He loves.
- 13:17 – God led them through a way where they did not confront formidable enemy territory.
- Necessity of a team of leaders for wilderness training. (ch.18)

### **The Law from Mt. Sinai (chs.19-31)**

- 10 Commandments
  - o HOMEWORK: MEMORIZE
  - o First 4 – relationship with God
  - o Last 6 – relationship with man
  - o Freedom statements placed in a negative format
- Laws for a freed people
- What is the spirit of the law?
  - o Civil liberties and laws, God set up a court system.
  - o Personal injuries and responsibilities; injustices dealt with fairly
  - o Instructions for redemption
  - o Eye for eye, tooth for tooth was to limit vengeance and to implement justice.
  - o Know and act to the truth of the situation. "I desire mercy and not sacrifice."
  - o Don't show up to the Passover empty handed. Never go to God not knowing who you are – an identity acceptable to God.
  - o "Be holy, for I am holy." It's not about what we think, want, or desire. It's all about God's good and perfect WAY which He has created and established in His wisdom, knowledge, and understanding.
  - o Significance of 40 days?

- Designs for the Tabernacle and its furnishings
  - o The ark, table, lampstand, incense altar, bronze altar, tabernacle (Tent of Meeting), courtyard.
  - o Priestly garments – ephod, breastpiece, robe, plate and turban, tunic, undergarments.
  - o Look into Hebrews to gain New Testament insight into how the sacrificial system spoke of Christ.
  - o What do we learn about the dwelling of God with man through the Tabernacle and its furnishings?
  - o Note the gifting of individuals and the anointing of Levi's tribe for specific work and services to minister the Tabernacle.
  - o Observe the necessity of washing (30:17-21). Holiness is essential for proper and acceptable service.
  - o Proprietary formula for incense: what does this teach us about proper and acceptable prayer.
    - Gum resin
    - Onycha
    - Galbanum
    - Pure frankincense
    - All in equal portions
- The Tabernacle was the place where God would dwell among His people. It was only a foreshadowing of God's true Tabernacle, Jesus, the fullest Way in which God would dwell with men and in which men could dwell with God.
  - o **DISCUSSION:** What specifics about the Tabernacle can you associate with the person and work of Jesus Christ?

**The Powerlessness of the Law** – fleshly idolatry (ch.32)

**The Power of the Right Mediator**

- one who speaks to God face to face, who seeks God's glory (ch.33)
- one to whom God reveals Himself and makes covenant with (ch.34)

**Freewill offerings for the Building of the Tabernacle** (ch.35)

**The Construction of the Tabernacle** (chs.36 – 40)

- upon completion, the glory of the Holy Lord filled the Tabernacle
- ultimate fullness of freedom occurs only when the Lord dwells in the midst of His people

**Synthesize:**

freedom: worship: holiness