



Getting started with Exodus

The point of Exodus

Will God really do what He promises?

Exodus picks up where Genesis left off – God has promised to make Abraham’s descendants a big blessed family in a big blessed land. Genesis ends with Abraham’s grandson and his family in Egypt, and 400 years later, as Exodus begins, that family are now slaves.

Will God *really* do what He promises?

Exodus is an adventure story featuring a cruel villain (Pharaoh), an unlikely hero (Moses), disasters, an amazing rescue, a long journey and a grand finale. “Exodus” means “departure”, and in this book we see that God is fulfilling his promises to Abraham’s descendants despite a superpowered opposition and despite the unbelief and disobedience of His own people.

Exodus splits into two halves:

Chapters 1-19: Israel Rescued

Chapters 20-40: Israel Established

The Israelites are powerless but God rescues His people in a miraculous way that only He could achieve; and once they’re out of slavery He establishes them as a nation by giving them the law by which they can live in relationship with God.

God’s people are saved so that He might dwell among them.

God’s people are saved to obey, and as they obey they put God on display.

Exodus teaches us lots about what it means to be God’s people. We are those who:

- Experience God’s rescue
- Know God’s presence
- Put God on display

As Exodus ends we’re left with the question – how can a holy God live among a sinful people? And so Exodus leads neatly on to Leviticus, and ultimately to Jesus...

Things to look out for as you read...

- How does God reveal Himself? Who does God reveal Himself as?
- Exodus famously gives us the 10 Commandments. But notice how *rescue comes before instruction*.
- Look out for God's concern for *justice*.
- In the later chapters we get lots of intricate instructions for the tabernacle, priests and sacrifices. It would be easy to get lost in the details but ask yourself: What does this teach me about...
 - 1) God?
 - 2) Myself?
 - 3) Worship?

Jesus in Exodus

- Exodus gives us great detail about the design and building of the tabernacle, the place where God would meet with His people. John describes Jesus as the one who came and "tabernacle" amongst us (John 1v14).
- Jesus follows the pattern of Israel as He came out of Egypt (Matt 2v15). He succeeded where Israel failed.
- Exodus 12 details the Passover – the sacrifice that was made in place of the firstborn sons, the blood under which God's people can find safety and know rescue from slavery. This points us forward to the cross and this imagery is picked up in multiple places in the New Testament.
- Moses plays a crucial role as a mediator – the man who stands between God and His people. He is the one who represents God's people before God, and speaks God's Word to His people. 1 Timothy 2v5 tells us that Jesus is our mediator.



Here are some questions the Bible wants you to ask of itself. Use these to help you as you read your way through this month's book: (please don't feel like you have to fill in every question in loads of detail. These are a guide to help you learn from what you are reading.)

- What did you learn about Jesus and what it means to trust him? (Luke 24:45-47)
- What did you learn about yourself? (James 1:23 & 2 Tim 3:16-17)
- How were you corrected or rebuked or equipped for every good work? (2 Tim 3:16-17)
- What did you learn from the book that will help you keep going as a follower of Jesus? (Romans 15:4)
- What did you learn that will help you serve and build up the church? (Eph 4:11-16)
- What have you learnt that helps you love the Lord your God with all your heart & with all your soul & with all your mind? (Matt 22:37-40)
- What has helped you love your neighbour as yourself? (Matt 22:37-40)



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g r o u p

RBT Grow Group is on Tuesday 3rd October

Bring along some things from your reading of
Exodus to share with others.

Some RBT reading ideas:

- Meet up once a week to read it with a friend.
- Listen online at Biblegateway.com
- Write down a verse that struck you that day.
- Encourage someone by texting them a thought from what you've read.