

Exodus: the way out

Exodus Background

What is Exodus about? 5 things

Birth & Call of Moses

10 Plagues of Egypt

Crossing of the Reed Sea

Tabernacle

Giving of the Torah/Law/Covenant at Sinai

Who wrote this material? Was it just oral?

Exod. 17:14;

Exod. 24:4,

John says ... Jn. 1:17 For the Law was given through Moses...(Jn 7:19-22; Lk. 24:44)

How is it viewed elsewhere in the Bible? Metaphor for deliverance, great redemptive act in OT

Exodus in the Prophets

Prophets--Hos 11:1:

Jesus comes out of Egypt --Mat. 2:15

Passover → Lord's supper 1 Cor. 5:7

Plagues in Revelation echo

Exodus in Psalms

Great Hallel (Ps 114-118)

When Israel came out of Egypt,

What is Egypt like?

Gift of the Nile

History

Old Kingdom: Pyramid age 2700-2100 BC

First Intermediate Period: 2160-1991 BC

Middle Kingdom: 1991-1670 BC arts & literature

Second Intermediate Period: 1670-1568 BC: Hyksos

New Kingdom: 1568-1085 BC; Expansion to Euphrates-- Third Intermediate Period -- David/Solomon



Pharaoh's ways of dominating Jews

Multiplying of the seed and Pharaoh as resisting God's plan (Ex. 1:7-9)

Taskmasters (Exod 1:8-14)

Midwives (Exod 1:15-21)

Is it okay to lie sometimes? Altruistic sinning

Does God bless liars?

Does this mean total relativism?

Throw them into the river (Ex. 1:22)

Moses—drawn out (Ex. 2)

Moses: 3 Stages of life

Pharaoh's daughter's son (40 yrs)

Desert Shepherd in Midian (40 yrs)

Deliverer (40 yrs) Leading in Desert

What was Moses relationship to God like?

Call of Moses, Exodus--response to prayer

Is it ever alright to resist God's will?

No fitness (Exod 3:11)—I am with you

No message (Exod 3:13)--YHWH

No belief (Exod 4:1) —What's in hand?

No gift of speech (Exod 4:10)—Who made

Send someone else (Exod 4:13)—Aaron, prophet? —7:1f

Burning bush: angel or God?

Exod 3:2-6

On holy ground & holy things

What does "I am" mean?

On names in ANE

Self-existent one: I am what I am (need nothing)

Sovereignty view: I will be what I will be (you will see)

Covenant keeper: I am what I said I would be (what I promised to the patriarchs)

Exod 6:3 contradicts Gen 49:18?

Critical Scholarship: Sources/Editors

J = Jehovah writer (ca 850 BC)

E = Elohim writer (ca 750 BC)

D = Deuteronomist writer (620 BC)

P = Priestly writer (ca 450 BC)

Simple to complex evolution

Solution: meaning of name YHWH not known—covenant keeper

What is happening with Zipporah in Ex. 4:24-26

Who did God attack?

Why did God attack?

Similar stories: Jacob, Balaam

Circumcision of Gershom: 3 approaches

B.S. Childs: Boy sick, boy circumcised, etiological tale on importance of circumcision

Walter Kaiser: Moses sick; boy circumcised
→ obedience

Ross: Moses sick, boy circumcised,
Zipporah (adolescent circumcision); she earlier refused neonate circumcision; she's upset and leaves

When did Moses cross the Reed sea?

1445 BC (Early date) – 1 Kgs 6:1—480 before Solomon; Jud. 11:26—300 years before Jephthah, Merneptah Stele—1200 Israel in land, Amarna Letters—1400 BC

1260 BC (Late date)—Rameses—1200 BC, Burn levels (Lachish), 40 yrs. → 20 yrs. Generation—shrink 480 yrs. to 240

How many left Egypt?

Exod 12:37; 38:26; Num. 2:32=600,000 men

600,000 men

600,000 women

1,200,000 children (+ cattle)

2,400,000 How much is this? water, food, wadis, mid-wives; taking Canaan

Shrinking the number: eleph=clans or chiefs, hyperbole, later number inserted

How do you deal with conflicts like this?

Plague Cycles:

3 Reasons for Plagues:

Judgment on gods of Egypt (Exod 12:12)

That they/you may know that I am YHWH (Exod 7:5, 17; 8:22; 10:2...)

Lex talionis: Ex. 4:23: My firstborn, therefore your firstborn

Does God harden people's hearts?

Who hardened Pharaoh's heart?

God hardened it (Exod 4:21; 7:3)

Pharaoh hardened it (8:15, 32; 9:34f)